



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY  
BURNET, TEXAS

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24, 2021, FIVE O’CLOCK

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Hymn 83 *Adeste fidelis*

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem; come, and behold him, born the King of angels;  
*Refrain*  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2 God from God, Light from Light eternal,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin’s womb; only-begotten Son of the Father; [*Refrain*]

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; glory to God, glory in the highest; [*Refrain*]

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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.

Hymn 96 *Gloria*

1 Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

*Refrain* Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? [*Refrain*]

3 Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [*Refrain*]

4 See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. [*Refrain*]

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

### **A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (52:7-10)**

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Hymn 107 *In dulci jubilo*

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
2. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
3. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

**A reading from Paul's letter to Titus. (3:4-7)**

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Hymn 102 *Irby*

- 1 Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

2 He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor, the scorned, the lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
for that child who seemed so helpless is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

6 Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing round,  
we shall see him; but in heaven, where his saints his throne surround:  
Christ, revealed to faithful eye, set a God's right hand on high.

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.  
*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had

left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

### Hymn 105 *God Rest You Merry*

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay;  
remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day,  
to save us all from Satan’s power when we were gone astray.  
*Refrain* O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

2 From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came  
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. [*Refrain*]

3 “Fear not, then,” said the angel, “Let nothing you affright;  
this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,  
to free all those who trust in him from Satan’s power and might.” [*Refrain*]

4 Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,  
and with true love and charity each other now embrace;  
this holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace. [*Refrain*]

**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.

## **The Prayers of the People**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

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; Andy, Kai, Jeff, and Hector, our bishops; for  
Michael our priest; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

Bob	John	Dianne	Van	Connie	Thomas
John	Allan	Kenyon	Ann	Charles	Carolyn
Nancy	James	Sarah	Ginny	Patty	Ed
Morgan	Lynne	Lindsey	Alice	Ryan	Degeyter family
David	Christian	Carol	Ellie	William	Jamie
Judy	Patrick	Justin	Leah	Winifred	Jo
Bob	Dale	Sheila	Merle	Shelly	Greg
Gary	Karen	Donna	Shereese	Leslie	Mark
June	Gayle	Donald	RG	Doug	Bonnie & Ed
Sherrill	Abigail	Katelyn	Rashunda	Butch	Dan
Carolyn	Robyn	Marianne	Cindy	Michael	Amber & family
Jill	Virginia	Joe	Betty	Linda	Carol
Mary	Maureen	Jim	Melissa	Calvin	Martha & family
Deb	Janet	Travis			

And with those who serve in the military, especially

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

And with those who are traveling, especially Diane Hays, Sherry Musgrove, Margaret Thomas, and Diane Langley.

*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, and especially for the fiftieth anniversary of Linda and Jim Dyke this Sunday.

*Silence*

*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, especially Florence Jeffers and all who have died from the coronavirus. We pray also for those who mourn their passing.

*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. 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; 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 this absolution.*

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

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord. Afterward the Celebrant says*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

## Offertory hymn

Hymn 111 *Stille Nacht*

1 Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

3 Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth. Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

*All sing the Doxology*

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

## The Holy Communion

*All are invited to receive Holy Communion. The fullness of the Sacrament is present in both consecrated bread and wine; therefore, anyone may receive in one kind (either bread or wine) or both. The Celebrant will administer the hosts at the crossing in front of the altar; chalice bearers will be on both sides.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all;  
presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

*The Celebrant says*

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 Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Postcommunion prayer** *From Enriching our Worship*

*Celebrant and People*

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## **Blessing**

*The Celebrant says*

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Hymn 100 Antioch, verses

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

**Dismissal**                      *Celebrant*      Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.  
   *People*        Thanks be to God.

**Lay Readers:** Karen and David Leitch

**Acolytes:** Jaxxon and Grady Gonzales

**Altar Guild:** Karen Leitch, Linda Myers, Carol Weathers

**Ushers:** Sandy and Rufus Arrington; virtual usher Susan Wallace

**Vestry Person of the Day:** Linda Myers

## **Announcements**

**LA Care and the Community Kitchen** have ongoing needs. Epiphany maintains the Community Kitchen the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month.

**Bulletin and E-Star deadlines**—Tuesday, 9 am. Contact Sandy or Rufus Arrington (rufussandraarr06@gmail.com) with news or updates.



# The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

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Our mission: To be a faithful 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 Rev. Michael Long
Senior Warden	Linda Myers (Term ends 2023)
Junior Warden	JJ Gonzales (2022)
Vestry Member	Sandy Arrington (2022)
Vestry Member	Otis Maclay (2022)
Vestry Member	Diane Langley (2023)
Vestry Member	Margaret Thomas (2023)
Vestry Member	Rachel Bryson (2024)
Vestry Member	Ryan (RG) Guthrie (2024)
Vestry Member	Sherry Musgrove (2024)
Treasurer	Diane Hays
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
Editor of the E-Star, weekly newsletter	Sandy and Rufus Arrington
Parish Secretary/Office Manager	Dianne Williams