

EPIPHANY†

Seattle



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

COME AS YOU ARE HOLY EUCHARIST

NOVEMBER 30, 2025 AT 4:00 PM

Dear Epiphany,

This Sunday marks the beginning of a new church year, **the First Sunday of Advent**, a season of quiet preparation and deep expectation. While the world around us rushes into celebration, Advent invites us to slow down. The color shifts to deep blue, the hymns turn contemplative, and the candles of the Advent wreath begin to glow one by one, small signs of light growing in the dark.

Advent means *coming*. It is the season when we wait for Christ's coming, both the child born in Bethlehem and the promised renewal of all creation. We hold both stories together: the memory of a humble birth in the past and the hope for God's future still unfolding. Between those two moments lies our life of faith, the "already and not yet" of God's kingdom.

The readings during Advent echo this widening expectation. The prophets call out for justice and restoration; John the Baptist cries from the wilderness; Mary sings her song of reversal and grace. Together they remind us that preparing for Christ's coming is not passive waiting, it is active hope. We prepare our hearts and our world for love made flesh.

Advent also re-centers time itself. Long before calendars filled with December deadlines, the church gave us a rhythm that begins not with feasting but with longing. This new year opens in darkness, which is exactly where God chooses to begin, where hope flickers, where light grows, where faith is born again. In this season we are invited to watch and pray, to make space for silence, to listen for the small voice of God that still speaks through ordinary days.

Advent is also a deeply communal practice. As the days shorten and the nights stretch long, we gather for worship to kindle light, to pray together, and to remember that we do not wait alone. The promise of Emmanuel—*God with us*—is both personal and collective. God's presence meets us in our individual longing and in our shared life as a church family.

So as we gather this Sunday, we begin again. We light the first candle and breathe in the ancient promise: "*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it*" (John 1:5 NRSV). Let Advent be a gentle teacher this year. Let it slow our pace, soften our striving, and remind us that waiting is holy work. Christ is coming, not only to Bethlehem long ago, but into our hearts, our homes, and our world today.

May this season awaken hope in you and in all creation.

Kate +

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome to Epiphany for our Come As You Are Worship Service. As we share scripture, pray together, and join in communion, allow yourselves—children and adults—to be drawn freely into this participatory worship experience.

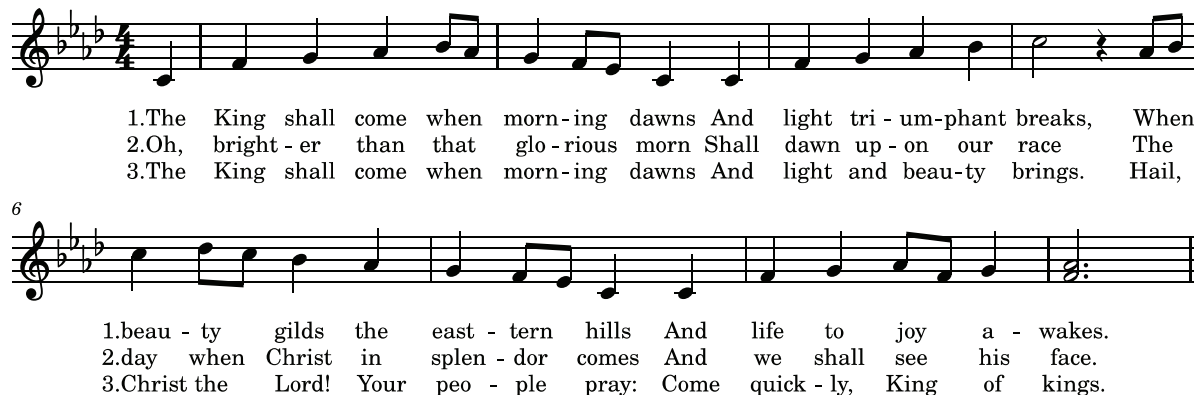
PRELUDE: *In the Lord I'll be ever thankful*



In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful; in the Lord I will re -
joice! Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your
voic - es; the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.

Please stand to sing.

GATHERING HYMN: *The King shall come*



1.The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And light tri - um - phant breaks, When
2.Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race The
3.The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings. Hail,
6
1.beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a - wakes.
2.day when Christ in splen - dor comes And we shall see his face.
3.Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick - ly, King of kings.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
All **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Presider God be with you.
All **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray together.

All **Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

WE HEAR THE WORD

All are seated.

THE LESSON: *Isaiah 2:1-5*

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able and sing.

HYMN 56: O come, O come, Emmanuel

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - jice! Re - jice!
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

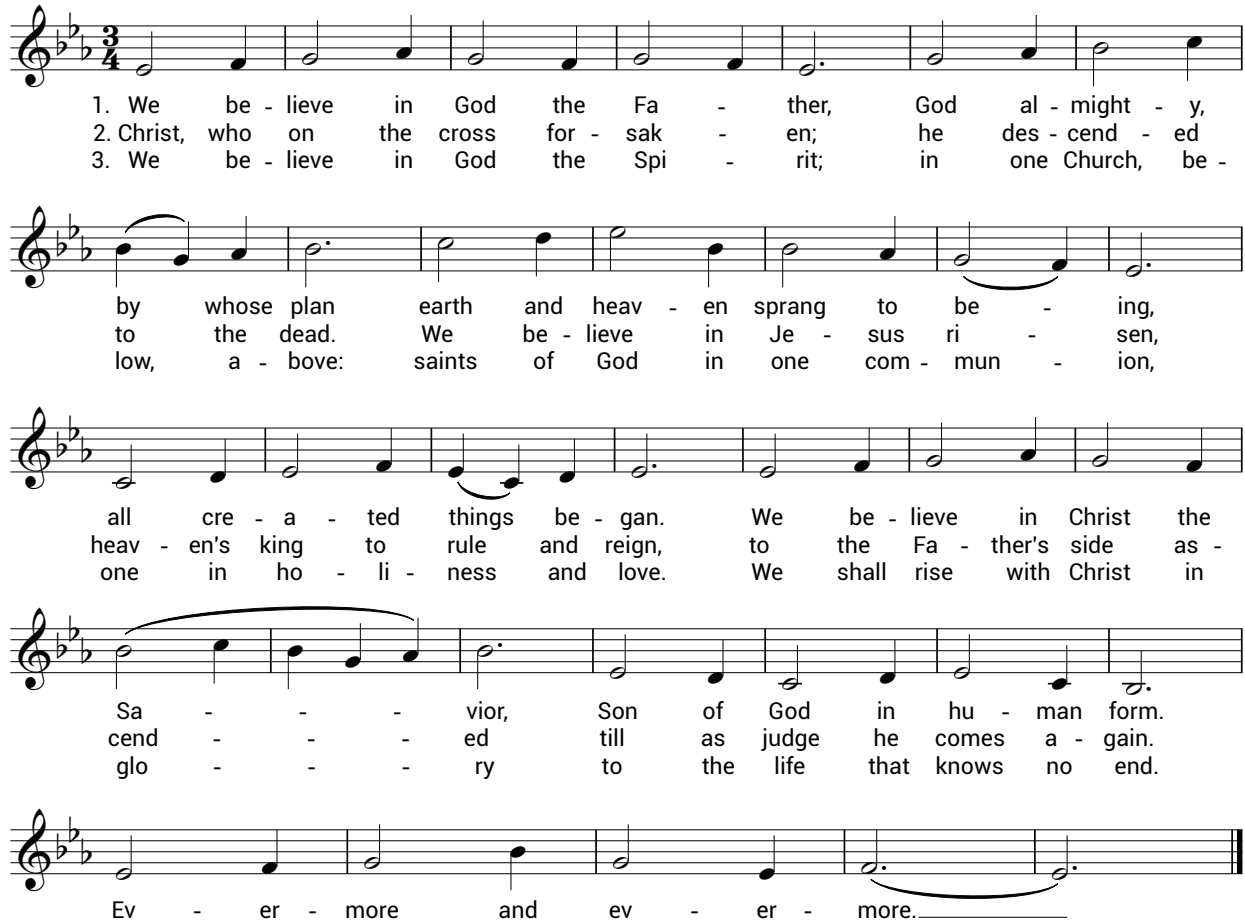
Following the Gospel the following is said:

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON AND WONDERING: The Reverend Kate Wesch

The people stand to sing.

THE NICENE CREED



1. We be - lieve in God the Fa - ther, God al - might - y,
2. Christ, who on the cross for - sak - en; he des - cend - ed
3. We be - lieve in God the Spi - rit; in one Church, be -

by whose plan earth and heav - en sprang to be - ing,
to the dead. We be - lieve in Je - sus ri - sen,
low, a - bove: saints of God in one com - mun - ion,

all cre - a - ted things be - gan. We be - lieve in Christ the
heav - en's king to rule and reign, to the Fa - ther's side as -
one in ho - li - ness and love. We shall rise with Christ in

Sa - - - vior, Son of God in hu - man form.
cend - - - ed till as judge he comes a - gain.
glo - - - ry to the life that knows no end.

Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During this time, the congregation is invited to move to the prayer stations.

The people sit.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider Let us confess our sins to God.

All God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other.
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
Through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The people stand.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

The ministers and people greet one another in the name of Christ.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WE CELEBRATE COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Presider Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.



The offertory is a time during the service when we give offerings to God, acknowledging that all we have comes from God. This is our opportunity to offer thanks to God through a monetary gift to support the ministries of Epiphany. Active Epiphany parishioners make an annual pledge commitment toward the vitality of our ministries. In some case pledging parishioners also make a financial contribution at the offertory. You may place your offering in the plate, or use the QR code. The collection will be brought up alongside the bread and the wine as we make our offering of “first fruits” to God.

The people stand to sing.

OFFERTORY HYMN: From all that dwell below the skies

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
Name be sung through ev - every land, by ev - every tongue!
shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

PRAYER FOR THE MEAL. (Church of England)

During the Eucharistic Prayer, we invite you to participate in the ancient tradition of bowing at certain moments as a sign of reverence. A simple bow of the head is appropriate. During the recitation of the Sanctus ("Holy, holy, holy"), consider a profound bow, lowering the upper half of your body to about a 45-degree angle. These gestures are ways of using our whole bodies in worship, reminding us of the sacredness of the moments we share together in prayer. If you are unsure, feel free to observe others or do what the presider does behind the altar.

Presider The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever. From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation. You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels, and all the powers of heaven, we may find a voice to sing your praise:

SANCTUS

**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.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled, your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Savior, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death, he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends, and, taking bread, he gave thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave thanks, 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

And so, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Presider and people

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

Presider and people

As we eat and drink in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Presider

Bring us at the last with all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendor for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by him, with him, and in him, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise: Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Priest The bread and wine are made ready. This is the table of Jesus. It is for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long; you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come because it is Jesus who invites you, and it is God's will that those who wish would meet him here.

The Gifts of God for the people of God. Holy things for holy people.

All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing, For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it.

The people stand as able.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

All **O Lord our God, 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. Make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Presider Let us depart from this place in peace, and as we go on our way, forget not those who are poor, pray for those who are sick, make no peace with oppression, and love one another in God as Christ has loved us, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—the God who loves you, who really, really loves you, be with you now and forever more. **Amen.**

HYMN: Creator of the Stars at Night



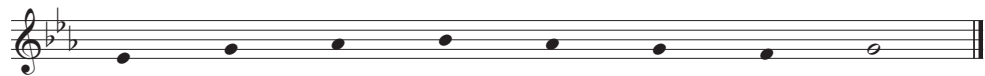
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
3 When this old world drew on toward night,
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

DISMISSAL

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

We Go in God's Love



Advent Lessons and Carols
December 14, 2025
5:30 pm

Come to a candlelit service of Scripture and music to prepare for the coming of Christ. This service includes favorite Advent carols and choral music sung by the Epiphany Choir from various locations in the church. Following the service there will be a cookie reception in the Great Hall. We hope to see you there!

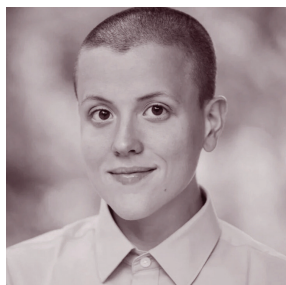
HANDEL'S MESSIAH

DECEMBER 5 & 6, 7:30 PM



Scan the QR code to
purchase tickets.

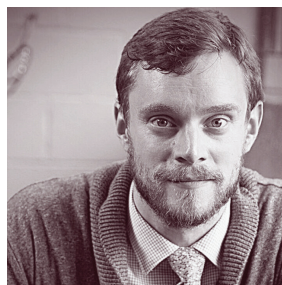
MUSIC
at EPIPHANY



Elijah McCormack
Soprano



Kirsten Sollek
Contralto



Steven Soph
Tenor



Hadleigh Adams
Baritone

Music at Epiphany presents two nights of George Frideric Handel's famous oratorio, *Messiah*, performed by an all-star Baroque orchestra under the direction of Zach Hemenway. The Epiphany Choir will be joined by four outstanding soloists and period instruments in the warm acoustics of Epiphany for this presentation of a holiday favorite.

YWCA Christmas Giving Drive —deadline is December 14



Please help Epiphany bring Holiday Cheer to women experiencing homelessness. We will provide the YWCA's Angeline's Day Center for Women 100 gift bags full of winter essentials as we have for several years now. The gift bags include socks, slippers, a scarf, warm hat, gloves, face wipes, lip balm, and a \$25 Target gift card in elegant reusable tote bags. We order in bulk, assemble the bags at Epiphany, and deliver to Angeline's. Epiphany's very own knitting group has already made all of the hats and many of the scarves!

Angeline's, located in Belltown, serves women experiencing homelessness with drop-in services including breakfast, lunch, and dinner, access to bathrooms, showers, laundry facilities, personal storage lockers, group activities and workshops, health care access, and referrals to community services

You can help by providing cash donations by December 14 using clicking on the QR code below or by delivering cash or a check to the church office.

The women at Angeline's thank you!

Any questions, please contact **Sherilyn Peterson** at speterson@perkinscoie.com.



Have A Heart Celebration: Save the Date and Auction Request!

Be sure to put February 1, 2026, on your calendar for next year's *Have a Heart* Celebration! Last year was a great success, and so we plan on a similar theme of great food, drinks, and conversation, as well as a small auction, wine pull, and raffle for fun and excitement. And it's not too early to help out!

For the wine pull we'd greatly appreciate donations of bottles of wine that are \$20 and above. And for the auction, we're once again focusing on experiences—boat rides, special dinners/cocktail parties, private tours, and tickets or gift cards to events/experiences. Please contact **Ann McCurdy** at ann@frostymoose.com if you have any items/experiences you'd like to donate to the auction. (Keep in mind: it's a small auction, so we can't take everything!)

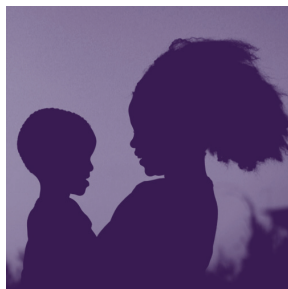
**Inquirers' Class: Spiritual Exercises | Sundays | December 7 | 12:30–1:30 pm |
Christie House Library
Inquirers' Class: A Monthly Series (October through May)**

What does it mean to be a Christian in 21st-century America, or even a Christian in Seattle, or an Episcopalian, or a member of Epiphany? If these questions ever crossed your mind, you may want to consider coming to our Inquirers' class. This is a class for newcomers to Epiphany or to the faith, or anyone else for that matter, who wants to be part of a discussion about our church, our denomination, and our religion as it relates to this community, and our lives beyond these sacred walls. Topics will be Jesus, what it means to be human, the church (particularly the Episcopal church), the Bible, spiritual exercises, and worship. The classes will be held on the first Sunday of every month, October through May, at 12:30 pm after the 11:00 am morning service. The way this course is designed you can drop into any class, as they are not cumulative or sequential. The point is to brush up on Christianity as practiced at Epiphany. All are welcome, whether new to Epiphany or just looking to more deeply engage your Christian journey.

December 7: Spiritual Exercises

We become what we do—which is why we call Epiphany a *spiritual gym*. Here we learn and practice the spiritual calisthenics of worship, prayer, sabbath, the liturgical calendar, pilgrimage, tithing, fasting, study, silence, and solitude... and the list goes on. Come hear about this core pattern within the Christian lifestyle. **Come be part of this conversation.**

**A Family Series: The Health and Spirituality of Childhood | Sunday | December 7 |
4:45–6:15 pm | Great Hall**



Join Epiphany Parish for this year's *Family Series*, a five-part journey (October 5, November 2, December 7, March 1, and May 3) exploring the holistic well-being of children. Through engaging sessions led by featured experts, families will dive into topics ranging from navigating kids' big questions about God to understanding the deep connections between body, mind, and spirit. Catered family dinner and age-appropriate spiritual education for children from birth through 18 years included in the series. Register today and invest in your child's whole health. Email

Kate Wesch at kwesch@epiphanyseattle.org for any questions.



First Sunday Brunch | Sunday | December 7 | 10:00 am | Great Hall



On the first Sunday of every month (October through May), join us in the Great Hall for brunch during **Everybody Hour at 10 am**. Sunday's brunch will be hosted by **The Service and Outreach Ministry!!** If you would like your ministry to host a First Sunday Brunch please contact Amanda at ***amanda@epiphanyseattle.org***.

Youth Group: The Great Bake Challenge | Sunday | December 7 | 4:45–6:30 pm | Fireside Room Kitchen

Do you like to bake? What if it's a bit more challenging...

Join Epiphany's monthly youth group as we work as a team to bake cookies, but with a twist—we only get grabber sticks for hands! This will be a night of silliness and laughter, surely one your 6-12th grader does not want to miss. Dinner is provided for those who RSVP on Realm. Contact **Cadence Moore** at ***cmoore@epiphanyseattle.org*** for any questions.

Register here:



Epiphany Cooks at Ronald McDonald House | Tuesday | December 9 | 12:45–4:00 pm



The Ronald McDonald House is a home away from home for families while their children undergo treatment at Seattle Children's Hospital. At the house they offer home-made meals provided by volunteers! This month, Epiphany is seeking more volunteers to help cook at the Ronald McDonald House on Tuesday, December 9, from 12:45 to 4:00 pm. If you would like to learn more or would like to sign up please contact **Amanda** at ***amanda@epiphanyseattle.org*** or **Audrey Seale** at ***Audreyseale@comcast.net***.

Parish Staff

The Rev. Doyt L. Conn, Jr.	<i>Rector</i>
Jad Baaklini	<i>Director of Communications</i>
Tim Beggs	<i>CAYA Music Minister</i>
Karen Berry	<i>Parish Administrator</i>
Diane Carlisle	<i>Exec. Assistant to the Rector and Director of Worship</i>
Pam Demian	<i>Business Administrator</i>
Amanda Eap	<i>Parish Life Minister</i>
Bryan Fiehler	<i>Audio Visual Minister</i>
John Garlid	<i>Music Administrator</i>
Zachary Hemenway	<i>Director of Music</i>
Zoe Jordan	<i>Campus Caretaker</i>
Cadence Moore	<i>Lay Ministry Coordinator</i>
Gieth Phou	<i>Sexton</i>
Laura Rodde	<i>Chief of Staff</i>
Laura Sargent	<i>Associate Director of Music</i>
The Rev. Peter Snow	<i>Assisting Priest</i>
The Rev. Pam Tinsley	<i>Assisting Priest</i>
The Rev. Kate Wesch	<i>Parochial Vicar</i>

Volunteer Ministry Leaders

Ann Beck	<i>YWCA Cleanup & Teen Feed</i>
	<i>Chaplain Mirabella</i>
Diana Bender	<i>Discernment</i>
Susan Bisyak	<i>Altar Guild</i>
Holly Boone	<i>Service & Outreach</i>
Brook Berry	<i>Men's Ministry</i>
Terry Carlisle	<i>Operation Nightwatch</i>
Phil Carter	<i>Ushers</i>
Valerie Conn	<i>Women's Retreat Group</i>
Jenny Cummins	<i>Tiny Homes</i>
Karen Forbes	<i>Women's Retreat Group</i>
Alice Foreman	<i>Flower Ministry</i>
Michael Fraas	<i>Chaplain Parkshore</i>
Sherman Griffin	<i>Music at Epiphany</i>
Kelli Martin	<i>Chaplain Horizon House & Skyline</i>
Pete Melin	<i>Tiny Homes</i>
Nancy Morrow	<i>Parkshore Ministry</i>
Laurel Nesholm	<i>Art Guild</i>
Jonathan Roberts	<i>C. S. Lewis Minyan</i>
Lorelle Shearer	<i>Meals Ministry</i>
Trish Stone	<i>All Threads Together</i>
Karen Summerville	<i>Grief Ministry</i>

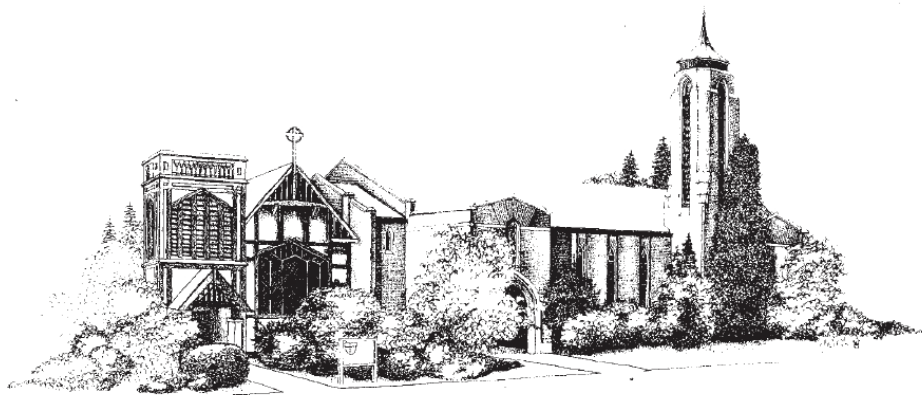
To find out more about all of our ministries go to epiphanyseattle.org/engage.

Volunteer Professionals

Debbie Anderson-Brooke	<i>RELATA Program Director</i>
Terry Carlisle	<i>Buildings and Grounds</i>
Bill Forbes	<i>Buildings and Grounds</i>
Camille Hayward	<i>Sunday School</i>
Doug Marshall	<i>Treasurer</i>
Doug Oles	<i>Chancellor</i>
Susan Pitchford	<i>Spiritual Director</i>
Karen Wrang	<i>Sunday School</i>

Vestry

George Brumder - Senior Warden	
Sarah Beshlian - Junior Warden	
Barb Marshall - Member at Large	
Susan Bisyak	Lee Anderson-Brooke
Barbara Cairns	John Cary
Michael Fraas	Travis Salisbury
Wendy Sefcik	Lesla Sroufe



Wherever you are on your spiritual journey,
you have a place at Epiphany.