

Service Guide for the Season of Epiphany

SERVANTS OF CHRIST
ANGLICAN CHURCH

Church Calendar

ADVENT
CHRISTMAS
EPIPHANY
LENT
EASTER
PENTECOST
ORDINARY TIME

Epiphany comes from Greek and means “manifestation.” During this season we celebrate the ways Jesus manifested himself as fully God and fully man. We focus on his presentation to the Magi, his baptism, his miracles, and his Transfiguration which all reveal aspects of his deity combined perfectly with his humanity. In Epiphany we also rejoice that salvation has come to all people.

Holy Communion

Welcome & Announcements

Processional

Please stand as you are able.

The cross, a symbol of Christ in our worship, leads us to the altar, reminding us that our way to God is through Jesus.

The Acclamation

Please remain standing as you are able.

Celebrant I will make you as a light for the nations,
People **That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.**

With these words we affirm to one another and God why we've come together to worship.

The Collect for Purity

Please remain standing as you are able.

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are**

A “collect” collects our prayers together in unity. This prayer acknowledges our need for help to worship God with all our heart, soul, and mind.

Remembering the focus of our faith—to love God and others—gives us opportunity to reflect on what is most important.

As we reflect, we recognize and state our need for mercy because we routinely fail to love God and our neighbors.

Children are an important part of our church and worship. Jesus said, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God” (Mark 10:14). We bring the children forward so that they can know that God invites them to come and know Him.

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.

The Summary of the Law

Please remain standing as you are able.

Celebrant Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew 22:37-40*

The Kyrie

Please remain standing as you are able.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

Children’s Sermon

Please be seated.

Children in Kindergarten through 3rd grades are invited to attend Children’s Church at this time. The children will return at the Peace. You may pick up your nursery-aged children for Holy Communion at that time.

The Collect of the Day

Please remain seated.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays.

People **Amen.**

A “collect” collects our prayers together in unity. This prayer changes each week and focuses our prayers for the week ahead.

The Lessons

Please remain seated for the first reading.

The readings for the day can be found in the weekly bulletin.

The Lector gives a citation giving chapter and verse then reads the Scripture.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Bible is one coherent story so we read from different parts, desiring to hear God speak to us through His Word.

Please stand as you are able for the Psalm.

The Psalm is typically read responsively by half-verse, led by the Celebrant with the People responding.

Celebrant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

People **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Please be seated for the second reading.

The Lector gives a citation giving chapter and verse then reads the Scripture.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

We sing a chorus before and after the Gospel reading as we prepare our hearts for the sermon.

Please stand as you are able.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. _____.

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

The Deacon or Priest appointed reads the Gospel.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Please be seated.

The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the
Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

This is a sufficient statement of the Christian faith - what all Christians everywhere have always believed to be true. The term "Nicene" refers to its origins at the Council of Nicaea (a gathering of the whole Church) in 325 A.D. We say this each week as a reminder of what is most important to believe and what unites us as Christians.

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 in to 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,
 who with the Father and the Son is
 worshiped and glorified,
 who 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

Please kneel as you are able.

Reader Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, “hear our prayer.” For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader For Foley, our Archbishop, and Alex, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation.

We invite you to pray silently or aloud according to each of the prompts. If you pray aloud, please pray boldly and briefly so that others may hear and pray with you.

Lord, in your mercy:

People

Hear our prayer.

Reader

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad, especially our mission partner, ____; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Lord, in your mercy:

People

Hear our prayer.

Reader

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith, especially in ____; and for those who persecute your people.

Lord, in your mercy:

People

Hear our prayer.

Reader

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service.

Lord, in your mercy:

People

Hear our prayer.

Reader

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Lord, in your mercy:

People

Hear our prayer.

Reader

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

Lord, in your mercy:

People

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession

Please remain kneeling as you are able.

Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence.

All 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 Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Now that we are reminded of what is broken and painful in this life, we confess our sin (our rebellion against God), because it is the underlying cause of all that pains this world.

Having confessed our sin and our need for a Savior, the priest reminds us of God's incredible mercy and forgiveness, pronouncing God's absolution (forgiveness) of our sins.

Having received God's forgiveness, we express that we have been reconciled to God and one another by sharing the peace we now have through Jesus. We do this before the offering because Jesus says, "First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:24).

In response to all that God has done for us, we worship God by giving of our finances and raising our voices together in song.

Literally meaning "Lift up your hearts" the Sursum Corda begins a prayer of great thanksgiving to God for the redemption of the world through Jesus Christ.

The Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with your spirit.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the Name of the Lord. Parents may now pick up their children ages 4 and under from the nursery if they desire. Nursery is available through the end of the service. Children in Kindergarten through 3rd grades will return from Children's Church at this time.

The Offering and Doxology

During the Offertory hymns or songs may be sung. The Deacon or Priest prepares the Holy Table for the celebration.

Please stand as you are able while the offerings are presented.

The Sursum Corda

Please remain standing as you are able.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who took on our mortal flesh to reveal his glory; that he might bring us out of darkness and into his own glorious light.

Therefore we praise you, joining with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Please remain standing as you are able.

All Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Latin for "holy," this ancient hymn weaves together Scripture which describes the worship happening on heaven and earth (Isaiah 6:3, Psalm 118:26, Matthew 21:9, Revelation 4:8). We join with all the saints in heaven on earth in worshipping God.

The Prayer of Consecration

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had

This prayer retells the story of redemption, recalling the wonderful mystery of God becoming human in the person of Jesus Christ to give His life for us and renew all things.

given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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 Lord's Prayer

Please remain standing or kneeling as you are able.

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

All 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.

Jesus taught his disciples this prayer as a model for how to pray (Luke 11:1-4). The Lord's Prayer roughly breaks down into three types of prayers: Praise (Thank you), Petition (Please), and Penitence (Sorry). We pray this each week to remind us how Jesus taught us to pray.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

As we hear the sound of the bread being broken, we remember the cost of Christ's sacrifice for us.

The Ministration of Communion

Please remain standing or kneeling as you are able.

Celebrant 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 Ministers receive the Sacrament and then give it to the People. You may be seated.

In the Sacrament we partake of God's past, present, and future grace. The physical bread and wine nourish us with the spiritual presence of Jesus.

In response to all we have heard, learned, and experienced during the service, we turn our hearts to sing praises to our God.

We give thanks for the feast we have partaken in and prepare to go back into the world to labor for his kingdom.

During Communion, songs or hymns may be sung.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward and receive the bread and wine. It has long been the conviction of the Church that, if you receive only the bread or only the wine, you have received the sacrament in full. Therefore, if you have a personal need to refrain from either the bread or the wine this week, know that you are still fully communing with Christ and his Church.

Ushers will direct you to the altar rail. If you are not baptized and would like to receive a blessing, come forward and kneel, crossing your arms over your chest. The priest will quietly pray God's blessing upon you.

If you would like to receive prayer for anything in your life, members of the prayer team are available in the wings of the sanctuary under the exit signs.

The Post Communion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Heavenly Father,
We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do , to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Please remain standing as you are able.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives this or an alternate blessing.

Celebrant The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional

The Dismissal

Please remain standing as you are able.

Deacon All our problems:

***People* We send to the cross of Christ.**

Deacon All our difficulties:

***People* We send to the cross of Christ.**

Deacon All the devil's works:

***People* We send to the cross of Christ.**

Deacon All our hopes:

***People* We set on the risen Christ.**

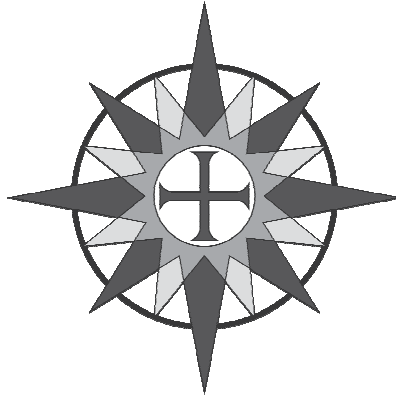
Deacon Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

***People* Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.**

As we go out into the world, we receive God's blessing which empowers us to do the work before us.

We follow the cross out into the world, remembering that Jesus goes before us in all things.

To honor our parish's origins in the Anglican Church of Kenya, we use the dismissal form from their Prayer Book.



SERVANTS OF CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Worship Sundays at 9:30 am

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(352) 271-1188 | 3530 NW 8th Ave. | Gainesville, FL 32605