



**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.*

Morning Prayer Rite II

Hymn 392



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join
2 Let those re - fuse to sing that nev - er knew our God; but
3 The heirs of grace have found glo - ry be - gun be - low; ce -
4 Then let our song a - bound and let our tears be dry; we're



in a song with sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne.
chil - dren of the heaven - ly King may speak their joys a - broad.
les - tial fruits on earth - ly ground from faith and hope may grow.
march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground to fair - er worlds on high.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na! Re - joice, give thanks and sing.

The Officiant says

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Philippians 1:2

Confession of Sin

The Officiant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant 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 Officiant stands and says

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

Invitatory and Psalter

All stand

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.

Psalm 95:1-7 Venite

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
 let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
 and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
 and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
 and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
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!

The people are seated

Psalm 119:105-112

- 105 Your word is a lantern to my feet *
and a light upon my path.
- 106 I have sworn and am determined *
to keep your righteous judgments.
- 107 I am deeply troubled; *
preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.
- 108 Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips, *
and teach me your judgments.
- 109 My life is always in my hand, *
yet I do not forget your law.
- 110 O The wicked have set a trap for me, *
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
- 111 Your decrees are my inheritance forever; *
truly, they are the joy of my heart.
- 112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes *
forever and to the end.

After the Psalms, all say together

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Readings

First Reading

Genesis 25:19-34

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished.

Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The people stand as they are able and say in unison

Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah
Luke 1:68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading

Romans 8:1-11

The people are seated.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Remain seated.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!" "Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.

As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Homily

Apostles' Creed

All stand.

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

The Prayers

The people stand or kneel.

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Officiant and People say responsively

A.

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

The Officiant then says

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Prayers of the People

Through baptism we have been made alive in Christ Jesus. Let us speak the words of this new life by praying for the whole state of Christ's church and the world, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For the church, that we might be faithful, willing to serve, constant in grace, and receptive to newness, let us pray to the Lord.

For this congregation, that we might be eager to welcome, diligent in prayer, and generous in deed, let us pray to the Lord.

For our nation, town, and neighborhood, that we might be advocates of the lowly, defenders of liberties, and models of justice, let us pray to the Lord.

For those who grieve, those in places of care, those in prison, those who are addicted, those who are despondent, [especially N.], let us pray to the Lord.

For those in dangerous occupations, those who care for the sick, those who work the land, those who engage in commerce, and those who teach, let us pray to the Lord.

For all who travel, who seek rest, who visit family and friends, who enjoy the gifts of creation, let us pray to the Lord.

For our families and for all placed under our care, for our enemies and for those with whom we disagree, and for those who are examples of grace in our lives, let us pray to the Lord.

[Here other intercessions may be offered.]

Yours, O God, is the dominion, the power, and the glory, now and forever.

BIRTHDAYS: 17 - Kathy Cobbs

ANNIVERSARIES: 20 - Glenn & JoAnn Sibley

ALTAR FLOWERS: Given in gratitude for their children by Ed and Marsha Hill

OFFERTORY

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts. Psalm 96:8

HYMN 512

1 Come, gra - cious Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with light and
2 The light of truth to us dis - play, and make us
3 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing Way, nor let us
4 Lead us to heaven, that we may share full - ness of

com - fort from a - bove; be thou our guard - ian,
know and choose thy way; plant ho - ly fear in
from his pre - cepts stray; lead us to ho - li -
joy for ev - er there; lead us to God, our

thou our guide; o'er ev - ery thought and step pre - side.
ev - ery heart, that we from thee may ne'er de - part.
ness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.
fin - al rest, to be with him for ev - er blest.

The offering is presented to the officiant who raises the alms basins as all say

All things come of thee O Lord and of thine own have we given thee

After the alms basins are set on the altar in the chancel, the officiant says

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

Announcements

S 248 - © 1985 Bruce E. Ford.S 282 - Melody: © 1985 Bruce E. Ford.

Closing Hymn 432

1 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
 2 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him up - on earth,
 *3 O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;
 4 O praise ye the Lord! Thanks - giv - ing and song

re - joice in his word, ye an - gels of light;
 in tune - ful ac - cord, all ye of new birth;
 each ju - bi - lant chord re - ech - o a - round;
 to him be out - poured all a - ges a - long!

ye hea - vens, a - dore him by whom ye were made,
 praise him who hath brought you his grace from a - bove,
 loud or - gans, his glo - ry forth tell in deep tone,
 For love in cre - a - tion, for hea - ven re - stored,

and wor - ship be - fore him, in bright - ness ar - rayed.
 praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.
 and sweet harp, the sto - ry of what he hath done.
 for grace of sal - va - tion, O praise ye the Lord!

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 IN SUMMER (AUGUST 2)

SUNDAY

9AM 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