



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

9:15 a.m.

March 15, 2026

Church of the Epiphany

Vacaville, CA

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Processional

Hymnal 143 vv. 1-4

"The glory of these forty days..."

1. The glory of these forty days
We celebrate with songs of praise;
For Christ, through whom all things were made,
Himself has fasted and has prayed.

2. Alone and fasting, Moses saw
The loving God who gave the law;
And to Elijah, fasting, came
The steeds and chariots of flame.

3. So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
Delivered from the lion's might;
And John, the Bridegroom's friend, became
The herald of Messiah's name.

4. Then grant us, Lord, like them to be
Full oft in fast and prayer with thee;
Our spirits strengthen with thy grace,
And give us joy to see thy face.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Decalogue

Celebrant: Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: Honor your father and your mother.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not commit murder.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not commit adultery.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not steal.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not be a false witness.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

The Celebrant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People:

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Trisagion Hymn

Holy God, holy and mighty,
Holy Immortal One:
Have mercy; have mercy on us. (*Sing three times*)

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that

he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

A reading from Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in

the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they
comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those
who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is
running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from Ephesians.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light-- for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention

what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

Sequence Hymn

"Open our hearts, O Lord..."

Open our hearts, O Lord,
That we might live for you,
Hungry to hear your Word
All of our days.
Lord, let us walk with you,
Trusting in all you do,
Your pilgrim people who
Follow your Way. *(Repeat)*

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Holy Gospel

John 9:1-41

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

As he walked along, Jesus saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the

man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his

disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

After the Gospel is read, the people respond as follows:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

The Rev. John Heidel, Rector

Nicene Creed

All stand.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People for Lent

Celebrant: Let us offer our prayers to God who gives life and breath to all creatures. With penitent hearts we pray, "God of glory, guide us."

Reader: O God, we seek you eagerly, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water. Guide us with your mighty hand and outstretched arm.

People: **God of glory, guide us.**

Reader: Jesus Christ, Son of God, guide us in truth. Guide us in love. We pray for your church throughout the world. We pray for Presiding Bishop Sean, Bishop Megan and our Rector, John. With penitent hearts we pray,

People: **God of glory, guide us.**

Reader: We pray for the leaders of nations, and for all who make or influence decisions for the health of our planet and for the well-being of its peoples, creatures, and plants that dwell upon it. Where we live in righteousness strengthen us; whenever we have lost our way, guide us. With penitent hearts we pray,

People: **God of glory, guide us.**

Reader: We pray for your world that is fractured by greed and fear, and by privilege and discrimination; through your Christ make us one with yourself, not counting our trespasses, but grafting us to your gospel that we may be transformed. With penitent hearts we pray,

People: **God of glory, guide us.**

Reader: We pray for our family, friends and neighbors who are laboring beneath burdens too heavy to bear; for refugees, immigrants and for those without homes or adequate employment; for respectable households concealing domestic violence or addiction. Join our hearts and hands to yours, that together we may provide them a way out and give them strength to endure. With penitent hearts we pray,

People: **God of glory, guide us.**

Reader: We pray for those who have died and for those who suffer illness, want and need. We pray especially for (*Read prayer list here*). With penitent hearts we pray,

People: **God of glory, guide us.**

Reader: May everything that has passed away be gathered into Christ's new creation; may all see your goodness in the land of the living. Gracious God, our refuge and stronghold, guide your people through our Lenten wilderness, have mercy on us. With penitent hearts we pray,

People: **God of glory, guide us.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to Your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that You are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Offerings: *Sean Behrens (3/15), Callen Jones (3/21)*

Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn

"Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;

Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. (x2)

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich,"

Because of what the Lord has done for us. (x2)

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;

Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks.

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Doxology

Hymnal 380 v3

Praise God, from who all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and says:

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant and People

Sanctus

Hymnal S-129

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Celebrant and People

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-161

"Lamb of God..."

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

No matter who you are, whom you love, or where you are on your journey, we invite all people to join us at God's table for Holy Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion, but would like a blessing, please come to the railing and cross your arms on your chest.

Communion Hymn

"Freely, freely, you have received..."

1. God forgave my sin in Jesus' name
I've been born again in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to

Chorus:

He said freely, freely you have received
Freely, freely give
Go in my name and because you believe
Others will know that I live

2. All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name
In earth and heav'n in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share his pow'r as he told me to

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After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Solemn Prayer over the People

The Celebrant says,

Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel and the Celebrant says

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Recessional

Hymnal 490

"I want to walk as a child of the light..."

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2. I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.

Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. (*Refrain*)

3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ,
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. (*Refrain*)

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power
of the Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SANCTUARY LAMP burns to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for
the ministry of Jan Albert

TODAY'S SERVERS:

Altar Guild: Kathleen Cocuzza

Lector: Dotty Schenk; **Prayers:** Kathleen Cocuzza; **Acolyte:** Kathleen Moran

Usher: Emma Green

To make a donation ...

Envelopes are available in the narthex and at the end of the
pews to make donations to the Church of the Epiphany.
Offerings may also be left in the plate by the baptismal font
at the church entrance. To give online, text LIGHT to 73256
or scan the QR code. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us
extend God's love to our community.



Sign up for Watch Night

During Holy Week, Epiphany observes Watch Night, a period of “staying awake” based on Christ's question to his disciples at Gethsemane, “Could you not watch with me for an hour?” (Matthew 26:40). Congregation members can sign up for one-hour watches (shifts) from 8 p.m. Maundy Thursday (April 2) until noon Good Friday (April 3). It is a time of quiet reflection at the back altar. If you would like to take a turn, please sign in the Narthex.

Looking for Stations of the Cross leaders

Stations of the Cross (or Way of the Cross) is a devotional practice commemorating Jesus' passion, primarily used during Lent and Holy Week. Based on The Book of Occasional Services, it typically includes 14 stations featuring Scripture readings, prayers, and reflections on Jesus' journey to crucifixion and burial. At Epiphany, the stations are contained in the pictures around the sanctuary. If you are available to lead one or more of these devotions Monday-Thursday of Holy Week, please sign up in the Narthex. Bulletins containing prayers and reflections will be provided.

Today at Epiphany

Coffee Hour: After this morning's service in the Parish Hall, hosted by the Episko-Katz. Please join us

Upcoming Events

Daily Morning Prayer: 8 a.m. Mondays-Saturdays on Epiphany's Facebook Live page.

Nightly Compline Service: 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday on the Epiphany Facebook page.

Tuesday Feeding Program: Free lunch, 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Parish Hall

The Gifts of the Jews book & Bible study: 5 p.m. Wednesday in the Parish Hall.

Friday Feeding Program: Free dinner, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Fridays in the Parish Hall.

Music Rehearsal: 5:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Sanctuary. Come make a joyful noise!

Brotherhood of St. Andrew: After worship, Sunday, March 22. *Note new meeting date: Now the fourth Sunday of the month.* In the Parish Hall

Worship Committee Meeting: 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, by Zoom.



Church of the Epiphany

Epiphany exists to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the community as we share God's love by feeding ALL.

Celebrating our 131st year in Vacaville

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Office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon

The Rt. Rev. Megan M. Traquair, Bishop

The Rev. John Heidel, Rector

Vestry

Tony Yang, Senior Warden

Carlyn Crystal, Evan Evans,

Carol Marshall, Kathleen Moran

Liz Sickels, Marty Van Zandt,

Emma Green, Treasurer

D.J. Bowen, Clerk

The Members of the Congregation are the Ministers of the Church