

Christ Episcopal Church



The Feast of the Epiphany January 5, 2025

*Held in the Hands of God...
Reaching out our Hands to others*

12 Prospect Street
Babylon, New York

The Feast of the Epiphany

Year C

January 5, 2025

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Book of Common Prayer, page 323

[We ask that during the service you mute all electronic devices]

Prelude

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Opening Hymn As with gladness men of old	Hymnal 119,v1-2
Opening Acclamation	BCP p 323
Collect for Purity	
The Gloria	BCP p 324
The Collect of the Day	<i>See readings insert</i>
The Collect for Christ Church	<i>See readings insert</i>
THE OLD TESTAMENT READING	Isaiah 60:1-6
THE RESPONSE: Psalm 72:1-7,10-14	<i>See readings insert</i>
THE NEW TESTAMENT	Ephesians 3:1-12
THE HOLY GOSPEL	Matthew 2:1-12
The Sermon	Mother Catherine Wieczorek
Nicene Creed	BCP p 326
The Prayers of the People Response: <i>Lord, hear our prayer</i>	
The Confession of Sin & the Absolution.	BCP p 330
The Peace	

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Hymn
We three kings Hymnal 128

Eucharistic Prayer 2 BCP p 340

The Lord's Prayer BCP p 336

The Breaking of the Bread BCP p 337

Post Communion Prayer BCP p 339

Announcements, Blessings & Acknowledgements

The Blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

Closing Hymn Hymnal 119,
As with gladness men of old v 3-5

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

Postlude

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Book of Common Prayer
Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP p 355

[We ask that during the service you mute all electronic devices]

Prelude
The friendly beasts by Dan Forrest

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Processional Hymn Hymnal 138
We three kings

Opening Acclamation BCP p 355

Carol of Praise Hymnal 127
Earth has many a noble city

The Collect of the Day *See readings insert*

The Collect for Christ Church *See readings insert*

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 60:1-6

THE RESPONSE: *See readings insert*
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

THE NEW TESTAMENT Ephesians 3:1-12

Gradual Hymn Hymnal 135, v 1-2
Songs of thankfulness and praise

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12

The Sermon Mother Catherine Wieczorek

Nicene Creed BCP p 358

Prayers of the People
Response: *Lord, Hear our prayer*

The Confession of Sin & the Absolution BCP 360

The Peace
Please greet one another with a sign of peace

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Anthem By K. Lee Scott
Journey of the Magi

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B BCP p 367

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy* *Hymnal S114*

The Lord's Prayer BCP p 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem O Lamb of God *Hymnal S158*

Post Communion Hymn *Hymnal 124*
What star is this

Post Communion Prayer BCP p 367

Announcements, Blessings & Acknowledgements

The Seasonal Blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

Closing Hymn Hymnal 119
As with gladness men of old

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People. *Thanks be to God!*

Postlude

**The Readings appointed for the Feast of the Epiphany
Year C, RCL**

The Collect

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Collect for Christ Church

Gracious and loving God, you know the plans you have for us. In times of change and transition, you are our refuge and our strength. Send the inspiration of your Holy Spirit to guide the people of Christ Church Babylon, our Wardens, Vestry members and Clergy, as well as the Diocese of Long Island to rightly discern your will and to follow the path you have designed for this parish community; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Psalm: 72:1-7, 10-14

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no
more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

The New Testament: Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Prayer List for Sunday, January 5, 2025

Let us offer prayers of healing, comfort and strength

Bob C., Karen, Lydia, Phil B., Sandy, Sr. Joy, Ray & Betsy, Caleb, Vivienne, Evelynne; Thomas, Vera, Deb A., Frank P., Kathy, June S., Maggie, Leslie, Randi, Lisa, Neil, John, Gabrielle, Susan, Susan and family, Kelly and family, Julie, Jaime, Jeff, Joe, Brendan, Marion, Karen, Cathi, Julianne, Julie. For all those affected by international violence, conflict, and war. We continue to pray for our parish as we work toward the best solution regarding our needed structural repair.

We pray for those killed and injured in the vehicular attack in New Orleans and an end to mass violence everywhere. We pray for all who are struggling economically, for those who are unemployed and under-employed, those searching for employment, those who are hungry and food insecure, and those who are homeless or fear eviction or foreclosure, those looking for housing.

Let us offer prayers of thanksgiving

We give thanks for and pray for all those involved in feeding ministries and homeless ministries, especially for our Nourish Babylon volunteers and all those who support the various feeding ministries in the Babylon area. We give thanks for all who gave gifts to children in need through our Christmas Shoeboxes and Christmas Giving Tree, and all who helped prepared for and participated in the Christmas services.

Let us celebrate with and pray for this week's birthdays

Thomas Langstone (1/6)

Let us celebrate with and pray for this week's Anniversaries

Bob & Rose Ann Norman (1/5)

Let us pray for those who have died

We give thanks especially for the life of President Jimmy Carter. May he be an example to us of Christian service, patriotism and love.

We pray for all in whose memory gifts were given for Christmas greens & flowers.

Assisting Our Worship

	8:00 am	10:00
Eucharistic Minister:	David Cunningham	Martha/ Kathy
Lector/s:		
Server/s:		Hannah Boning
Greeter:	Lynn Simmons	
Coffee Hour Coordinator:		

Announcements

Pastoral Home Visits

Should you or anyone you know desire a Pastoral visit, a Blessing of your home at Epiphany, or for any reason, please speak with the Clergy and/or Church Office.

Healing Service

A Healing Service with anointing and laying on of hands will be held today in the Chapel, following the 8:00 and the 10:00 service. Anyone who is in need of special healing prayers is welcome.

Adult Formation

Beginning Next **Sunday, January 12th**, Mother Catherine will host “*Grounds for Discussion*” - a forum for conversation about our Episcopal Faith and our shared life as the Body of Christ. We will meet after the 8:00 am service. Come enjoy coffee and conversation each week in Miller Hall!

Outreach Needs

We are in need of donations of grocery store and gasoline gift cards. Many people in our community and especially those who visit us during our community meal hosted by Nourish Babylon need help with everyday items, especially in the cold winter months. Gift cards may be dropped off at the church. Thank you so for your thoughtful generosity!

Altar Flowers & Gifts

Gifts of flowers at the Altar, Sanctuary Lamp, Wine, Bread and Candles can be made each week in thanksgiving or in someone’s honor or memory. Please see the binder in the back of the Chapel for additional details, or contact the office at 631-661-5757. Altar flowers and gifts are needed during January.

Pledge Cards

Our deepest thanks goes out to all who have submitted pledge cards in support of Christ Church Babylon. This year, we graciously request everyone to “Take a Step Up” and consider completing a pledge card to support our Ministry Plan for Christ Church.

Digital Giving Options

Scan this QR code to access our online giving site through Realm Giving:



Scan this QR code to learn more about stewardship and fill out an online pledge card:



All Are Welcome

Christ Episcopal Church of Babylon represents and celebrates the diversity that is Long Island. We welcome everyone and believe that there should be no outcasts in the Episcopal Church. Our welcome knows no boundaries of marital status, age, race, ethnicity, cultural or religious background, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic condition, and physical or mental ability. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, there is a place for you at Christ Episcopal Church.

This is God's House...

and we are blessed by the gift of your presence with us. In the Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please let the priest know by crossing your arms in front of your chest when you come forward. Gluten-free bread is available; please ask at the communion rail.

Handicapped Accessibility

Our building is equipped with a lift located in the Sanctuary Annex, and a handicapped bathroom located on the lower level. For full access of the building both upstairs and downstairs, please ask a Greeter for assistance.

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Healing Service, 1st Sundays following the Eucharist
The 10:00 a.m. service is also livestreamed
In-person Sunday School is suspended for the present time.

Church Officers and Vestry

Kathy Hannan (2025)	Martha Richardson (2025)	
Michelle Taormina, Treasurer	Marie Rivera, Clerk	
Michael DeBlasio (2027)	Martha Richardson (2026)	Jackie Barnes (2025)
Lynn Simmons (2027)	Michael Vazzano (2026)	Annette Lepsis (2025)
	Blosome Whyte (2026)	Debbie Szala (2025)

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island
The Rev. Catherine L. Wiczorek, Interim Priest-In-Charge
Dr. Christopher Hopkins, Minister of Music
Ms. Marie Rivera, Parish Administrator

Parish Office Hours:

Wednesday & Thursday, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
and by appointment

Christ Episcopal Church

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