



THE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

WELCOMES YOU

The Clergy

The Rt. Hon. & Most Rev. Justin Welby
105th Archbishop of Canterbury
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
27th Presiding Bishop
The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan
11th Bishop of Alabama
The Rev. Dr. John Wells Warren, *Priest*

The Vestry

Michael Harber, *Senior Warden*
Jimmy Weldon, *Junior Warden and Vestry Member at Large*
Lee Borden, *Vestry Member*
Michael Dickey, *Vestry Member*
Maurice McCord, *Vestry Member*
Hugh Thompson, *Vestry Member*
Michael Williams, *Vestry Member*
Betty Weldon, *Treasurer*
Elizabeth Harber, *Clerk of the Vestry*

FOR 21 YEARS, the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany has lived out its mission and ministry to the Tallassee area as a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama, the Episcopal Church USA, and the worldwide Anglican Communion. If you need a priest, call or text Father Wells at (334) 332-3222, or email him at wellswarren@msn.com

Serving This Week

Sharon Cleary and Hugh Thompson, *Ushers/Stewards*
Laura Williams, *Altar Guild*
Jim Rand, *Lay Reader*
Kay Dickey, *Lay Eucharistic Minister*
Esther Hart, *Pianist*
Pam and Jere Van Etten, *Refreshments*

In Our Prayers

We pray for those who are sick and recovering from illness or surgery, including Michael Garner, Tom Price, Eddie Harper's cousin Gary; and Jimmy Weldon's nieces, Terrie and Debbie, and their parents. We also pray for Allison, Jeffrey, Macy, Lavonne, Dolores, Julie, Martha, Michael, Mary Southern, Billie, Troy, Vincent, Peggy, Elizabeth, Letha, Marsha, Carly, and Norma. We pray for our companion dioceses of Alaska and the Virgin Islands and their bishops Mark and Ambrose.



December 24, 2016 at 6:00 pm

Join your Church Family for a traditional celebration of Christmas at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, beginning on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2016, at 6:00 pm with The Carols of Christmas, followed by Festival Holy Eucharist at 6:30 pm. And stay for the Christmas Eve Party at 7:30 pm in the Little House. All are welcome!

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY EST. 1994



2602 Gilmer Ave. Tallassee, Alabama 36078 (334) 252-8618

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Ten-thirty on Sunday Morning
The Eleventh Day of December
In the Year of Our Lord 2016

*O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father's Glory shone
Immortal, holy, blest is he, and blest are you, his holy Son.*

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Welcome to the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in Tallassee! We return to the Hymnal for our service music in the Season of Advent. The "S-Hymns" are found in the first section of the Hymnal 1982, the Blue Book. "BCP" stands for the Book of Common Prayer, the Red Book."

Gathering of the People

Piano Prelude

Words of Peace

Processional *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers*

Hymn 68

Penitential Acclamation

Page 355, BCP

Collect for Purity

Glory to God *Gloria*

Hymn S-280

Salutation

Page 357, BCP

Collect of the Day

Scripture Sheet

The Liturgy of the Word

We sit for the Lessons and the Psalm, and we stand for the Gospel.

Old Testament *Isaiah 35:1-10*

Scripture Sheet

Psalm 146:4-9 *Lauda, anima mea*

Scripture Sheet

Epistle *James 5:7-10*

Scripture Sheet

Sequence *Tell Out, My Soul!*

Hymn 437

Gospel *Matthew 11:2-11*

Scripture Sheet

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

Page 358, BCP

Prayers of the People, Form III

Page 387, BCP

Confession of Sin

Page 360, BCP

Absolution

The Peace

Announcements

Piano Offertory

Holy Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Presentation *Phos hilaron*

Hymn 26:1, 3

O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father's Glory shone

Immortal, holy, blest is he, and blest are you, his holy Son.

Worthy are you of endless praise, O Son of God, life-giving Lord;

Wherefore you are through all the earth and in the highest heaven adored.

Eucharistic Prayer A

Page 361, BCP

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

Hymn S-129

Consecration of the Elements

Lord's Prayer *Traditional*

Page 364, BCP

Breaking of the Bread

Fraction *O Lamb of God*

Hymn S-158

Communion

Post-Communion Prayer

Page 366, BCP

Blessing

Recessional *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

Hymn 640

Dismissal

Piano Postlude

Later This Month ...

4 Advent Dec. 18, 2016

Confirmation & Coffee #4 at 9:30 am

Holy Eucharist II-A at 10:30 am

Refreshments at 11:30 am

Christmas Eve Dec. 24 Saturday

Carols of Christmas at 6 pm

Festival Holy Eucharist II-A at 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Party following worship

Christmas Day Dec. 25 Sunday

No Service

1 Christmas Jan. 1, 2017

Christmas Lessons and Carols at 10:30 am



who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."



Confirmation & Coffee

Don't You Want To Be
CONFIRMED?

We will have one more Confirmation Class on Dec. 18—in anticipation of the Bishop's Visit on **January 15, 2017**. Confirmation & Coffee is for everyone considering Confirmation in the Episcopal Church. But it isn't just for Confirmands! Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church is most welcome. Also, it's a great review for those who have already been confirmed or received from another liturgical tradition.

There are several options ...

First of all, if you have *never* been **BAPTIZED** with water and in the Name of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—let's certainly do that when the Bishop comes!

Second, if you have not been **CONFIRMED** by a bishop in apostolic succession, by all means, let's do that! (It's the "official" way to become an Episcopalian.)

And Third, if you have been confirmed in the Catholic, Lutheran, or Orthodox traditions, you can be **RECEIVED** into the Anglican Communion!

LESSONS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 11, 2016



The Collect

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament *Isaiah 35:1-10*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go
astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Psalm 146:4-9 *Lauda, anima mea*

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the
blind; *

the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the
wicked.

The LORD shall reign for ever, *

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Epistle *James 5:7-10*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The
farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with
it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient.
Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved,
do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged.
See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering
and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of
the Lord.

Gospel *Matthew 11:2-11*



When John heard in prison what the
Messiah was doing, he sent word by
his disciples and said to him, “Are
you the one who is to come, or are
we to wait for another?” Jesus
answered them, “Go and tell John
what you hear and see: the blind
receive their sight, the lame walk, the
lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the
dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And
blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away,
Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out
into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then
did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those