



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

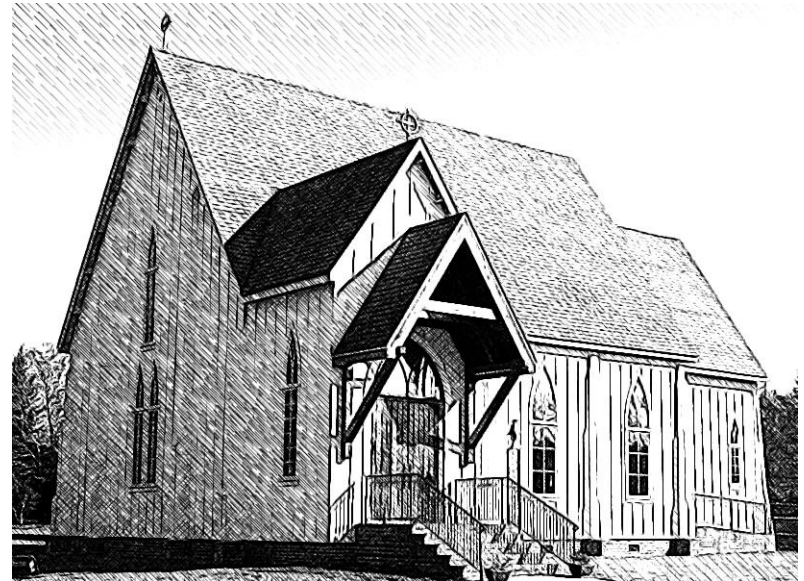
Pamela and Eddie Harper,
Ushers/Stewards
Cathy Jones, *Altar Guild*
Dr. John Rand, *Lay Reader*
Maurice McCord, *Lay Eucharistic Minister*
Esther Hart, *Pianist*
Betty Weldon, *Refreshments*

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, 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. And we remember Jan Meinert, who died recently. She was a friend of Hugh Thompson.



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY EST. 1994



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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

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

Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus.

FOURTH 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 <i>Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	<i>Hymn 66</i>
Penitential Acclamation	Page 355, BCP
Collect for Purity	
Glory to God <i>Gloria</i>	<i>Hymn S-280</i>
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 <i>Isaiah 7:10-16</i>	Scripture Sheet
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 <i>Qui regis Israel</i>	Scripture Sheet
Epistle <i>Romans 1:1-7</i>	Scripture Sheet
Sequence <i>The Angel Gabriel</i>	<i>Hymn 265</i>
Gospel <i>Matthew 1:18-25</i>	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	

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.

Holy Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Eucharistic Prayer A	Page 361, BCP
Holy, Holy, Holy <i>Sanctus</i>	<i>Hymn S-129</i>
Consecration of the Elements	
Lord's Prayer <i>Traditional</i>	Page 364, BCP
Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction <i>O Lamb of God</i>	<i>Hymn S-158</i>
Communion	
Post-Communion Prayer	Page 366, BCP
Blessing	
Recessional <i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	<i>Hymn 56</i>
Dismissal	
Piano Postlude	



The Bishop's Visit!

There's Still Time to be
C O N F I R M E D

The Bishop's Visit is all set for **January 15, 2017**. We begin with Bishop's Time at 9:30 am in the Church. Then we celebrate a Festival Holy Eucharist (with Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation if you're interested) at 10:30 am, also in the Church. Then at 12:00 noon, we enjoy a Potluck Dinner in the Little House (so bring your favorite dish to share). Peace, Wells+

Coming Soon to Epiphany Church!



CHRISTMAS EVE will be celebrated on Saturday, Dec. 24, 2016, beginning with the Carols of Christmas at 6:00 pm. We have a guest pianist for the evening, Mr. Brian Less of Birmingham. Festival Holy Eucharist celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord at 6:30 pm, followed by a Christmas Party at 7:30 pm in the Little House! (No service on Sunday, Christmas Day.)

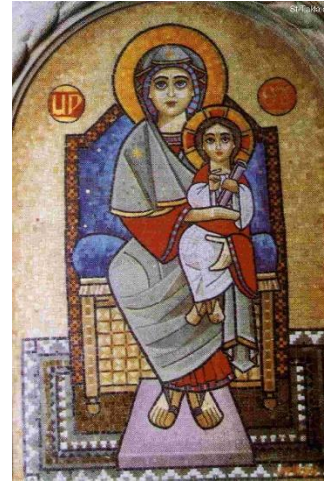


A **CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS** will be celebrated at 10:30 am on Sunday, Jan. 1, 2017. No Sunday School this morning. Wear warm comfortable clothes and enjoy singing our favorite hymns and carols of the Christmas Season. And invite your friends and family!



EPIPHANY SUNDAY will be celebrated on Sunday, Jan. 8, 2017, with a Festival Holy Eucharist at 10:30 am, All Member Meeting, Election of Vestry Members, and Parish Luncheon. Don't miss this wonderful celebration! (No Sunday School this morning.) And please bring a side dish to share!

LESSONS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT *December 18, 2016*



The Collect of the Day

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament *Isaiah 7:10-16*

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 *Qui regis Israel*

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Epistle *Romans 1:1-7*

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



Gospel *Matthew 1:18-25*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.