

**The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 19, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**



**THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**

*The Episcopal Church in Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village*

The Rev. Jamie Barnett, Vicar

## WELCOME

**Visitors:** We are delighted you have come to worship with us today! If you are interested in learning more about our church, please fill out the purple information card found in the slot in front of your seat and place it on the collection plate. We are excited to meet you and would love to get to know you! Please join us for coffee, donuts, and fellowship in the Bishop's Hall directly after the service.

This booklet contains the full order of service. If you are unfamiliar with our rituals and customs, just be present with us in this ancient liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. The bold type indicates where the people are invited to respond or pray.

**Restrooms:** Proceed through the office door to the right of the church and go straight down the hall and to the left. Both restrooms have baby changing tables.

**Assisted listening devices:** Available from the ushers in the back of the church.

**Children:** We welcome children in our worship. Their sounds are a gift from God – no need to subdue them! Our *prayground* is located in the side chapel and has quiet activities for parents and younger children to use while still in worship. Children ages 3-11 are welcome to join the atrium for our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Sunday School program located in Mitchel Hall. Ask the ushers for directions. Children return to the service for communion.

**Contact:** Office hours are Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and the sanctuary is open during these hours for private prayer or meditation. To speak with The Rev. Jamie Barnett, please call the office and make an appointment. Her office hours are Tuesday through Thursday.

### THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

*The Episcopal Church in Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village*  
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#### THE BISHOP'S COMMITTEE

Bishop's Warden – Steve Stephens  
People's Warden – Susan Halligan  
Co-Treasurers – Eileen Hannemann and Shay Hass  
Clerk – Laura Paden

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Claudia Dempster '25  
Laura Paden '25  
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# The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

PRELUDE

Chorale Chaconne on "Mit Freuden zart"

JAMES BIERY (B. 1956)

## The Word of God

*At the sound of the bell. all stand as able and sing.*

### ENTRANCE HYMN

Hymn 598

Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth

MIT FREUDEN ZART

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Presider says*

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

*People*

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

*The Presider may say*

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.**

### OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE S 278 *Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Mathias)*

*The following is sung, standing as able*

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -  
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,  
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

# The Lessons

## FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
“The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.”

<sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

<sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the LORD,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.

<sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the LORD’s wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Reader        The Word of the Lord.  
People        **Thanks be to God.**  
Silence may follow.

**PSALM: Psalm 90:1-12** (*sung by all*)  
Remain seated.



S-409 | © 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1    LORD, you have been our | refuge \*  
      from one generation to an|other.
- 2    Before the mountains were brought forth,  
      or the land and the earth were | born, \*  
      from age to age you are | God.
- 3    You turn us back to the dust and | say, \*  
      “Go back, O child of | earth.”
- 4    For a thousand years in your sight  
      are like yesterday when it is | past \*  
      and like a watch in the | night.
- 5    You sweep us away like a | dream; \*  
      we fade away suddenly like the | grass.
- 6    In the morning it is green and | flourishes; \*  
      in the evening it is dried up and | withered.
- 7    For we consume away in your dis|pleasure; \*  
      we are afraid because of your wrathful indig|nation.
- 8    Our iniquities you have set be|fore you, \*  
      and our secret sins in the light of your | countenance.
- 9    When you are angry, all our days are | gone; \*  
      we bring our years to an end like a | sigh.
- 10    The span of our life is seventy years,  
      perhaps in strength even | eighty; \*  
      yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
      for they pass quickly and we are | gone.
- 11    Who regards the power of your | wrath? \*  
      who rightly fears your indig|nation?
- 12    So teach us to number our | days \*  
      that we may apply our hearts to | wisdom.

## SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## SEQUENCE HYMN

*All stand.*

Hymn 574

Before thy throne, O God, we kneel

ST. PETERSBURG

## GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

*Presider*           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People*           **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven will be as when] a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them;<sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

*Presider*           The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

The Rev. Jamie Barnett

## **THE NICENE CREED**

*All stand.*

**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**

*All remain standing.*

Brothers and sisters, in love let us encourage one another and build each other up. Let us pray saying, "Have mercy upon us, O Lord, *have mercy.*"

Lord God, you have destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ: strengthen your Church to confidently share your gospel throughout the world.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord,  
***Have mercy.***

Lord God, have mercy on all who are shown contempt and scorn: Hear the cries of the needy and lift up the downtrodden and lowly.



Have mercy upon us, O Lord,  
*Have mercy.*

Lord God, you rule the day and the night: Bless and sustain the works of your hands. Restore your creation.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord,  
*Have mercy.*

Lord God, you are enthroned in the heavens: may we trust not our own schemes but lift up our eyes to you. Lead and guide this land and its leaders in all justice and truth.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord,  
*Have mercy.*

Lord God, you are a merciful God: hear the prayers of those who cry out to you for help. Be present with the suffering in their waking and their sleeping. We pray for those on our parish prayer list: John, Maria, Doug, George, Elizabeth, baby Noah, Norma, Hailey, Debbi, Kay, Benny, and Frederick Family. We pray also for those who have requested our prayers and who wish to remain anonymous and for those on our long-term prayer list.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord,  
*Have mercy.*

Lord God, your Son Jesus died for us that we might dwell in your light forever: give to the dying and the dead the hope of salvation.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord,  
*Have mercy. Amen.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Presider says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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 Presider stands and 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.*

## THE PEACE

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS

*All* **Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever they may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Holy Communion

### OFFERTORY

The Whole Armor of God

*(sung by the Parish Choir)*

Give me, O Christ, the strength that is in thee,  
that I may stand in every evil hour;  
faints my poor heart except to thee I flee,  
resting my weakness in thy perfect power.

Give me to see the foes that I must fight,  
powers of the darkness throned where thou shouldst reign;  
read the directings of thy wrath aright,  
lest striking flesh and blood I strike in vain.

Give me to wear the armor that can guard,  
over my breast thy blood-bought righteousness;  
faith for my shield, when fiery darts rain hard,  
girded with truth, and shod with zeal to bless.

Give me to wield the weapon that is sure,  
Taking through prayer thy sword into my hand,  
Word of thy wisdom, peaceable and pure,  
So, Christ my Conqueror, I shall conqueror stand.  
Yes, having all things done, I shall stand.

TEXT: EPHESIANS 6: 10FF; HENRY CHILD CARTER (1875-1954)  
MUSIC: K. LEE SCOTT (B. 1950)

### PRESENTATION HYMN

*All stand as able and sing.*

Hymn 490

I want to walk as a child of the light

HOUSTON

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Remain standing.*

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

*Presider*  
 All thanks and praise  
 are yours at all times and in all places,  
 our true and loving God;  
 through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,  
 the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.  
 You laid the foundations of the world  
 and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;  
 You brought forth all creatures of the earth  
 and gave breath to humankind.  
 Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,  
 all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;  
 And so as the morning stars sing your praises  
 we join the heavenly beings and all creation  
 as we shout with joy:

**SANCTUS S 128 Holy, holy, holy (Mathias)**

*Presider and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*The Presider continues*

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,  
your Word has never been silent;  
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,  
you delivered them from bondage  
and led them to a land of promise.  
Of your grace, you gave Jesus  
to be human, to share our life,  
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign  
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.  
Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,  
you have freed us from sin,  
brought us into your life,  
reconciled us to you,  
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.  
We thank you that on the night before he died for us  
Jesus took bread,  
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,  
gave it to his friends and said:  
“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”  
After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,  
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:  
“Drink this, all of you:  
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,  
poured out for you and for all  
for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us:  
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,  
longing for Christ’s coming in glory,  
and presenting to you these gifts  
your earth has formed and human hands have made,  
we acclaim you, O Christ:

*Presider and People*

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**  
**Rising, you restored our life.**  
**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*The Presider continues*

Send your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these gifts of bread and wine  
that they may be to us  
the Body and Blood of your Christ.  
Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power,  
may be a people of hope, justice and love.  
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,  
and in the fullness of time gather us  
with all your people  
into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
we worship you our God and Creator  
in voices of unending praise.

**All: Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, in the language of our hearts,

*People and Presider*

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**


**Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,  
santificado sea tu nombre,  
venga tu reino,  
hágase tu voluntad,  
en la tierra como en el cielo.  
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día,  
Perdona nuestras ofensas  
como también nosotros perdonamos  
a los que nos ofenden.**

**No nos dejes caer en la tentación,  
y líbranos del mal.**

**Porque tuyo es el reino,  
el poder, y la gloria,  
ahora y por siempre. Amén.**


## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Fine*




Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break-ing of the bread.

5



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, is the com -  
2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia, for though

10



*D.C. al Fine*

mu - nion of the bo - dy of Christ.  
ma - ny we share one bread.

*The Presider says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*Presider* This is Christ's Banquet. It is made ready for those who love God, and for those who want to love God 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 Jesus, and you who have gotten lost. Come, because it is Christ who invites you.

*During the distribution of Communion, we welcome you to receive the sacrament or a prayer of blessing. If receiving a blessing, please come forward and simply cross your hands over your chest as you walk up to the presider. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please tell the presider when you reach the front.*

*Put your hands out one on top of the other, and the wafer will be placed in your hand. Leave the wafer in place and move to the chalice bearer, who will then take it, dip it in the wine, and hand it back to you. If you do not wish to receive the wine, simply consume the wafer and then you may place your hands on the base of the chalice and the chalice bearer will say the words of administration.*



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 voi - ces, the Lord is



near; lift up your voi - ces, the Lord is near.

*After Communion, the Presider says*  
Let us pray.

*Presider and People*

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### THE BLESSING

*The Presider blesses the people.*

### POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Hymn 9

Not here for high and holy things

MORNING SONG

### DISMISSAL

*Presider* Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### POSTLUDE

Allein auf Gottes Wort will ich  
(I build my faith only on God's word)

MICHAEL PRAETORIUS (1571-1621)

***The flowers are given this  
morning in loving memory of  
Kathleen Keady Roth (August 21,  
1942--September 5, 2023)  
by her son, Fred Roth.***

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For the Week of Sunday, November 19, 2023

# EPIPHANY CONNECTIONS

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## THIS WEEK IN EPIPHANY

- 11/19 9:45 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 11:30 a.m. Epiphany Youth Group
- 11/20 7:00 p.m. EfM meeting
- 11/22 12:00 p.m. Feeding the Spirit bible study
- 7:00 p.m. Lectio Divina
- 11/23 **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**
- 11/26 10:00 a.m. Children in church
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 11:30 a.m. Epiphany Youth Group



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## ROOTED IN ABUNDANCE



*Gather us together, O God, that we might share the prayers, intentions, and thanksgivings of our community. May we be generous with our gifts because*

*we are rooted in abundance.*

Our operating budget varies from year to year and is determined by our income. Please look at the budgeting and ministry opportunities flyer to see how you can share your time, talent, and treasure.

You will find a pledge card in the back of the pew in front of you. Please prayerfully consider filling it out and turning it in today. You may also pledge online at [www.tcote.org/stewardship-2024/](http://www.tcote.org/stewardship-2024/)

## FLOWERS FOR SUNDAYS



Sponsoring altar flowers on Sunday is a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion, honor loved ones, or give thanks. If you would like to give, please fill out the card found in the church pews or visit [www.tcote.org/epiphany-flower-guild/](http://www.tcote.org/epiphany-flower-guild/)

## ADOPT-A-FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS



Harbor House helps families in need provide Christmas for their children. The Church of the Epiphany has been asked to adopt 13 families with 39 children, ages 3 - 17. Last Sunday, a Christmas tree was set up in the Bishop's Hall with each family and each child's name on a tag. Many of the children and families were adopted, but there are a few left. **Please stop by this Sunday and help make their Christmases happy ones.**

## PRAY FOR PEACE



The Conejo Valley Interfaith Association is holding the **Annual 2023 Community Thanksgiving Celebration** for all faiths to enjoy on **Wednesday, November 22, at 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.**, St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church, on Lindero Canyon

Bldv. in Westlake Village. Share beautiful music, prayer, and afterward, fresh pie for all!

## RDV HAPPY HOUR



All are invited to the Red Door Vineyard Happy Hour on **Friday, November 17, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** BYO Beverage

{hopefully wine} to share (or not). Bring an appetizer (or not) to share (or not). Barrel tastings upon request. Drop in any time - stay as long as you'd like - no RSVP required. Hoping to provide a loose and lively end to your busy week!

## LIGHT THE WORLD



Light the world with kindness this holiday season through community service and donating to various drives throughout the Conejo Valley. We encourage everyone, of all ages, to join with others to bring unity to our community and Light up the World. Go to [www.tcote.org](http://www.tcote.org) for a full calendar of events!

## CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE



The Christmas Cookie Exchange is back! On **December 17**, Outreach will hold the beloved Christmas Cookie Exchange once again. We will be asking for donations of 3 dozen Christmas Cookies that day. So, as you are beginning your Christmas baking, remember the Cookie Exchange!

## BOB DEMPSTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



The **Robert Dempster Memorial Scholarship** (\$3000) for graduating high school seniors was created to honor Bob, a founding member and first Governor of the local Mayflower Society Chapter (Rancho Conejo

Colony). He was also the driving force behind the Mayflower Rose Parade Float in 2020, the 400th anniversary of its passage to Plymouth.

Details:

- Must be a graduating HS senior in 2024 and accepted by a college or trade school.
- Must have two recommendations as listed and (most importantly) a good 500-word essay.
- **Need not be a Mayflower passenger descendant or even a California resident!**

For more information go to [www.tcote.org](http://www.tcote.org).

## ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS



**December 3, 4:00 p.m.** Please join us for this special service – which helps us to look forward to Christmas with expectation and hope. The service begins with the fall of humanity, reflects on God's continuing love for God's people, and culminates with the promise of the birth of the Redeemer. Scripture lessons will be followed by congregational hymns and choral music.

## CREATION CARE



In March of 1621, the surviving members of the Mayflower moved ashore. Days later they were greeted by Squanto a member of the Pawtuxet tribe. He taught the Pilgrims, weakened by malnutrition and illness, how to cultivate corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the rivers and avoid poisonous plants. The Native Peoples lived in harmony with the earth. They practiced a covenant of reciprocity between humans and the land known as The Honorable Harvest.

According to Robin Well Kimmerer if written it would go like this :

*Never take the first. Never take the last.*

*Harvest in a way that minimizes harm.*

*Take only what you need and leave some for others.*

*Use everything that you take.*

*Take only that which is given to you.*

*Share it, as the Earth has shared with you.*

*Be grateful.*

*Reciprocate the gift.*

*Sustain the ones who sustain you, and the Earth will last forever.*

Most of us in our community live lives of abundance. We can feast every day. Why not this year try an Honorable Feast? Eat sustainably grown foods, eat less, and definitely not waste.

## MINISTRIES – FIND YOUR CONNECTION

For more information on these and other ministries, please visit [www.tcote.org](http://www.tcote.org)



Meeting weekly for one-hour at noon on Wednesdays in Bishop's Hall, **Feeding the Spirit** bible study is focused on upcoming lessons for the week and the themes found within. Bring a lunch! Upcoming readings will be found in our weekly *Connections* newsletter or <https://lectionarypage.net>

Want to help on Sundays during the service? If you are interested in being an **usher, reader, oblationer, or LEM**, please contact the church at [info@tcote.org](mailto:info@tcote.org)



**Red Door Vineyard's** vision is to be a source of congregational growth, strength and spirituality as we share in the journey of crafting wine in God's name. In addition to ongoing vineyard activities, we gather monthly for Monday Night Fellowship and Friday Evening Happy Hour and arrange a variety of social and cultural experiences. Contact: Stacey Stephens [reddoorvineyard@tcote.org](mailto:reddoorvineyard@tcote.org)



Members of the **Altar Guild** prepare all that is necessary for the celebration of all of the sacraments of the church. Contact: Leigh Wallace [mizeinla@gmail.com](mailto:mizeinla@gmail.com)



Coffee hour is a tradition of hospitality and fellowship, a time to catch up with friends and acquaint yourself with new people of the congregation. Interested in being a **Coffee Host**? Contact: [info@tcote.org](mailto:info@tcote.org)



**The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** program is highly child-centered and allows children to enter into a relationship with God in their own ways, and in their own time. All children are welcome. Contact: Laurie Burns [lburns@tcote.org](mailto:lburns@tcote.org)



At Epiphany, we embrace and appreciate the capacity and insight of our teen parishioners. **EYG** is a safe, encouraging space for spiritual exploration and the asking of important questions. We meet *every Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.* Contact: Laurie Burns [lburns@tcote.org](mailto:lburns@tcote.org)



The **Women's Interfaith Network (WIN)** has many opportunities to serve those in need in our community. Please check their page at [www.tcote.org](http://www.tcote.org). Contact: Aggie Winston (805) 807-5001.



**PFLAG's** vision is to create a world where difference is celebrated, and all people are valued inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. We meet on the *second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.* Contact: [info@tcote.org](mailto:info@tcote.org)



**Laundry Love** is a nationwide program that assists low-income families and individuals in doing their laundry. We meet on *the last Tuesday of each month from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.* Contact: Karen James [kjames@tcote.org](mailto:kjames@tcote.org)



**The Lunch Bunch** prepares and delivers 70-80 brown bag lunches to Harbor House once a month for low income and homeless families and individuals. Join us! Contact: Yvonne Lux [yvonnlux@gmail.com](mailto:yvonnlux@gmail.com)



**Creation Care** at The Church of the Epiphany is about helping each other to grow in care for God's Creation. Seasonal Sacred Hikes help to create a personal bond and connection. Contact: Mari Mendenhall [mmidsgn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mmidsgn@sbcglobal.net)



**Lectio Divina** is a practice of scriptural reading, meditation, and prayer opening to a deeper communion with God. We meet via Zoom *every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.* Link at [www.tcote.org/lectio-divina/](http://www.tcote.org/lectio-divina/) or contact: Barry Burns [burnscreative@gmail.com](mailto:burnscreative@gmail.com).



**A grief shared** meets *on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Ascension Chapel.* Wherever and however you are experiencing grief, we invite you to come and share your story in a safe and supportive space. Contact: Laurie Burns [lburns@tcote.org](mailto:lburns@tcote.org)



The **Epiphany Music Guild** furthers the church's outreach mission to the community by providing a regular series of musical and other artistic events, enriching people's lives and giving them opportunities to encounter beauty in a sacred space. [www.tcote.org/music/](http://www.tcote.org/music/)



The **Pastoral Care Team** cares for parishioners who may be sick, recovering from surgery or experiencing other life changes. We make phone calls, visit hospitals and homes, and help with the unmet needs they may have, such as providing an occasional meal following surgery or illness. If you would like to be a part of this rewarding ministry, contact Sharon Schneider: [sschneider@tcote.org](mailto:sschneider@tcote.org)



**OWLS (Older Wiser Laity)** strives to create community and fellowship opportunities among the more senior members of our church and the greater area, meeting monthly for lunch and a variety of enriching programs from October-May. Contact Michelle Ponticelli: [mponticelli@tcote.org](mailto:mponticelli@tcote.org)



The **Music Ministry** at The Church of the Epiphany offers a variety of opportunities for participation and welcomes all. You may join the choir at any time. Contact: Jay [jwilcox@tcote.org](mailto:jwilcox@tcote.org)

## PRAYERS

### Please pray for those on our Parish Prayer

**List:** John, Maria, Doug, George, Elizabeth, baby Noah, Norma, Hailey, Debbi, Kay, Benny, and Frederick Family

### Please pray for those on our Long-Term

**Parish Prayer list:** Boyd, Neil and Sarah, Tom and Donna, Arturo, Judith, Kathy, Curt, Steve, Joe, Rhonda, Lynn, Dan, Amanda, Tabitha, Judie, Georgia, Bishop Michael Curry, Steve, Paul, Carole, Peter, Glenn and Family, and Madden

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To access the bulletin from either your tablet or your cell phone, please scan the QR code:



Be sure to follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/EpiphanyOakpark/](http://www.facebook.com/EpiphanyOakpark/) and Instagram at [www.instagram.com/tcoteoakpark](http://www.instagram.com/tcoteoakpark)



*A conversation between the Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons and the Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton.*

***When you think about being rooted, what comes to mind?***

*Where we are*, our place on land, is important to our spiritual groundedness, our connection to spirit-filled natural resources. We are part of a larger family of kin that includes all that God has made and reaches beyond the cosmos. Our kinship places us in relationship that is about mutual responsibility to care for one another.

***How do you understand abundance?***

We have everything we need. Are we doing everything we can to live in reciprocity, within an understanding that we are mutually responsible for one another and are called to live within a cultivating relationship with our environment and all live within it? Stewardship is asking the question, “What do we need to grow to continue to be in good and right relationship, in recognition of our kinship with all that is, in which we all thrive?”

***Questions for Reflection:***

What does being rooted in abundance look like for you?

***What image comes to mind when you hear the phrase Rooted in Abundance?***

I think of a beautiful image of the tree of life in aboriginal art. The image shows the relationship of being in a circle where animals and plants, people, land and air and water are all interdependent. Wisdom and care for eight generations, including past, present, and future, inform decisions and stewardship in a reciprocal relationship.

***What is it that grounds you?***

Place, context, environment, communities, Creator, the community I am serving. Wherever the Creator has put us is where we are in spiritual relationship. It is often said, “Wherever you go, there you are.” I would add, “Wherever you go, the Sacred is there.”

***What role does gratitude play?***

Gratitude is a spiritual practice. Indigenous elders are giving thanks all the time: “Thank you, Creator, for the gift of the cedar tree.” And then thanking the cedar tree for the gift it gives. Gratitude for our gifts invites us into community, and thus into responsibility for the flourishing of our community, which is our kinship with all of creation.

***If we put all this together, what does being rooted in abundance look like for you, in your context?***

It’s a circular understanding. All community is responsible for each individual to nurture a sense of being meaningful and valuable. And every person has responsibility for meeting the needs of the community.



*The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton, a Shackan First Nation member, is the rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Everett, WA, and the vice-president of the House of Deputies.*