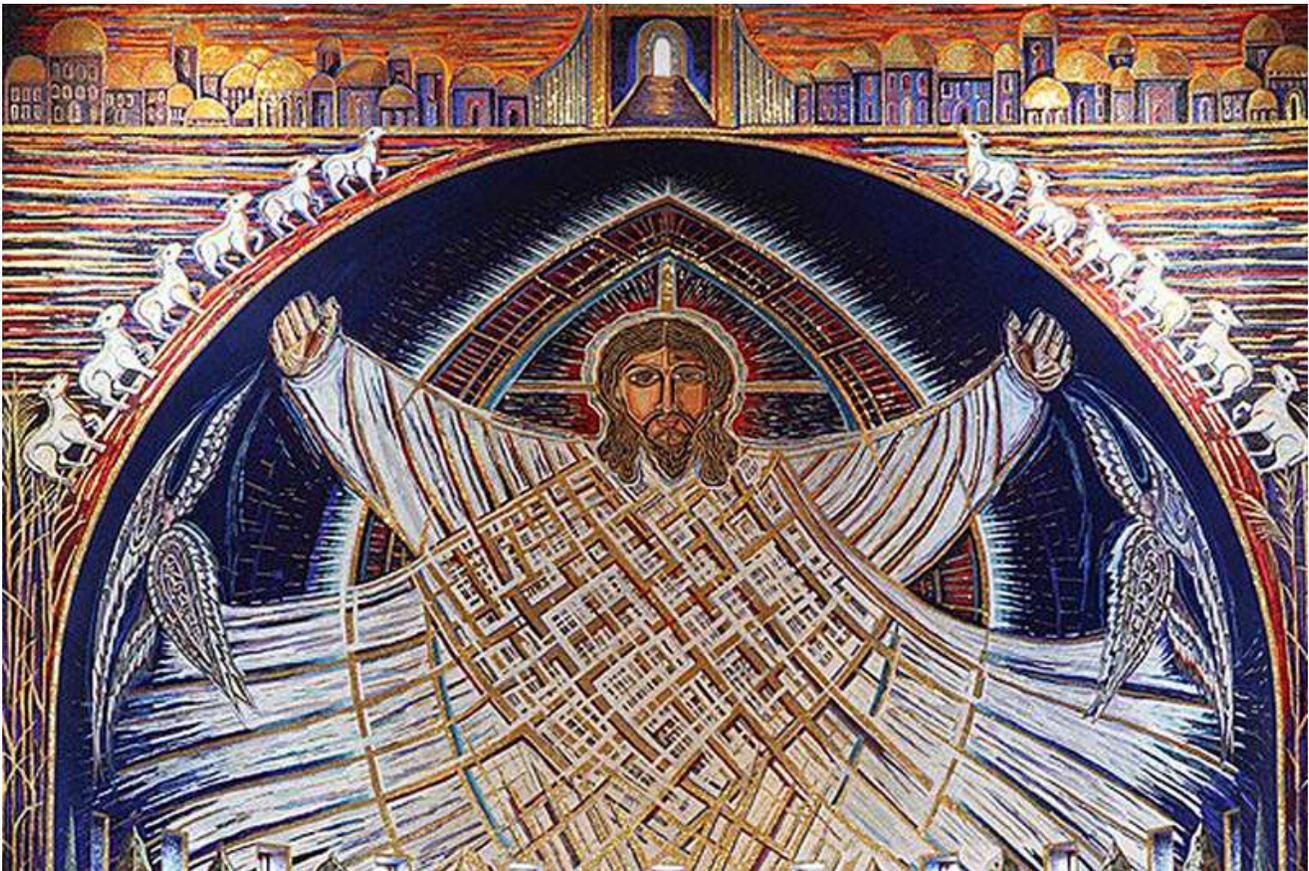


**WELCOME TO  
THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY  
ROYERSFORD, PA**

*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.*

*In Advent, we grow pregnant with anticipation for the coming of the Holy One among us. We yearn and listen for, we eagerly await both the vulnerable babe and the risen, returning Christ Jesus. Our Advent liturgies will begin with an Advent Introit and the sound of a resonant bell. Intentional silences will follow the lessons, the homily and other aspects of the liturgy. Rest in the quiet spaces of our Advent worship as expectation of "God with us" grows and is born in the story and in our life. O Come, O Come Emmanuel...*



## ENTRANCE HYMN

*Descant*

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior  
2 He comes, the pri - songs to re - lease in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal  
prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -  
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
soul to cure; and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.  
pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

*All standing*

*Presider*

Blessed be the One Holy and Living God

*People*

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY (said by all)

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.

The following is sung, all standing

KYRIE

HYMNAL #S-96

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

**Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

### A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

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

*Silence following the reading... a moment to listen to the Word with your heart.*

### **Psalm 25:1-9**

- 1    To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
      let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2    Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
      let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3    Show me your ways, O LORD, \*  
      and teach me your paths.
- 4    Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
      for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

## THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

### A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Church in Thessalonica

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence following the reading... a moment to listen to the Word with your heart.*

1 How bright ap - pears the Morn - ing Star, with mer - cy beam -  
 2 Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast  
 3 Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with praise, ye sin -

ing from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es;  
 a pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;  
 ners, fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion.

O right - eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man  
 the whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high - est ser -  
 In - car - nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on,

and Son of God! We, too, will lift our voic - es:  
 a - phim a - dored, as - sumed our ve - ry na - ture;  
 great Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - va - tion.

Je - sus, Je - sus! Ho - ly, ho - ly, yet most low - ly,  
 Je - sus, grant us, through thy mer - it, to in - her - it  
 A - men, a - men! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

draw thou near us; great Em - man - uel, come and hear us.  
 thy sal - va - tion; hear, O hear our sup - pli - ca - tion.  
 Praise be giv - en ev - er - more, by earth and hea - ven.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

*All stand (as you are able)**Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.*People* **Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*After the reading of the Gospel*

*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

*As the church worldwide celebrates the beginning of its New Year, let us turn our minds and hearts to the larger community of which we are a part, saying: Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us mercy.*

For all peoples of every race, nation and disposition: May your love so embrace us all, that its power overcomes our conflicts, our defenses, and our fears. Quicken us to our true nature as your children that we may love one another. Hear our prayer, O Lord,

For all the churches of the world, Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, and Pentecostal: May we grow together in our understanding of mission, that we may be strengthened in unity and united in acts of service. Call us to the one discipleship with its many gifts. Hear our prayer, O Lord,

For all Christian communities, young and growing in Africa, aging and changing in North America: Renew our vision and experience of Christian community as ever birthing, ever transforming, ever young and open to risk, ever old and full of wisdom. Hear our prayer, O Lord,

For those who live in fear and confusion: Whether they be stateless people in refugee camps, or settled people hidden behind high fences, give to the vulnerable strength, and to the secure vulnerability, that our human compassion for one another may end injustice and give our societies a human face. Hear our prayer, O Lord,

For this community, especially for those who suffer most, for the emotionally and physically ill, for the dying, for those who grieve: May we all, out of our own suffering, give comfort and support. Hear our prayer, O Lord,

For the larger community around us, especially for the newborn children, the homeless, and the imprisoned: May we create a world where shelter, food and medical care are available for all and where the law protects people for a better chance and better choices. Hear our prayer, O Lord,

*[Here other intercessions may be offered.]*

*On this first day of the year, we gather up our prayers and offer them to you, O Lord, knowing full well that there are signs in the sun and moon and stars and in the common events of ordinary life that call us to attend to your coming. Prepare us for the time of trial and for your dominion, coming now and at the close of this age.*

**BIRTHDAY'S:** 6 - Mike Haines 8 - Sherri Quinlan

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Given in thanks for all my family and friends. I am blessed. Julie Dattilo

## **THE CONFESSION OF SIN**

Let us confess our sins to God. *(Silence may be kept.)*

*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 Absolution**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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 greet one another in the name of Christ***

*Offering the peace of Jesus Christ is an ancient practice of the earliest Christian liturgies.*

*It is a sacred greeting that offers the peace that passes all understanding.*

*Looking into the eyes of the other and resisting additional conversation  
honors the holiness of the exchange.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Choir Anthem

Open Our Eyes

Kevin Keil

*At the presentation of the Gifts:*

**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

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **and also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

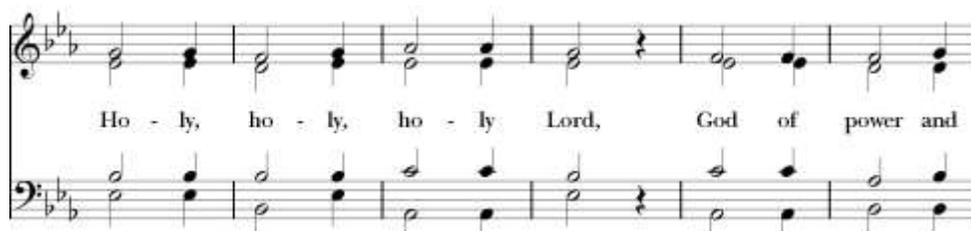
*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Presider*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The People may stand, kneel or sit*

*The Presider continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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." Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. 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.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

***We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.***

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

### **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 Hymn 60



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse  
3 When this old world drew on toward night,  
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now  
5 Come in your pray, ho - ly might, we pray,  
6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,  
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,  
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;  
5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;  
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,  
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free  
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child  
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.  
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.  
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.  
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

*Presider*

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.

## Blessing

Announcements

## The Dismissal

*People*

Thanks be to God.

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah sec.  
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1791); Music: Italian for melody; Committee Ann (1770-1779); from: Robert Matthew Williams (1929-2005), ed.

**ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**10am**

Eucharistic Minister:	Marti Wilson
Lectors:	Ben Millet & Tanya Millet
Greeter:	Larry Way
Ushers:	Cindy Lind & Mary Thompson
Counters:	Charles Dell and Volunteer
Altar Guild	Julie Dattilo, Joanne Arnold
Godly Play Teacher	TBD
Godly Play Greeter	TBD

# CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

209 S. Third Avenue, Royersford, PA 19468

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## WORSHIP SERVICES

### SUNDAYS

8 AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I (SPOKEN)

10 AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II (MUSIC)

### MIDWEEK HOLY EUCHARIST WITH HEALING LITANY

10:15AM WEDNESDAYS

*THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY WORSHIPS*

*IN THE WARNER EDUCATION BUILDING*

***ALL ARE WELCOME***

**PAUL EXLEY, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR**

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**MARY CAMPBELL, ORGANIST, PIANIST & DIRECTOR OF EPIPHANY CHOIRS**

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