

**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.*



*THROUGHOUT THE SEASON OF THE EPIPHANY WE WILL USE THE  
CONTEMPORARY VERSION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER*

CANDLEMAS: A SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Presider greets the people with these words

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Dear People of God: Forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we are now present as the household of God, where we recognize Christ in the breaking of bread.

Let us pray.

O eternal God, who have created all things; on this day you fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon: we humbly ask you to bless and sanctify these candles for our use. Graciously hear our prayers and be merciful to us, whom you have redeemed by your Son, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The following canticle is then sung (the congregation joins the choir on the refrain in italics)

A light to en - light - en the na - tions,  
and the glo - ry of you peo - ple Is - ra - el.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the canticle, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

A Light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people Israel.

*A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.*

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised.

*A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.*

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see.

*A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.*

The Presider then says the following prayer

Let us pray.

O God, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness, through Jesus Christ the Light of the World. *Amen.*

We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O Lord, in the midst of your temple. Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end; your right hand is full of justice.

## Psalm 48: 1-2, 10-13

*The congregation joins the choir on the "Refrain"*

We have wait - - ed on you lov - ing kind - ness

4  
O Lord, in the midst\_\_\_\_\_ of your\_\_ tem - ple

### *"Refrain"*

1 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised; \*  
in the city of our God is his holy hill.

2 Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, \*  
the very center of the world and the city of the great King. *"Refrain"*

10 Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
because of your judgments.

11 Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about her; \*  
count the number of her towers. *"Refrain"*

12 Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds; \*  
that you may tell those who come after.

13 This God is our God for ever and ever; \*  
he shall be our guide for evermore. *"Refrain"*

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray together

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; 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

Malachi 3: 1-4

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

### Psalm 24: 7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

“Who is this King of glory?” \*

the LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.”

Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

“What is he, this King of glory?” \*

“The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.”

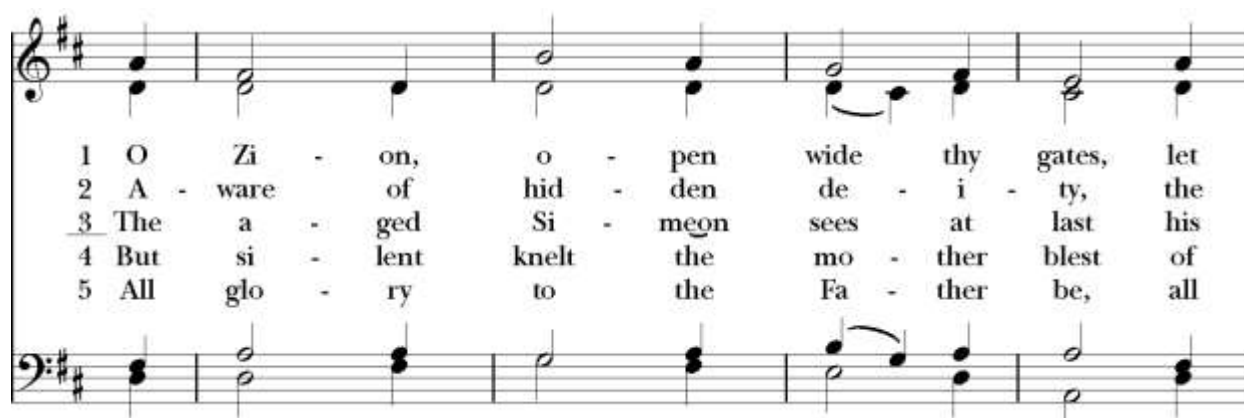
### THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 2: 1-18

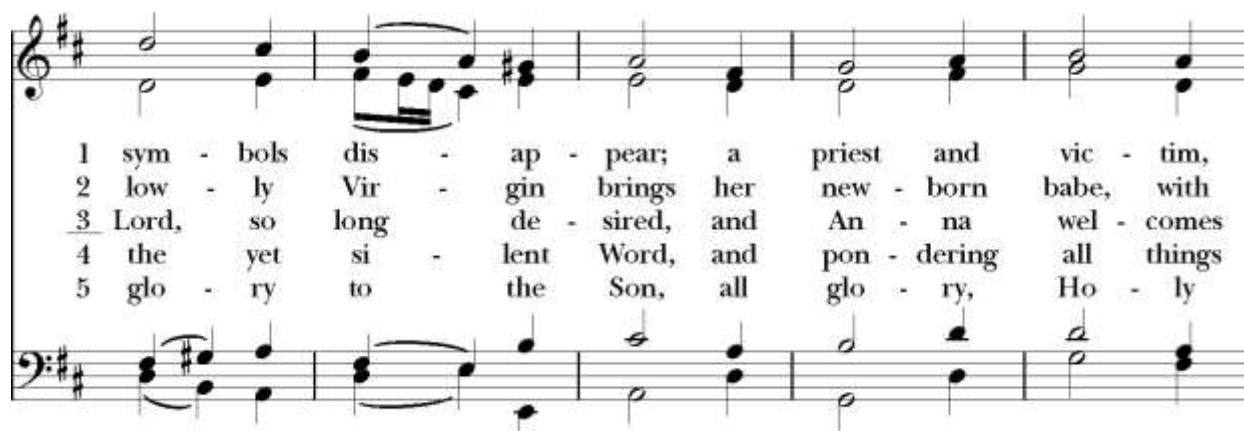
A Reading from the Book of Hebrews

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

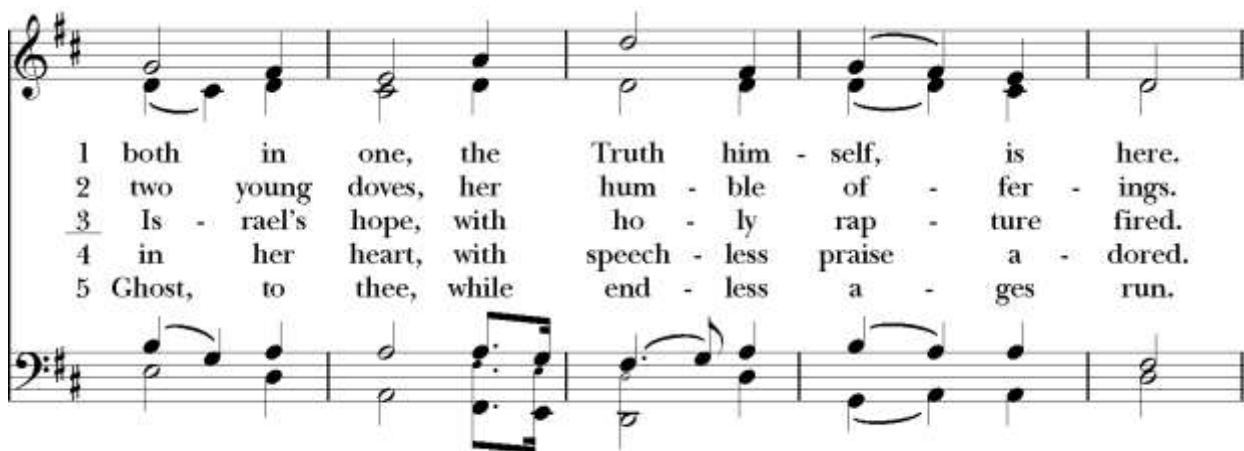
*Reader*            The Word of the Lord  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**



1 O Zi - on, o - pen wide thy gates, let  
 2 A - ware of hid - den de - i - ty, the  
 3 The a - ged Si - meon sees at last his  
 4 But si - lent knelt the mo - ther blest of  
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther be, all



1 sym - bols dis - ap - pear; a priest and vic - tim,  
 2 low - ly Vir - gin brings her new - born babe, with  
 3 Lord, so long de - sired, and An - na wel - comes  
 4 the yet si - lent Word, and pon - dering all things  
 5 glo - ry to the Son, all glo - ry, Ho - ly



1 both in one, the Truth him - self, is here.  
 2 two young doves, her hum - ble of - fer - ings.  
 3 Is - rael's hope, with ho - ly rap - ture fired.  
 4 in her heart, with speech - less praise a - dored.  
 5 Ghost, to thee, while end - less a - ges run.

*All stand (as you are able)*

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

*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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;

*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;

*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Daniel our Diocesan Bishop; for all the ordained who administer the sacraments of the church and the faithful who gather in the real presence of Christ and who take his light, life, love and peace out to share with the world.

*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We especially pray today for\_\_\_\_\_

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

*For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

*And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

*Who put their trust in you.*

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone; things done on our behalf,

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.*

**BIRTHDAYS:** 29 - Frank Borst, Abigail Leary 30 - Mary Campbell

**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

*Let All the World*

*Lyrics* George Herbert  
*Music* Calvin Hampton

*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 S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, hea - ven 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 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 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 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 for ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

### Fraction S167

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

*Antiphon*

*Cantor; then All*



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

*Cantor*



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

*Cantor*



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

# 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

436

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the  
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
\*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to  
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is  
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and  
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner  
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.  
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!  
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.  
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

*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.**

**The Blessing**

Announcements

**The Dismissal**

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

**ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**10am**

Eucharistic Minister:	Marti Wilson
Lectors:	Helen Warner & Bill Hummer
Usher/Greeters:	Cindy Lind & Kitty DiBattista
Counters:	Vincent & Susan Garone
Altar Guild	Julie Dattilo & Joanne Arnold
Godly Play Teacher	Julie Dattilo

SENDING HYMN

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.  
I want to look at Je-sus.  
I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and  
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.  
show me the way to the Fa-ther.  
shall know the joy of Je-sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*

*a tempo*

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

# CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

209 S. Third Avenue, Royersford, PA 19468  
610-948-9655

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

**A PARISH**

**WITHIN THE VALLEY FORGE DEANERY OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA**

[WWW.DIOPA.ORG](http://www.DIOPA.ORG)

**THE RIGHT REVEREND DANIEL G.P. GUTIERREZ, BISHOP**  
**THE VERY REVEREND KATHRYN ANDONIAN, DEAN**

## 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***

### VESTRY MEMBERS

MARTI WILSON (RECTOR'S WARDEN), SUSAN GARONE (ACCOUNTING WARDEN), JULIE DATTILO (SECRETARY),  
ED HILL (PROPERTY), MARY MARTIN (COMMUNICATIONS), JONATHAN BAILEY (TRANSITION ACTIVITIES)

**PAUL EXLEY, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR**

[churchoffice@epiphanystar.net](mailto:churchoffice@epiphanystar.net)

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

484-995-6110 (TEXT OR CALL) OR [SUNFLOWERANGELS@VERIZON.NET](mailto:SUNFLOWERANGELS@VERIZON.NET)

**THE REV. BETH W. HIXON, RECTOR**

215-896-0828 (TEXT OR CALL) OR [RECTOR@EPIPHANYSTAR.N](mailto:RECTOR@EPIPHANYSTAR.N)