



**WELCOME TO
THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
ROYERSFORD, PA**

*A friendly welcome to all! If you are visiting, please fill out a visitor's card
and place it in the offertory plate or give it to an usher.
We hope you'll join us for refreshments and fellowship after worship today.*

HYMNS: Sequence: 692 Offertory: 149 Communion: 658,685 Closing: 690

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE IS IN THE SEASONAL SERVICE BOOKLET
FOUND IN THE PEW**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Psalm 95

- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.
- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."
- 11 So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."

The Second Reading

Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Sequence Hymn #692

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Just then his disciples came.

They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So, the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So, when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The Prayers of the People

We have been birthed for holiness in Christ, by whose arduous labor we are awakened to life. That the wounds of our crucified Christ may not be in vain, let us pray to the Lord, saying: We beg for mercy, O God.

For the whole church catholic, for an end to our divisions, for all who lead and all who minister, and for all the baptized, we pray:

For all who seek the living waters of baptism, and for all sponsors, we pray:

For the nations, for peacemakers, for all the world's peoples, for the governing authorities in every city and state [especially N.], and for the wealthy and free to uplift the poor and oppressed, we pray:

For the will to give all your people access to your grace, and for the will to supply food and sustenance to all the world's people, we pray:

For all whom we avoid, those we consider ungodly, the outcasts and beggars, the downtrodden, for our enemies, and for an end to our hardness of heart, we pray:

For all who yearn for health, for the handicapped, for those in mental anguish or spiritual turmoil, for the incurably ill, and for all who remember and care for them, [especially N.], we pray:

For hearts to do what is good and right and true, and for humility before Christ, that we may never murmur against you, O holy God, we pray:

[Here other intercessions may be offered.]

We praise you, God of our hope, for all the faithful before us who entered into your labors and worshiped you in truth [especially N.]. That we may live faithful to eternal life, we pray:

Pour your love into our hearts, O God of peace. Give us joy in our suffering, endurance in trials, character in times of weakness, and hope in adversity. So may we live, birthed always anew in you, who has gasped and panted for our life, now and forever.

Birthday's: 25 - Susan Garone

Announcements

PARISH GATHERINGS IN LENT: Today we continue a series of forums on *Prayer*. Following the 10 am service across the Sundays of Lent (March 19,26 & April 2) let us come together with our refreshments in hand and explore ways we can actively nurture our relationship with the Holy One in our midst.

NEWSLETTER: Articles for the Electronic Newsletter are due by next Sunday. Please email to newsletter@epiphanystar.net

WEB SITE: We now have a TAB on the Web Site labeled **Epiphany Community**. This Tab or those tabs under this will be password protected. This gives us the ability to put information on the Web Site that we do not want made public, such as the Church Directory. I have sent the password out to all those parishioners listed in the directory. **Any and all feedback regarding the Web Site would be appreciated.** Any questions please see Paul Exley.

POT PIE SALE! POT PIE SALE! ----Yes, it is that time of year for our annual pot pie sale. The pick-up date is set for Sat., April 8th. So be thinking about those delicious treats you and your friends will want to order. Further details will be forthcoming in the newsletter and in the Sunday bulletins. No new entrees on the menu this year. Questions? See Bill Hummer.

SCRIP: Scrip order dates: March date is the 26th. April dates are the 9th and 23rd. Contact Susan Garone with any questions proutygarone@verizon.net or 610-415-9233. Thank you for your support.

LET'S READ THE WHOLE BIBLE TOGETHER THIS YEAR! This week's readings:

March 20	Day 71 – Deuteronomy 19-21, Psalm 59, Luke 17
March 21	Day 72 – Deuteronomy 22-24, Psalm 60, Luke 18
March 22	Day 73 – Deuteronomy 25-27, Psalm 61, Luke 19
March 23	Day 74 – Deuteronomy 28-30, Psalm 62, Luke 20
March 24	Day 75 – Deuteronomy 31-33, Psalm 63, Luke 21
March 25	Day 76 – Deuteronomy 34, Psalm 64, Luke 22
Sunday	3/26 Day 77 – Enjoy hearing the Scriptures read aloud in church

OR... go to www.epiphanystar.net and...

Scroll down to Bishop's Bible Challenge, click day or week of your choice, find the red link: click & read

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

	8am	10am
Eucharistic Minister:	Volunteer	Marie Kearns
Lectors:	Marsha Hill	Paul Atlee & Joanne Arnold
Acolyte:		Paul Exley
Greeter:		Cathy Bailey
Usher:		Betsy & Charles Dell
Counters:		Charles Dell & Volunteer
Altar Guild		Julie Dattilo, Joanne Arnold, Cathy Bailey, Tanya Millet
Godly Play Greeter		Betty Murphy
Godly Play Teacher		Marti Wilson

OUR PARISH LIFE AND WORK THIS WEEK

Monday	7:30pm	N.A. (Undercroft)
Tuesday	8:00pm	A.A. (Undercroft)
Wednesday	6:00pm	TBMP Weight Loss Program (Office)
Thursday	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 3/26		Scrip Sunday
	8:00am	Holy Eucharist Rite I Spoken
	10:00am	Holy Eucharist Rite II Music
		Church School Children process from the church nave to Education Building at 10 and return at the Peace
		Lenten Forum on Prayer following 10am Service

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

209 S. Third Avenue, Royersford, PA 19468
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[WWW.EIPHANYSTAR.NET](http://www.EIPHANYSTAR.NET)

WORSHIP SERVICES

MIDWEEK HOLY EUCHARIST WITH HEALING LITANY
10:15AM WEDNESDAYS

SUNDAY

8AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I (SPOKEN)

10AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II (MUSIC)

THE REV. BETH W. HIXON, RECTOR
215-896-0828 OR RECTOR@EIPHANYSTAR.NET

DODI KEARNS, MUSIC DIRECTOR
ROBIN SMITH, ORGANIST
PAUL EXLEY, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR