



The Second Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m.

December 7, 2025

Church of the Epiphany
Vacaville, CA

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

Holy Eucharist

Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Hymn

Hymnal 59, vv. 1-4

"Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding..."

1. Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding.

"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;

"Cast away the works of darkness,

O ye children of the day"

2. Wakened by the solemn warning,

From earth's bondage let us rise;

Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,

Shines upon the morning skies.

3. Lo! The Lamb, so long expected,

Comes with pardon down from heaven;

Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,

One and all to be forgiven;

4. So when next he comes with glory,

And the world is wrapped in fear,

May he with his mercy shield us,

And with words of love draw near.

Lighting the Second Advent Candle

Celebrant: On this Second Sunday of Advent, we gather in this Cathedral knowing our lives are full of imperfections. We make mistakes and often don't live as we ought to live. May we, in this season of Advent, prepare a way for Jesus Christ so that in following him we might know healing and peace.

People: We light these two Advent candles to announce the coming of the light of Christ into our darkness. The first candle symbolizes the HOPE Christ's birth brings to us. The second candle reminds us of our need for his PEACE in our lives and in our world.

Opening Sentences

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like
the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 *Deus, judicium*

- 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; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush 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.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen, Amen

Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might

have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 56 vs. 3

O come, Emmanuel!

O come, o come, thou Lord of might,
Who to the tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law,
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

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

People **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Homily

The Rev. John Heidel

Nicene Creed

BCP 326

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

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

Celebrant: The prophet John the Baptist preached a repentance which would bear fruit in the lives of those who heard him. In penitence and faith let us offer to God our prayers for all people.

Reader: We pray for all ministers, clergy, and people:

People: **For Megan, our bishop, Celebrant John, and for our parish community.**

Reader: We pray for peace in the world, and for the loving kindness of God:

People: **For the welfare of your holy church, for the unity of all peoples and for all the faithful who may live in danger or distress.**

Reader: We pray for the leaders of this nation and of all nations, and for all who govern and hold authority:

People: **That they may be just, compassionate, and work for peace between all nations and the well-being of all people.**

Reader: We pray for the poor and those in prison, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those suffering from fires and floods, and all those who remember and care for them:

People: **That you may give us grace and compassion to do your will to deliver them from their distress.**

Reader: We pray for comfort and healing for all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit (*read prayer list here*). We remember our dearly departed, and we pray for those whose needs are known only to you.

People: **That you may bless them and grant that we may serve Christ in them, loving one another as he loves us.**

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant 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.*

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: *Jay Dunning (12/7), Kristopher Butters (12/8), Mike McCord (12/11), Trey Berkman (12/12), DJ Bowen (12/13)*

The Holy Communion

Offertory sentence: Be present, be present, O Jesus, our great High Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread; who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Offertory Hymn

"People, look east! ..."

1. People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today;
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength, the seed to nourish,
That in course the flow'r may flourish.
People, look east and sing today;
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledgling-time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today;
Love, the Bird, is on the way.

4. Stars, keep your watch. When night is dim,
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today;
Love, the Star, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon. Tune: Besançon by Martin Shaw;

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Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Celebrant or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Doxology

Hymnal 380 v.3

Praise God, from whom 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

Celebrant: 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 God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear

rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Sanctus



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.


Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.


Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

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. 

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.

Then 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.*

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]**

Fraction Anthem

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Invitation

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

At Church of the Epiphany, we welcome everyone equally as children of God created in the image of God. Whether you are visiting from out of town, "shopping for a church," seeking God, or hoping to learn more about Jesus Christ, we welcome you to our worship services. Whatever your religious background, age race, gender, sexual orientation, or economic status, we welcome you. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, please join us at the altar for Communion.

Organ Voluntary

Communion Hymn

"Open our eyes, Lord..."

Open our eyes, Lord,
We want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him,
And say that we love him.

Open our ears, Lord,
And teach us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord,
We want to see Jesus.

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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.*

The Blessing

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn

Hymnal 616 vv. 1-4

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed!.."

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free;
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

2. He comes with succor speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth;
Before him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

4. Kings shall bow down before him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him,
His praise all people sing;
To him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the lives and faithfulness of the Rosemary Rhyne

TODAY'S SERVERS:

Altar Guild: Kathleen Cocuzza

Lector: Inge Dyrud, Prayers: Lucia Morgan, LEM/Acolyte: Kathleen Cocuzza;

Usher: Liz Sickels

Coffee Hour: Daughters of the King

To donate online to Epiphany, text LIGHT to 73256 or scan this QR code:



Pick up free book of Advent reflections

Free copies of “Living Well Through Advent 2025” – a book of daily devotionals for the upcoming season of Advent – are available in the Narthex. Be sure to pick one up!

Today at Epiphany

Coffee Hour: After the service in the Parish Hall, provided this week by Daughter of the King. Please join us!

Upcoming Events

Daily Morning Prayer: 8 a.m. Mondays-Saturdays on Facebook Live or Epiphany Vacaville's YouTube channel.

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

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

Orpheus West Chamber Choir Christmas Concert: 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, in the Sanctuary.

Worship Committee Meeting: 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, in Rev. John's office.

Vestry Budget Session, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, by Zoom and in Rev. John's office.

Homeless Memorial Service: 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, at Orchard Avenue Baptist Church. Dinner follows the service.



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 130th year in Vacaville

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(707) 448-2275

E-mail epiphany.admin@gmail.com

Website: www.epiphanychurchvacaville.org

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

The Rt. Rev. Megan M. Traquair, Bishop

The Rev. John Heidel, Priest in Charge

Vestry

Karen Nolan, Senior Warden (707) 321-5103

Eric Jones, Junior Warden

James Manuel, Kathleen Moran

Marilyn Powell, Tony Yang

Emma Green, Treasurer

D.J. Bowen, Clerk

The Members of the Congregation are the Ministers of the Church