



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

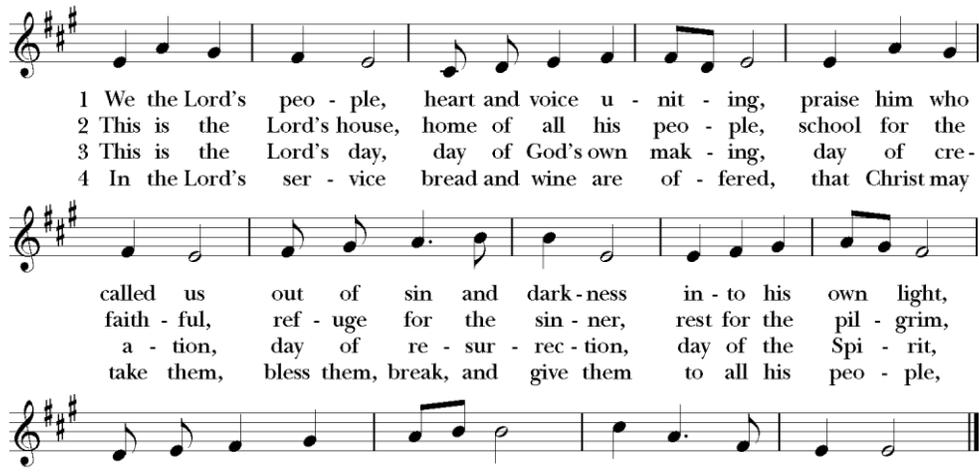
*A friendly welcome to all! If you are visiting, please fill out a visitor's card  
and place it in the offertory plate or give it to an usher.  
We hope you'll join us for refreshments and fellowship after worship today.*



# The Liturgy of the Word

## Entrance Hymn

51



1 We the Lord's peo - ple, heart and voice u - nit - ing, praise him who  
2 This is the Lord's house, home of all his peo - ple, school for the  
3 This is the Lord's day, day of God's own mak - ing, day of cre -  
4 In the Lord's ser - vice bread and wine are of - fered, that Christ may  
called us out of sin and dark - ness in - to his own light,  
faith - ful, ref - uge for the sin - ner, rest for the pil - grim,  
a - tion, day of re - sur - rec - tion, day of the Spi - rit,  
take them, bless them, break, and give them to all his peo - ple,  
that he might a - noint us a roy - al priest - hood.  
ha - ven for the wea - ry; all find a wel - come.  
sign of hea - ven's ban - quet, day for re - joic - ing.  
his own life im - par - ting, food ev - er - last - ing.

Words: John F. Downer (b. 1933); © Copyright © by permission of John F. Downer

*All stand as able*

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

## The Song of Hannah

*1 Samuel 2:1-8*

My heart exults in you, O God; \*  
my triumph song is lifted in you.  
My mouth derides my enemies, \*  
for I rejoice in your salvation.  
There is none holy like you, \*  
nor any rock to be compared to you, our God.  
Do not heap up prideful words or speak in arrogance; \*  
Only God is knowing and weighs all actions.  
The bows of the mighty are broken, \*  
but the weak are clothed in strength.  
Those once full now labor for bread, \*  
those who hungered now are well fed.  
The childless woman has borne sevenfold, \*

while the mother of many is forlorn.  
God destroys and brings to life, casts down and raises up; \*  
gives wealth or takes it away, humbles and dignifies.  
God raises the poor from the dust; \*  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap  
To make them sit with the rulers \*  
and inherit a place of honor.  
For the pillars of the earth are God's \*  
on which the whole earth is founded.

## The Collect of the Day

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

**Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## The First Reading

Genesis 45:1-15

*All are seated*  
A Reading from the book of Genesis.

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.

I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

## **Psalm 133**

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: \*  
life for evermore.

## **The Second Reading**

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

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

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

# Sequence Hymn

WLP 772

*All stand as able*

1. O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for  
2. From ev-ery ail-ment flesh en-dures our bod-ies  
3. How strong, O Lord, are our de-sires, how weak our  
4. In con-flicts that de-stroy our health we rec-og-  
5. Grant that we all, made in one faith, in your com-

health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to  
clam-or to be freed; yet in our hearts we  
know-ledge of our-selves! Re-lease in us those  
nize the world's dis-ease; our com-mon life de-  
mu-ni-ty may find the whole-ness that, en-

be re-stored, when reached by love that nev-er ends?  
would con-fess that whole-ness is our deep-est need.  
heal-ing truths un-con-scious pride re-sists our selves.  
clares our ills: is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
rich-ing us, shall reach the whole of hu-man-kind.

## The Holy Gospel

Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

*All stand.*

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

## THE HOMILY

### The Nicene Creed

*All stand.*

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**

*Who can separate us from the love of God? What can separate us from the love of Christ? Let our hearts now respond to such overwhelming love as we pray together in the Spirit, saying: Hear us, O Lord.*

**That God will renew the merciful covenant made with us in love, we pray:**

**That the ministers of the gospel may be people of genuine conversion and prophetic voice, we pray:**

**That the bread of life may be shared one day by all Christians at a common table of praise, we pray:**

**For the poor of our world, and for governments called to assist them in their need, we pray:**

**For the sick and the suffering in our world [especially N.], we pray:**

**For those preparing for baptism, that they may hear the invitation of God to come to the waters of regeneration and there find abundant life, we pray:**

**For the newly wedded couples in our community, for expectant parents, and for those who nurture children, that all may be fed at the breasts of a loving God and find strength in lives of service, we pray:**

*[Here other intercessions may be offered.]*

**Let us be mindful of the dead [especially N.]. That they may come into the fullness of life, united with God in the communion of the faithful, we pray:**

*O God, your loving care for us calls for our gratitude. Multiply once again your abundant mercy toward us; renew your covenant with us; and let our hearts overflow with godly love for others. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Rabbi and Lord, now in the Spirit and forever.*

**BIRTHDAYS:** 25 - Elizabeth Caldwell

**ANNIVERSARIES:** 26 - Jerry & Karen Kreider

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Given In celebration of Dominic's birthday by Julie Dattilo

## **The Confession of Sin**

*The Priest says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence*

*Priest and People*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. *Amen.*

*The Priest 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.*

*Presider*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*

And also with you.

*The People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

# The Liturgy of the Table

## Offertory Hymn

531

1 O Spi - rit of the liv - ing God, in  
2 Give tongues of fire and hearts of love, to  
3 Be dark - ness, at thy com - ing, light; con -  
4 Con - vert the na - tions! far and nigh the

all thy plen - i - tude of grace, wher - e'er the foot of  
preach the rec - on - cil - ing word; give power and unc - tion  
fu - sion, or - der in thy path; souls with - out strength in -  
tri - umphs of the cross re - cord; the Name of Je - sus

man hath trod, de - scend on our a - pos - tate race.  
from a - bove, when - e'er the joy - ful sound is heard.  
spire with might, bid mer - cy tri - umph o - ver wrath.  
glo - ri - fy, till ev - ery peo - ple call him Lord.

At the presentation of the Offering:

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

# The Great Thanksgiving

*The people remain standing.*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Presider* It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

*The Presider proceeds*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*The Presider continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Presider and People*

Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

*The Presider continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

*The Presider continues*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*People and Presider*

**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 Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **The Invitation to Holy Communion**

The Gifts of God for the People of God

*This is the Lord's Table, God's feast for all of God's people. There is always Abundance here and a place for you. You are invited and encouraged to join us at the altar rail.*

*If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the bread or wine, you are welcome; please come forward and cross your arms over your chest.*

# COMMUNION HYMNS

508

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,  
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,  
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,  
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die;

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.  
un - til with thee I will one will, to do or to en - dure.  
till all this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.  
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the  
 2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who  
 3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me

gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day-light's  
 dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y  
 glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -

splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der  
 know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth;  
 vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;

un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this  
 at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me  
 from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how

won-drous ban-quet found-ed- high o'er all the heavens he  
 be a fit par - ta - ker of this bless - ed food from  
 vast and deep its trea - sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.  
 hea - ven, for our good, thy glo - ry, giv - en.  
 give me, as thy guest in heaven re - ceive me.

*After Communion, the Presider says*

Let us pray.

*All*

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

*Announcements*

## **The Dismissal**

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to  
 2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to  
 3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to  
 4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and  
 Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward  
 Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the  
 Christ we bring with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,  
 and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,  
 work to share, with us re - proach to dare,  
 souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.  
 re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.  
 with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.  
 in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.