

Celebration of Holy Eucharist
Feast of the Epiphany



Christ Episcopal Church
Kensington, Maryland
January 4, 2026
8:00 AM

A Blessed Sunday & Welcome to All

We are so glad you have joined us for worship this morning, especially if you are new or visiting!

Children of all ages are welcome in the service. There are child-friendly materials on the table at the back of the church should you – or they - want them!

All are welcome to receive communion. Instructions for communion are in the bulletin just after the invitation. (“The gifts of God for the people of God...”)

Offerings. You may make a donation by placing cash or checks in the offering plate, or you may give online via the link on our website, or simply scan the QR code below. We are grateful for your support!



All-gender restrooms and water are located at the end of the hallway off the back of the sanctuary.

Welcome to all our visitors!

Please introduce yourself after the service. If you'd like more information, fill out a visitor's card in your pew and give it to the usher or a member of the clergy. You can also email our Parish Administrator Jen Luna administrator@ccpk.org, or calling us at 301-942-4673. We'd be happy to connect with you, and if you wish, add you to our weekly e-newsletter the *Christ Church Connection*. If you would like more information about Christ Church, please visit our website at www.christchurchkensington.org.

**We are better for your presence with us today,
and would love to get to know you.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Gloria

**Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards all.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee,
we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect for Epiphany

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

**O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face
to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Deus, judicium

read responsively by half verse

- ¹ Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- ² That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- ³ That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- ⁴ He shall defend the needy among the people; *
rescuing the poor and crushing the oppressor.
- ⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- ⁶ He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- ¹⁰ The rulers of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the rulers of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- ¹¹ All rulers shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
- ¹² For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- ¹³ He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
and shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- ¹⁴ He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you,

and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel *Matthew 2:1-12*

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory be to thee, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Mariann our Bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers, both lay and ordained;
For all who serve God in the church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray for a peaceful end to the war in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan and violent conflict everywhere. We pray for all refugees. We pray for the sick of our parish: Helen-Paige Buck, Kevin Conway, Bonnie Douglas, Maggie Elgin, Doug Leavens, Amri Joyner, Jon Martineau, America Perez, Lissa Ramsepaul, Calvin Smith, Ellen Thomas, Helen Urquhart and Patrice Upshaw-Whiting; those who love and care for them and all caregivers everywhere; and all who need our prayers:

You are invited to add your intercessions, silently or aloud

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, remembering especially those who celebrate birthdays this week, including John Ward and Leslie Everheart.

You are invited to add your prayers of thanksgiving, silently or aloud.

We will exalt you, O God;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. We remember especially Kitty Shuler, J. Carter Grew II, Alison Verdi; all those tragically killed as a result of gun violence and war; and those we now name.

You are invited to add your own prayers for the departed, silently or aloud.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

A moment of silence

Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider offers absolution.

The Peace

Presider The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory

Presider All things come of thee, O Lord

People And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer II* *Book of Common Prayer, p. 340*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for all, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ. And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.

Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead

us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Invitation and Communion of the People

Presider The holy gifts of God for the holy people of God.

All are welcome to receive communion at Christ Church.

At this service, we distribute the sacrament at the altar rail. Gluten-free wafers are available, simply tell your server. Receiving the bread only is full participation in the Eucharist. For those who wish to consume wine, you may either drink from a silver chalice or hold your wafer in your hand, which will alert the server that you wish to intinct (dip the bread) in the glass chalice. The chalice will first serve those who would like to drink from the cup, then return for those who would like to intinct. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of receiving Communion, you may indicate your choice by crossing your hands across your chest. If you would like communion brought to you for any reason, we are happy to do so!

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Blessing

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace bearing God's love and light to the world. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

We raise to God those who are on our hearts and are in need of prayer:

Friends and Family of our Community

All who ask for prayers through our website

Anthony

Bob (friend of Nachin Bone)

Bruce Beamer (uncle of Nina Upshaw)

Betty

Charles

Coley Beggy (friend of the Hoffeditz Family)

Susan Best (sister-in-law of Jeff Taylor)

Steve Campbell (Uncle of Jackie Campbell Waidmann)

Moises Carera and the Carera family

Susan Catlette

Cecelia

Cindy

Eric Cozzens (son of Peter Cozzens)

Yvonne Dean (friend of Bonnie Douglas)

Kelly Doig (friend of Katie, Jackie & Katherine)

Daniel Epps (father of Cynthia Mitchell)

Gerald & Sandy Giddings (relatives of Liz & Bob Quinn)

John Godfrey (brother of Rena Godfrey)

Sandra Goldman (mother of Brad Christmas)

Gema Guarin (friend of Joan Centrella)

Rob Guzzon (father of a friend of Katherine Chatt)

Laura (friend of Betsy Robbins)

Doug Hanscom (friend of Emily Guthrie)

Lisa Harrison (friend of MaryBeth and Mike Etherton)

Earl Hill (godfather of Sean Quinn)

Terry Hodge (friend of Annie Seale)

Amanda Hoey (daughter of Anne Witt)

Bob Hoffman and his son Cornell

Floris & Rob Houston (friends of Joan Centrella)

John (friend of Mary Ellen Huzzard)

Nelly Jones (mother of Jennifer Jones)

Robert Kellam (cousin of Victoria Thanos)

Neal Klasky (friend of Lori Pujol)

Nancy & Pete Lane (sister & brother-in-law of Joan Centrella)

Abbi Livay (granddaughter of Ann Hagan)

Chris Lloyd (friend of Kitty Shuler)

Ray Martens (uncle of Roma Hart)

Martha (prayers for healing)

Maureen (friend of Donna Berkowitz)

Chris McCann (cousin of Katie Wallace)

Nick McGray (father of Craig McGray)

Meaghan Morin (Kensington neighbor)

Melanie Moxness (niece of Dwight Allen & Joan Centrella)

Miriam

Nicole

Julianne Paige (mother of Jason Paige)

Cabrini Pak (friend of Dwight Allen)

Dawn Porter (friend of Liz McLeod)

Vivian Puricelli (mother of Lee Puricelli)

Ricky Reeves (grandson of Pat Reeves)

Robbie (friend of Sibbie O'Sullivan)

Andrew Rupli (son of Brenda Rupli)

Lori Richards (sister of Lisa Albright)

Sarah Rosenbaum (friend of Helen Urquhart)

Karen Sechrist (friend of Liz Quinn)

Margarita Serrano

Jerry Sheard (brother of Liz Quinn)

Scott Sherman (brother of Sara Thorne)

Sr. Margaret (friend of Leslie Everheart)

Naneita Smith (daughter of Calvin Smith)

Ben Sudbrink (son of Emily & Bill Sudbrink)

Jim Tavares (brother of Phyllis Knight)

Rick V. (friend of Lori Pujol)

Mia Van Beek (sibling-in-law of Madison Chase)

Ronald Young (cousin of Patrice Whiting)

Those in our community in need of healing prayers:

Helen Paige Buck, Kevin Conway, Bonnie Douglas, Maggie Elgin, Doug Leavens, Amri Joyner, Jon Martineau, America Perez, Lissa Ramsepaul, Calvin Smith, Ellen Thomas, Helen Urquhart and Patrice Upshaw-Whiting; all caregivers; all federal civil servants and those impacted by funding cuts; and all who grieve the loss of a loved one, a relationship, a job, or a dream.

Those in need of continued prayer: Nora Buckley, Dorothy Clarke, Sara Cowan, Florence Crozier, David Dixon, Stephanie Feller, John Frohman, Ray Gardiner, Liz McLeod, Lee Puricelli, and Betsy Robbins.

We remember those serving our country: Clara Bartram, Alex Cox, Michael Cullinane, Alex Miller and David Hanna.

We remember those who have died: especially Kitty Shuler; Bishop J. Clark Grew II (father of Sarah Haskell); Alison Verdi; Tom Van Beek (brother-in-law of Madison Chase); victims of natural disasters; and those tragically killed as a result of gun violence and war.

We give thanks: for all in our parish who celebrate their birthdays this week, John Ward (1/5) and Leslie Everheart (1/5). Happy Birthday!

Have we missed your birthday? Please let us know!

Send your prayer requests to emily@ccpk.org.

Staff

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Treasurer

Peter Gergen

Asst. Treasurer

Ted Seale

Clerk

Alex Thomas

At large Vestry Members

Terri Clausen
Linda Daisley
Claudia Deane
Rena Godfrey
Aime Keith
Jason Paige
Sean Quinn

Property

Bob Quinn

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, January 4 – Epiphany Observed

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, spoken, *in person only*
9:30 AM Children's Faith formation
10:00 AM Children's Chapel, *Parish Hall*
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, *In Person & Live Streaming*
11:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
4:00 PM Bible Study, *In Person (Library) & Live on Zoom*
5:00 PM The Feast of Lights & Holy Eucharist, *In Person & Live streaming*
6:00 PM 12th Night Party in the Parish Hall.

Monday, January 5 – Office Closed

8:30 PM Compline, *Live on Zoom*

Tuesday, January 6

7:30 PM Holy Handcrafters, Library

Wednesday, January 7

6:30 PM Evening Prayer, *Live on Zoom*

Thursday, January 8

12:15 PM Midday Prayers for Peace, *Live on Zoom*

7:00 PM Lectio Divina, *Live on Zoom*

8:30 PM Compline, *Live on Zoom*

Sunday, January 11

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, spoken, *in person only*

9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal

9:30 AM Children's Faith formation

10:00 AM Children's Chapel, *Parish Hall*

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist & Baptism, *In Person & Live Streaming*

11:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

11:30 AM Faith & Science Forum, *Parish Hall*

4:00 PM Bible Study, *In Person (Library) & Live on Zoom*

5:00 PM Holy Eucharist, *In Person & Live on Zoom*

Worship Leaders

Usher

Jeff Taylor

Lector

Anne Meyers

Clergy

Rector

The Rev. Emily Guthrie

Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hope Christensen

Deacon

The Rev. Sara Thorne

Office Information

Normal Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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