

Epiphany This Week

November 13-19, 2020

Church of the Epiphany
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Pentecost 24



Parable of the Talents

This Sunday we invite you to participate in **WORSHIP WITH HOLY EUCHARIST**. The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green will lead us in our worship on Sunday at 10:30 am at the church. **Attendance is by reservation only**. Please contact 705-675-2279 before Friday, noon. You are asked to arrive by 10 am.

Everyone is welcome to attend!

If you cannot attend in person, the service is also accessible online Sunday afternoon. You can find our programs on the parish website (www.epiphanysudbury.org) or on our Facebook page and on Youtube.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

As with Amos last week, Zephaniah's announcement of judgement this week is directly related to the justice of God. The prophet teaches that the day of the Lord is to be the initial step in the establishment of the kingdom of God and the reign of the Lord in justice. Psalm 90 offers an appeal for instruction. The psalmist prays for wisdom so that we may use every day of our lives for serving God through acts of justice. In his ancient letter to the Thessalonians Paul instructs the church that the proper way to prepare for the Lord's return is not by calculating the time and place, but by conducting oneself properly and establishing meaningful relationships within the community of faith. In the parable of the talents, Jesus teaches that faithfulness in service is neither determined by, nor destroyed by, the end of time.

Question for Reflection

Human beings have been graced with the gifts of persistence, imagination, and the capacity for extraordinary accomplishments. We have been given life-giving gifts. Yet, as the psalmist reminds us, we are finite beings. When is our refusal to accept human limits productive, and when does this hinder our creative stance before God? Is knowing that God is God, and we are not, a message of eternal grace that we can hear? And in the face of tragedy and death, can we bear that grace in peace and confidence?



If you are planning to worship with us in person please note...

It is important that you make reservations should you wish to join us for Sunday morning worship. **If you plan on attending worship please call Gwen at the church office and let her know how many people are in your party.** Gwen will then record your reservation and assign you a pew based on the number of people you are with.

- In keeping with diocesan protocols and guidelines, **our congregation capacity cannot exceed 50 at any given time** – that includes clergy, organist and lay readers.
- **Masks must be worn at all times. Physical distancing must be observed as well as proper handwashing.** Amber stage does not permit us to serve food and beverages at this time.
- **Sunday morning worship will begin promptly at 10:30am. We ask that you please arrive by 10am** so that we can record your name and phone number and ensure that you are seated safely.
- **Although we have not yet resumed our Sunday School, children and young people are welcome and encouraged to join with their families for worship.** Children and youth are invited to sit quietly with their families in their assigned pews. It is recommended that books, crayons and colouring books be brought from home. We safely welcome all people, of all ages to worship at Church of the Epiphany.

*****Stay Safe and Healthy*****

PARISH COUNCIL Please note a Parish Council Zoom meeting has been scheduled for *Wednesday, November 18th* at 7pm. For more information, and to confirm your attendance, please contact the deputy peoples' warden, Hoi Cheu at hcheu@laurentian.ca.

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY is Nov. 29 For many years now, donated items have been used to fill Christmas bags for youth at the Action Centre. Donations that are needed include: *toques, gloves/mitts, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, travel-sized shampoo and soap, socks (preferably not white), underwear (boys like boxers, girls like bikini briefs , candy.* * PLEASE NO MOUTHWASH OR RAZORS. Because of COVID-19 precautions, all donated items must sit untouched for a specified period of time before they can be packed up and delivered.



Some people may wish to help but would rather not venture into stores. Therefore, monetary donations for the purchase of items would be welcomed either by way of cash, or a cheque made out to 'Church of the Epiphany Outreach'. For more information, please speak with Mary Donato.

PWRDF In the most recent Anglican Journal, you will find the **2019-20 Annual Report** for PWRDF; this is a very interesting read about the far-reaching work being done and which we, as Anglicans, support.. Enclosed as well is the **World of Gifts** catalogue - a wonderful way to shop for gifts for those on your list who you want to remember but who need nothing.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE A new shipment has arrived. Buying a pound of this great coffee helps PWRDF and makes an excellent stocking stuffer or other occasion gift. Cost is \$16/pound. Safe delivery can be achieved. Contact the church office for more information.

PASTORAL CARE If you, or someone you know, is need of pastoral care and/or a safe visit by Rev. Elizabeth, please be sure to let our priest know either by way of emails or telephone calls. Communication is always helpful as we strive to love and care for others. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS EVE 2020 As we approach Christmas in this time of pandemic, the month of December will be uncertain for all of us. We will all need to do our part by doing things differently this year, especially as Covid-19 cases are on the rise. If churches are not closed, **we will tentatively be offering three services on Christmas Eve; 5pm, 7pm and 9pm.** Please note that **we are not taking Christmas Eve reservations at this time.** As we get closer to December more information will be provided in ETW.

BOOK SALE POSTPONED Our annual Epiphany Book Sale, which would normally take place in January of next year has been postponed until **May 7-9, 2021** in hopes of avoiding any repercussions from a possible upcoming second wave of COVID-19.

APPOINTMENTS WITH REV. ELIZABETH Please note that office appointments with Rev. Elizabeth can made between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you would like to book an appointment please call the church office, or you can email her directly at greenepiphanypriest@gmail.com Mondays are reserved for a sabbath and day of rest.

A Note from Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green

It has just been brought to my attention that on Friday, November 13th members of Sudbury's downtown business community have organized a demonstration called One Cold Night. This will be a peaceful demonstration aimed to raise awareness, and to show support for those living with homelessness, mental health issues, addiction, and grief. Participants plan to occupy the Bridge of Nations from 7pm Friday, to 7am on Saturday. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, they are allowing for a maximum of 100 participants only. I will be among the 100 demonstrators, and I very much look forward to representing the Church of the Epiphany.

If you would like to learn more, or if you would like to add your name to the list of participants, please visit the event page for "One Cold Night" on Facebook. I will also be providing a follow-up report of what I see, learn and experience on this One Cold Night.

May justice roll on the waters, and righteousness like an unfailing stream (Amos 5:24).

THIS WEEK'S INTERCESSIONS



(Please uphold the following in your prayers this week)

For the Church in the World We pray for the Church of Ceylon (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury) The Rt Revd Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabay - Bishop of Colombo
The Rt Revd Keerthisiri Fernando - Bishop of Kurunegala

For the Church in our Diocese We pray for those whose increasing years bring them isolation, distress, or weakness. May they be provided homes of dignity and peace, understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept assistance. When bodily strength decreases, may their faith increase and the assurance of God's abiding love be deepened.

For our Companion Diocese of Tarime We pray for Mrito - Ev. Frank Johanés

For Members of our Parish family Joy Knuff; Maybourne Kohlsmith; Christine Kraus and for our wardens, Peter, Jane and Hoi; and their families.

For our sick and shut-in Members Eleanor, Billie, Carol Ann, Susan, Chris, Muriel, Dan, Olga, William, Donna, Carolyn, Eleanor, Brad, Pat, John, Colin, Michele, Margaret, Betty, Dorothy, Lukah, Linda, Kevin, Pat, Gary, Beverley, Christopher, Roy, Renee.

*"The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you;
he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."
Deuteronomy 31:8*

Morning and Evening Prayers to add to our personal devotions

Morning – Good morning Lord. I welcome the new day, for it is a gift from you. My petty fears are nothing in the face of your love; in the warmth of your wisdom my anxieties melt away. Make me more faithful than I could be on my own, and use me to reflect your light, for there are so many who need to know of your grace. Walk with me, and show me your way, for I would follow you. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Evening – Good evening, Lord. Thank you for bringing me through this day, its trials and joys. You surprise me with wonder and overwhelm me with love. Keep me in your embrace tonight; inhabit my dreams. If you chose to grant me another day of life, awaken me as one who is eager to serve you well. I offer these and all of my prayers through Jesus Christ. Amen.

