



**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: Procession: 182 Sequence: 209 Offertory: 192 Communion: 193,314 Closing: 174

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

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; 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

Acts 2:14a,22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Psalm 16

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for
evermore.

The Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Sequence Hymn #209

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Prayers of the People

Let us who have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection pray for the church, the world, and all in need, saying: Lord, hear us in your mercy.

For a new birth of peace on the earth among all human families and nations, that hatred and violence and war may cease, we pray:

For the whole body of Christ and all who bear his holy name, and for bishops, clergy, and all who offer ministries, that we may serve Christ with glad and generous hearts, we pray:

For this nation and all nations of the world, that those who lead may know truth and practice integrity, that all peoples may grow together in concord, we pray:

For all in mental anguish and whose faith is racked by doubt, that they may be led with Thomas the apostle to cry out, "My Lord and my God," we pray:

For those imprisoned unjustly by force, that they may be liberated and not be abandoned to the dominion of death, we pray:

For all gathered here out of love for Christ, that we may know the gospel as an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, we pray:

For those having died in faith [especially N.] and for all the dying [especially N.], that they may know the love of God who has raised Christ up, having loosed the pangs of death, we pray:

[Here other intercessions may be offered.]

Bind us in love to those for whom we pray this day, and to one another in genuineness of faith, more precious than gold, that Christ may be present in all we do and say. So may your life be praised, today and all days.

Altar Flowers: Given in loving memory of Dennis by Helen Warner.

Anniversaries: 28 - Christopher & Alicia DeMont

Announcements

PARISH FORUM: PLEASE COME TO THE PARISH QUARTERLY FORUM, **TODAY**, AFTER THE 10:00 SERVICE. The agenda will include an orientation to our new and much improved web site by Paul Exley, an overview of the vestry's restructuring of Parish Life, Outreach and Stewardship, and a parish financial update. This is your chance to dialog with the vestry and fellow parishioners, hear what's going on, and express your views and concerns. All are welcome!

VESTRY RETREAT APRIL 28-29: The Vestry and the Rector will be on retreat at the Diocesan Retreat Center on the Elk River in Maryland the last Friday evening and Saturday of April. The Rev. Robert Tate will consult with us on Saturday. Our prayer and discussions will focus on discerning and developing our parish mission within the Borough of Royerford taking into consideration our resources and the needs of the surrounding community. Please pray that we will be open to God's presence, guidance and inspiration and that we may become of one mind in Christ.

SPRING CLEAN UP: The church property is scheduled for May 6, 2017 starting at 10am. May 13, 2017 is the rain date. Mulch needs to be spread. Gardens need to be cleaned up. The handicap ramp needs work. There will be a signup sheet on the undercroft bulletin board. If you can spare some time please sign up to help. Thanks Sherri Quinlan

ADULT FELLOWSHIP DINNER: at the home of Larry & Peggy Way 1225 Calista Lane, Phoenixville. Saturday, May 20 @ 5:30. Call Helen Warner @ 610-901-3517 to reserve and offer a dinner contribution such as: English Cheese Tray, Irish Soda Bread w/Kerry Gold Butter, Savory Scones, Light Spring Soup, Fruit Salad, Welsh Rarebit, Cornish Pasties, Ginger Beer, A Proper Pot of Tea, Jam Tarts.

PLEDGE/FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: First quarter pledge and financial contribution statements are in the back of the church. If you have not received yours, please check there to retrieve it. If you believe that you should have received a statement, but did not, or if your statement is not accurate, please contact Susan Garone, Accounting Warden. Statements not picked up by April 23 will be mailed.

SCRIP: The next order date is today, April 23. May 7 will be the **ONLY** date in May, so please plan accordingly! Contact Susan Garone at 610-415-9233 or proutygarone@verizon.net if you have questions or would like to help with the program.

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

April 24 Day 113 – II Samuel 10-12, Psalm 93, Acts 8
April 25 Day 114 – II Samuel 13-15, Psalm 94, Acts 9
April 26 Day 115 – II Samuel 16-18, Psalm 95, Acts 10
April 27 Day 116 – II Samuel 19-21, Psalm 96, Acts 11
April 28 Day 117 – II Samuel 22-24, Psalm 97, Acts 12
April 29 Day 118 – I Kings 1-3, Psalm 98, Acts 13
Sunday 4/30 Day 119 – 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

SAVE THE DATES:

5/20 5:30 pm

Adult Fellowship Party hosted by Peggy and Larry Way

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

	8am	10am
Eucharistic Minister:	Volunteer	Marti Wilson
Lectors:	Ed Hill	Joanne Arnold & Paul Atlee
Acolyte:		Paul Exley
Greeter:		Larry Way
Usher:		Kathy Cobbs & Bill Wilson
Counters:		Tom Bailey & Frank Borst
Altar Guild		Julie Dattilo, Joanne Arnold, Cathy Bailey, Tanya Millet
Godly Play Greeter		Kitty DiBattista
Godly Play Teacher		Liz Leary

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 4/30	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
610-948-9655

[WWW.EPIPHANYSTAR.NET](http://www.EPIPHANYSTAR.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@EPIPHANYSTAR.NET

DODI KEARNS, MUSIC DIRECTOR

ROBIN SMITH, ORGANIST

PAUL EXLEY, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR