



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
BURNET, TEXAS



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn 410 *Lauda anima*

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

2 Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

3 Father-like he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

4 Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

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Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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 said or sung by all

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that
your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ
our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for
ever. *Amen.*

A reading from the Book of Genesis. (50.15-21)

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still
bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to
him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before
he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong
they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of
the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers
also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph
said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you
intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a
numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for
you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103.1-13 *Benedic, anima mea*

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, * and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, * and forget not all his benefits.

3 He forgives all your sins * and heals all your infirmities;

4 He redeems your life from the grave * and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

5 He satisfies you with good things, * and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
6 The LORD executes righteousness * and judgment for all who are oppressed.
7 He made his ways known to Moses * and his works to the children of Israel.]
8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, * slow to anger and of great kindness.
9 He will not always accuse us, * nor will he keep his anger for ever.
10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
 nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
 so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
12 As far as the east is from the west, * so far has he removed our sins from us.
13 As a father cares for his children, * so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans. (14.1-12)

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 516 *Down Ampney*

1 Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. (18.21-35)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

3 And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace, till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

The Sermon

The Reverend Michael Long

The Nicene Creed

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.

Prayers of the People, Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

We pray especially for

John	Ann	Allan	Kenyon	Curtis
Nancy	James	Marcel	Sarah	Ginny
Morgan	Victoria	Lynne	Lindsey	Clay
Christian	Carol	Taylor	Miranda	Ellie
Patty	Bailey family	Judy	Mark	Tom
Tyler	Degeyter family	Richard	Dale	Merle
Lottie	Karen	Bonnie & Ed	Leslie	June
Sherrill	Mollie	Katelyn	Shereese	RG
Bobbie	George	Dianne	Glenda	Ed
Melissa	Carolyn	Robyn	Leslie	Gayle
Rashunda	Jackie	Bob	Donna	Sheila
Sandi	Bryan	Shelly	John	Susan
Greg	Tom	Women in the Hutto facility		

We pray for those in the military, especially

Brian	James	Kevin	Jarrold	Jonathan
Eric	Trever	Chris	Bryan	All in harm's way

For those who travel this week

For those who mourn, especially

Jane, Otis, Jordan, and the entire Maclay and Jowell families. The families of those who have died from the coronavirus.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We pray especially for the repose of the souls of
Maddie Jowell. All who have died from the coronavirus.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

We pray in thanksgiving with Caden Walker (9/15) and Aubree Bailey (9/19) who celebrate their birthdays this week and with Bobbie and George Clear who celebrate their wedding anniversary (9/13).

The People may add their own petitions and thanksgivings, silently or aloud.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect,

Bountiful God, source of the greatest good for all of us: Guide us in the right direction towards a better future for your creation. Help us to overcome our own limitations during this pandemic, and grant us steadfast love to look after each other. Give us humbleness of heart to accept that without you we cannot be real stewards of your creation. Show us ways to spread the gospel that will touch hearts and change minds for a better tomorrow for all humanity, the preservation of every creature, and the planet. In the name of your beloved Son, we ask it. Amen.

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Minister 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 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.

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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 Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Blessing

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. Amen.

Hymn 690 *Stuttgart*

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim though this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer, strong deliverer.
be thou still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee, I will ever give to thee.

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Dismissal *Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.
 People Thanks be to God.

Standing Announcements

- **Layreaders this morning** are Sandy and Rufus Arrington.
- **Bulletin deadline**—Wednesday, 1:00.
- **LA Care and the Community Kitchen** have ongoing needs. Epiphany maintains the Community Kitchen the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month.
- **EStar Newsletter deadline**—Sunday, 7:00 pm. Contact Rufus or Sandy Arrington with news or updates.
- **All are welcomed to the Bible Study following coffee hour.** We are reading H. A. Williams's *The True Wilderness*; text is provided online, no preparation is necessary.

Welcome to Epiphany, a parish church of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas.
 Our mission: To be part of God’s family, growing through worship and ministry by sharing Christ’s love with our community and beyond. Vision: to be a place where people find God’s purpose for their lives and become empowered by the Holy Spirit to make a difference in God’s world.

Priest-in-Charge	The Reverend Michael Long
Senior Warden	Deborah Kelley (Term ends 2021)
Junior Warden	JJ Gonzales (2022)
Vestry Member	Ellie Burks (2021)
Vestry Member	Jim Weathers (2021)
Vestry Member	Sandy Arrington (2022)
Vestry Member	Otis Maclay (2022)
Vestry Member	Diane Langley (2023)
Vestry Member	Linda Myers (2023)
Vestry Member	Margaret Thomas (2023)
Treasurer	Diane Hays
Missionary	Jeannie Loving
Acolyte Co-Directors	Bill Drake, Kathleen Broad
Music Directors	Otis Maclay, Mike Kelley
Saint Anne’s Guild	Carol Weathers
Altar Guild	Carol Weathers, Diane Hays
Daughters of the King	Sandy Arrington
Sunday School Director	Nancy Heuss
Editors of the E-Star	Sandy and Rufus Arrington
Office Manager	Dianne Williams

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