



Epiphany Sunday

**9:15 a.m.
January 4, 2026**

**Church of the Epiphany
Vacaville, CA**

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude "We Three Kings"

Processional

"Once in royal David's city ..."

1. Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. We, like Mary, rest confounded
That a stable should display
Heaven's Word, the world's creator,
Cradled there on Christmas Day,
Yet this child, our Lord and brother,
Brought us love for one another.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing round,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Where his saints his throne surround:
Christ revealed to faithful eye,
Set at God's right hand on high.

Fellowship of the Ringers

Hymnal 102, vv. 1, 2, 3 & 6

All standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

The Celebrant may say

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. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Holy God,
 Holy and Mighty,
 Holy Immortal One,
People: **Have mercy upon us**

Gloria

Hymnal S-280

The following is sung, all standing

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One,

**you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.*

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

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*

- 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.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
 and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.

11 All kings 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; *
he 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.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

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.**

All stand.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 536, vv. 1-3

“Open your ears, O faithful people...”

1. Open your ears, O faithful people,
Open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.

Refrain:

God has spoken to his people, Hallelujah!
And his words are words of wisdom, Hallelujah!
God has spoken to his people, Hallelujah!
And his words are words of wisdom, Hallelujah!

2. They who have ears to hear the message
They who have ears, then let them hear.
They who would learn the way of wisdom,
Let them hear God's word. (Refrain)

3. Israel comes to greet the Savior,
Judah is glad to see his day.
From east to west the peoples travel,
He will show the way. (Refrain)

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

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

People **Glory to you, 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 saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ

After a purposeful pause, please stand as able.

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: **I do.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into

sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Concluding Prayer

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. *Amen.*

Prayers of the People

Form IV

Celebrant: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Intercessor: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially for: (read prayer list)

Silence

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

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.*

Confession

The Celebrant says:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 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

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: Birthdays Aaron Evans (1/5), Evan Smith (1/5), Rebecca Smith (1/5), Laura Grimm (1/6), Chris Behrens (1/7), Melanie Oakes (1/7), Kathleen Moran (1/9), Marge Tye (1/10)

Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Hymn

Hymnal 96, vv. 1-3

"Angels we have heard on high..."

1. Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear? (Refrain)

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

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

Doxology

Hymnal 380 vs. 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

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or 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.**

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 in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

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 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 Hymn

Hymnal S-130

Celebrant and People



Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full,
full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
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.

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.*

The Celebrant then continues

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

People and Celebrant

**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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated 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

Hymnal S-154

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.

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.

Communion Hymns

Fellowship of the Ringers

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.**

Priest's Blessing

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. *Amen.*

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. *Amen.*

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. *Amen.*

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

Hymnal 93

"Angels, from the realms of glory..."

1. Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with you is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light: (*Refrain*)

3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar:
Seek the great Desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star: (*Refrain*)

4. Saints before he altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord descending,
In his temple shall appear: (*Refrain*)

Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God. [Alleluia, Alleluia.]**

Postlude *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"* **Fellowship of the Ringers**

THE ALTAR FLOWERS and the **SANCTUARY LAMP** burns in
Thanksgiving for the life and faithfulness of the Rev. Neal Hubbard
TODAY'S SERVERS:

Altar Guild: Kathleen Cocuzza, Lector: Inge Dyrud, Prayers: Lucia Morgan,
LEM/Acolyte: Kathleen Cocuzza; Ushers: Liz Sickels

Following this service everyone is invited to step outside for the traditional chalking of the doorway, to be followed by a potluck meal and white elephant gift exchange in the Parish Hall.

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.



Today at Epiphany

Chalking of the Doors: Immediately following the service, on the patio

Coffee Hour/Brunch: In celebration of Epiphany, there will be a potluck brunch after the service in the Parish Hall. 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.

Bible & Book Study: 5:30 p.m. Jan. 14, based on "The Gifts of the Jews" by Thomas Cahill. See Paul Murgatroyd for details

Vestry Meeting: 11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, in the Sunday School Room and by Zoom.

Crab Feed I: Saturday, January 24th. See Emma Green or Evan Evans for tickets.

Annual Meeting & Potluck: 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 1, in the Parish Hall

Crab Feed II: Saturday, February 28th. See Emma or Evan for tickets.

New book & Bible study begins Jan. 14

Epiphany's own Paul Murgatroyd will lead a Wednesday book and Bible discussion based on "The Gifts of the Jews" by Thomas Cahill, starting at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 14.

The class will focus on group participation and discussion and should take about an hour. Attendees at the first session will decide on future meeting times and formats.

"The Gifts of the Jews" describes how the Jews essentially invented Western civilization and shaped Western consciousness today, as they were the first in human history to claim individual freedom and to presume they could make the future better than the past. "Originally published in 1998, it is the second in Cahill's acclaimed six-volume Hinges of History series, which started with "How the Irish Saved Civilization."

See Paul for more information or contact the office.

Annual Crab Feeds support our Feeding Ministry

Mark your calendars for our beloved parish tradition! Our Annual Crab Feeds bring our community together for fellowship, delicious food, and a wonderful cause. All proceeds support our Feeding Ministry, providing meals to our neighbors in need throughout the year.

This year's dinners will be on Saturday, January 24, and Saturday, February 28. Tickets are \$80 and can be purchased from Emma Green or Evan Evans.

For more information, contact Evan at 707-430-7367.





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 129th 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, Priest in Charge

Wanda Cook, Music Director

Vestry

Karen Nolan, Senior Warden (707) 321-5103

Eric Jones, Junior Warden

Michele Lee, James Manuel, Carol Marshall,

Kathleen Moran, Marilyn Powell, Liz Sickels, Tony Yang

Emma Green, Clerk Ben Smith, Treasurer

The Members of the Congregation are the Ministers of the Church