



The Epiphany of Jesus Christ
10:30 am

St. Martin's Episcopal Church
Bridgewater, NJ

Please stand to sing We Three Kings

Hymnal 1982, 128

Verse One (with refrain) All Verse Two (no refrain) Men Verse Three (no refrain) All

Verse Four (no refrain) Women Verse Five (with refrain) All

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

.Gloria Verse One

Hymnal 1982, 96

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Let us pray: O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah *(Please be seated)*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord. The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 72 *Deus, judicium*

Antiphon: In his time, justice and peace shall flourish.

Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son;
That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice. **Antiphon.**

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people;
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. **Antiphon.**

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. **Antiphon.**

In his time shall the righteous flourish;
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

He shall rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. **Antiphon.**

A Reading from Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord/ *Thanks be to God*

Gospel Acclamation



V: We saw his star at its rising, and have come to give him homage.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. The Gospel of the Lord.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed (Please stand)

BCP, 358

The Prayers of the People

Let us worship the Savior with joy and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

The magi came from the east to worship your Son: Father, grant to Christians everywhere the spirit of adoration. Lord of glory, *hear our prayer.*

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh: Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds. Lord of glory, *hear our prayer.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of pow-er and might, Heav-en and earth are
 full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues in the *Book of Common Prayer*, page 368

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, 364

The Fraction and Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the
 world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are they who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

The Holy Communion

Communion Hymns

Where Is This Stupendous Stranger

Hymnal 1982, 491

What Gift Can We Bring?

1 What gift can we bring, what pres - ent, what to - ken?
2 Give thanks for the past, for those who had vi - sion,
3 Give thanks for to - mor - row, full of sur - pris - es,
4 This gift we now bring, this pres - ent, this to - ken,

What words can con - vey it the joy of this day?
who plant - ed and wa - tered so dreams could come true.
for know - ing what - ev - er to - mor - row may bring,
these words can con - vey it the joy of this day!

When grate - ful we come, re - mem - bering, re - joic - ing,
Give thanks for the now, for stud - y for wor - ship,
God gives us his word that al - ways, for - ev - er,
When grate - ful we come, re - mem - bering, re - joic - ing,

what song can we of - fer in hon - or and praise?
for mis - sion that bids us turn prayer in - to deed.
we rest in his keep - ing and live in his love.
this song we now of - fer in hon - or and praise!

Post Communion Prayer (*Please kneel or stand*)
Blessing and Dismissal

BCP, 365

Closing Hymn: *As with Gladness, Men of Old vv. 1-3*

Hymnal 1982, 119

SERVING TODAY

Thurifer: Fausto Beleno Crucifer: Alex Kellam
Reader: Carl Picazio Eucharistic Minister: Kathy Picazio
Choir: Beth Hixenbaugh, Alison Jandak, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon
Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Father Rob Laws

Mass: Wednesday, 6 pm in the Lady Chapel
Holy Rosary: Wednesday, 7 pm in the Lady Chapel

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

Epiphany (which means “revealing”) commemorates the visit of the Magi who came from the four corners of the world bearing gifts and following a star to meet the child who would become King. We celebrate Epiphany to remember that we too are invited to come and witness the life of Jesus and be blessed as we begin a new year.

“**Chalking the door**” is a centuries-old way to celebrate and to (literally) mark the occasion of the Epiphany with God’s blessing on our lives and homes with sacred signs and symbols used to set our homes apart as places of Christian hospitality, and as habitations of healing and rest. We invite God’s presence into our homes and ask Christ’s blessing upon all those who live, work, or visit throughout the coming year.

Each year, using blessed chalk, people mark the doorpost of their home with an inscription of the new year separated by C+M+B. In 2023, the inscription is **20+C+M+B+23**.

C+M+B are the initials of traditional names of the Magi who visited Jesus: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. Their initials create an anagram for a prayer in Latin:
Christus Mansionem Benedicat, which means “May Christ bless this house.”

Chalk is used in this ritual because it is an ordinary substance of the earth; “dust” put to holy use. It reminds us that we are of the dust of the ground, the most ordinary of substances, and yet are fashioned as holy beings for holy purposes. Chalk will not permanently mark the dwelling. Weather will likely cause the marking to fade over time, but each time we view the inscription

upon entering our homes we will remember the reason for it and rededicate ourselves to that purpose.

Blessed chalk is available in the narthex for all who would like to use it to bless their homes,

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mass: Wednesday, 6 pm in the Lady Chapel

Holy Rosary: Wednesday, 7 pm in the Lady Chapel

Meet and Greet the Bishop Candidates

Thursday January 12, 6:30 pm @ St. Luke's Gladstone All are invited.

The Electing Convention will be on Saturday, January 28 at Trinity Cathedral.

Annual Meeting: Sunday January 22

There will be only one Mass this weekend to encourage all parishioners to attend the meeting. Meeting materials will be forthcoming.

Part of the business will be to elect new vestry members: The following have been nominated:

Deb Mock- School Board President, Anne Marie Verdiramo- Outreach

Chris Bockus resigned as Clerk of the Vestry in November, and in accordance with the Canons of the Church, they Vestry appointed Kathy Picazio to complete his term.

The vestry will not meet on the Third Sunday in January. Instead, the new vestry will meet following the Annual Meeting on January 22.