THE REV. CASSANDRA MATEO BURTON, RECTOR
We welcome you as we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany.

PRELUDE “Arise, Shine” [ARR. EDA BRAWNER]

All stand.

PROCESIONAL “What star is this?” (Puer nobis) The Hymnal 1982, # 124
OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

GLORIA IN EXCELCIS “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Gloria)

The Hymnal 1982, # 96
THE WORD OF THE LORD

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT

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 for ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS   The people sit

A reading from the Book of Isaiah 60: 1 – 6   (LECTOR)

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.
People Thanks be to God.
Psalm 72: 1 – 7, 10 – 14  Deus, judicium

Read responsively at the asterisk

1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
   and your righteousness to the King's Son;
2 That he may rule your people righteously *
   and the poor with justice;
3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
   and the little hills bring righteousness.
4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
   he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
   from one generation to another.
6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
   like showers that water the earth.
7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
   there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
   and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
   and all the nations do him service.
12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
   and the oppressed who has no helper.
13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
   he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
   and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians 3: 1 – 12  (LEM 1)

I Paul, 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.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN “Brightest and Best of the Stars” (Morning Star)  

The Hymnal 1982, # 117, stz. 1 – 3 

Hymn on next page.
1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,
3 Shall we then yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple o - bla - tion,
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,

1 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;
2 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
3 o - dors of E - dom, and of - ferings di - vine;
4 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure,
5 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;

1 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,
2 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
3 gems of the moun - tain, and pearls of the o - cean,
4 rich - er by far is the heart’s a - dor - a - tion,
5 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,

1 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
2 Ma - ker and Mon - arch and Sa - vior of all.
3 myrrh from the for - est, and gold from the mine?
4 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
5 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 2: 1 – 12

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

After the gospel


People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HYMN “Brightest and Best of the Stars” (Morning Star) 

The Hymnal 1982, # 117, stz. 4 – 5

Hymn on page 7.

THE SERMON Mr. Robert B. Rainey, Jr.
THE NICENE CREED  *Celebrant and People*  
*(LEM 1)*

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.

INTERCESSION  
*(LEM 2)*

Let us pray for the following:

For the healing of body, mind and spirit:

Marge Travis  
Cynthia Allen  
Lynne Lau
Karen Dunlop  M.W. Maine  Ray Pillard  
Cheryl Owens  Hilda Norwood  Ernie Norwood  
Malachi Burton  Desirae Hurley  Bob Lau  
David Watson  Joyce Ramsey  Jessica Hershman  
Ruth Vincent  Scott Vining  Robert Holmes  
John Travis  Diana Morris  Ruth Forbes  
Lauren Maggio  Christine Bileduy  Sharon Kramarich  
Jumpee Stafford  Nancy Maine  Connie Inge  
Dee Watson  Jo Appold  

For those who are homebound: Helen Dean, Joseph Greenaway, Sharon Hudson, Jacqueline Jackson, Laura Mack, Connie Russell, Lillian Rutherford, Fern Shuler, Judy Williams  

For those serving in the US Armed Services:  
Christopher Conti – Son of Cynthia Allen  
Chris Orrison – Husband of Kim Orrison  
Luke Travis – Grandson of Marge Travis  
Demarais Roach – Godson of Ernest Norwood  

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.
Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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.

Silence. The people may add their own intercessions.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

CONFESSION OF SIN Celebrant 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.

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.

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 830, # 50
PRAYERS FOR THOSE TRAVELING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY “The Coventry Carol” [TRADITIONAL] The Choir

The Choir sings

THE DOXOLOGY “Praise God” (Old 100th) The Hymnal 1982, # 380, v. 3

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

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 him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
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*


*Hymn on next page.*
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might, heaven and earth are full,
full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna
The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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.”

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION**

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 GREAT AMEN** “Amen” [CARL MAULTSBY, *The Saint Mary Mass*]

*Hymn on next page.*
Celebrant and people And Now as our Saviour has taught we are bold to sing

THE LORD’S PRAYER [ALBERT HAYE MALOTTE]  
Lift Every Voice Hymnal, #264

_Hymn on next page._
Unison

Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our

18
Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei “O Lamb of God” [Healey Willan]  
The Hymnal 1982, #S158  
Hymn on next page.
THE FRACTION ANTHEM

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.
THE COMMUNION  All are invited to the Table of the Lord.

COMMUNION HYMNS  “This Little Light of Mine”

Lift Every Voice Hymnal, #160
[NEGRO SPIRITUAL, ADAPT. WILLIAM FARLEY SMITH]

1. This little light of mine, I’m goin’ a let it shine,

2. Everywhere I go...

3. All through the night...
“More Love to Thee, O Christ” [William H. Doane]

1. More love to thee, O Christ, More love to thee!
2. Once earthly joy I craved, Sought peace and rest;
3. Then shall my every breath Sing out your praise;

1. Hear thou the prayer I make On bended knee;
2. Now thee alone I seek, Give what is best;
3. This be the only song My heart shall raise;

1. This is my earnest plea;
2. This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to Thee,
3. This still my prayer shall be:

More love to thee, More love to thee!
"In Remembrance of Me" [BURLY RED; ARR. ROBERT F. DOGLAS]

Lift Every Voice Hymnal, #149

1. In remembrance of me,
   eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this wine. In re-

2. In remembrance of me, feed the poor. In re-

1. In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.

2. In re-

Hymn continues on next page.
Take, eat, and be comforted; drink and remember too.

That this in my body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you. In remembrance of me

search for truth. In remembrance of me always love. In remembrance of me, don’t look above, but in your heart

Hymn continues on next page

24
POST COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN “As with Gladness” (Dix)  The Hymnal 1982, # 119

Hymn on next page.
1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
2 As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger bed;
3 As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;
4 Holy Jesus! every day keep us in the narrow way;
5 In the heavenly country bright, need they no created light;

1 as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
2 there to bend the knee before him whom heaven and earth adore;
3 so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin’s alloy,
4 and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
5 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:

1 so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.
2 so may we with willing feet ever seek the mercy seat.
3 all our costliest treasures bring, Christ! to thee, our heavenly King.
4 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.
5 there for ever may we sing alleluias to our King.
SUNDAY SCHOOL PRAYER

O God, give me clean hands, clean words and clean thoughts. Help me to stand for the hard right against the easy wrong. Save me from habits that harm. Teach me to work as hard, and play as fair in thy sight alone as if the whole world saw. Forgive me when I am unkind, and help me to forgive those who are unkind to me. Keep me ready to help others at some cost to myself. Send me chances to do a little good every day, and so grow more like Christ. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

    Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE The King shall come” (St. Stephen)

    Flowers are given to the glory of God.

Assisting in the Service:

Guest Preacher: Robert B. Rainey, Jr.
Pianist: Eda Brawner
Acolytes: Don Appold, Mahalia Morris, Amanda Clark
LEMS: Sylvanita Hendricks (LEM 1); Luan George (LEM 2)
       Justin Walker (Lector); Luan George (POP)

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR
JANUARY 3 – JANUARY 9, 2016

Today
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist II
AA Meeting 7:30 PM – Dun Hall

Monday

Tuesday
AA Meeting 1:00 PM – Dun Hall
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Thrift Shop Work Session

Wednesday
AA Meeting 7:30 PM – Dun Hall

Thursday
OA Meeting 1:00 PM – Dun Hall

Friday
AA Meeting 1:00 PM – Dun Hall

Saturday
10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Spaghetti Dinner – Dun Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OFFICES. The church offices will reopen on Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

PARISH NOTES. Please note the birth of Morgan Rose born December 22, 2015 to Nicole and Robert Grant the first grandchild for JoAnn and Don Appold.

ANNUAL MEETING. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation takes place on Sunday, January 17th.

ALTAR FLOWERS. Gail Russell is taking flower donation requests for 2016.

INQUIRER’S CLASS. How does one become a member of the Episcopal Church? Please see Rev. Burton for more information.

COFFEE HOUR. There’s a sign-up sheet for folks to agree to bring something for coffee hour on January 12th, for the bishop’s visit and confirmation.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER. The next spaghetti supper is Saturday January 9th, from 4-6 PM. There’s a sign-up sheet in Dun Hall.

PANCAKE Supper. Think pancakes! Before you know it February 9th will soon be here, and with it our annual Pancake Supper. Our talented menfolk will cook the pancakes and Jim Williams will handle our sausage, but we need other hands to crack eggs, setup tables, cook eggs, serve at the buffet line, bus tables and of course we will need a clean-up crew. Check the sign-up list in the parish hall and find out where you can help.
**FUEL FUND.** On the first Sunday of every month you can contribute toward the fuel bill. Please utilize the envelopes labeled “Fuel Fund” in the pews. Thank you again for contributing to the Fuel Fund throughout the month.

**THRIFT SHOP.** Although we are usually open on Tuesdays from 11-1 for sales and pricing, we will not be there on the 31st. You are welcome to browse/buy on today after service.

**CHRIST CHURCH CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION.** Christ Church has been assigned a phone number for free conference calls. This is the number to be used when inclement weather causes cancellation of a Sunday worship service or for church organization meetings. The number is 641-715-3200. When prompted, please enter 941656. Please join and invite your relatives, friends and neighbors.

**TRACT RACKS.** Copies of the *Our Daily Bread* for December – February are now available in the tract racks. Donations for these resources are welcome – use the envelopes in the racks.
Welcome to
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Art Taylor, Senior Warden              Email: sphs34@aol.com
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Mission Statement
Don’t put God in a box. With God all things are possible.

Welcome visitors, join us for refreshments in Dun Hall