

# Epiphany This Week

## November 20-26, 2020

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Church of the Epiphany  
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### The Reign of Christ



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 **no earlier than 10:15 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](http://www.epiphanysudbury.org)) or on our Facebook page and on Youtube.

**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:** Ezekiel 34:11-16; Psalm 95:1-7a; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

The Season After Pentecost concludes with the festival of Christ the King. In this respect, this Sunday anticipates Epiphany, which also celebrates the lordship of Christ. The dramatic vision of Christ coming to reign on his glorious throne governs all texts for today. From the Prophet Ezekiel, we hear the subtheme of Christ as shepherd separating sheep from goats. In this portion of Psalm 95, the psalmist sings praise to the glory of our Creator God. The psalmist also echoes Ezekiel; God is the shepherd and the people are the sheep. The author of Ephesians describes Christ's reign as having been established by God's "great power", put to work in the raising of Christ from the dead and portrays this reign through the image of Jesus seated at God's right hand in the heavenly places. In the Gospel story, Jesus concludes his public instruction. At this point in Matthew's gospel, Jesus not only teaches but also embodies what it means to fulfill God's commands.

### Question for Reflection

*How would it change you to see the face of Christ in every stranger you meet?*



### Health and Safety Reminders and REVISIONS

When we first reopened the church in September, we knew we were on a steep learning curve in terms of how best to care for and protect people; knowing that revisions would need to be made through trial and error.

- **SOCIAL DISTANCING is something that we all need to be more mindful of on Sunday mornings. In order to guard against crowds forming outside the church office, we ask that instead of arriving at 10am, that you please arrive for worship no earlier than 10:15am.**
- Please note that in the colder months the old front doors of the church will not be opened either before or following worship.
- At the end of each worship service, please do not exit your pew until you see that you are being led out by those serving as sides people.
- 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\*\*\***

**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.

**FIFTH SUNDAY Next Sunday is the last fifth Sunday this year.** If you can provide sandwich makings for the Elgin Street Mission you are asked to drop them off at the church on Sunday morning. Thank you again for your continued generosity.

**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.

**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.

**PRAYER MINISTRY** With the help of Rev. Elizabeth, Lorraine Campbell and Barbara Bolton are serving to renew our prayer ministry at Church of the Epiphany. Barbara and Lorraine can be reached by telephone, should you have a prayer request. Barb- 705-674-1691; Lorraine – 705-523-3338. They will be responsible for maintaining the prayer list in the ETW, and in the Sunday Service booklet following the guideline below...

- **Prayers of the People** – If you, or a friend, or loved one is in need of prayer and would like your name added in our Sunday morning worship, we will include the person's first name, and will keep them in the prayers of the people for two Sundays. If prayers are requested for a longer period, or if you would like a last name to be included, please be sure to let Barb or Lorraine know.
- **Prayer Warriors** – The Prayer Warriors are a group of people, from Epiphany and other churches, who offer **confidential** prayers for anyone who is in need. They can include absolutely anyone, from anywhere. The name or names will never be published and the names of the Prayer Warriors are kept confidential as well. There is no time limit on these requests. Requests for this prayer ministry should be made through Ruth Corston at [ruthcorston@gmail.com](mailto:ruthcorston@gmail.com) or at 705-665-1030

If you have any questions or would like more information, please speak with either Barb or Lorraine.

### **A Note from Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green**

Meister Eckhart, who was a 13<sup>th</sup> century Christian mystic is famously quoted as saying: *If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is “thank you”, it will be enough.* This week I have been experiencing an abundance of gratitude – gratitude for my new life in Sudbury; gratitude for the people who I am meeting in our wider downtown community; gratitude for all those who volunteer in ministry at the Church of the Epiphany; and gratitude for all the ways Epiphany members continue to support our church financially, prayerfully, in love, and in service. I am also deeply grateful for the care and support of our wardens and parish council. If there was one word I could use to describe the Church of the Epiphany, is relevant. Our church and parish community is

relevant and integral to the life of downtown Sudbury. Our church and its people matter. What we do here, matters. Our ministries do make a difference to those in need. Our community is important. Together we are blessed to love and serve the Lord, as we love and serve one another – especially those who are most in need. So, to each and everyone of you I say, “thank you.”

***For all that you do, and for all that you are, thank you and, Thanks be to God!***



*Perhaps you caught the Rev. Elizabeth on CTV News last week. She represented Church of the Epiphany at the One Cold Night march in support of Sudbury's homeless community. She stayed on the bridge all night! Thanks for showing you and our church members care.*



### **THIS WEEK'S INTERCESSIONS**

*(Please uphold the following in your prayers this week)*

**For the Church in the World** We pray for Pray for the Church of Bermuda (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury) The Rt Revd Nicholas Dill – Bishop of Bermuda

**For the Church in our Diocese** We pray for Christ Church, North Bay, The Ven. Joan Locke  
The Ven. Linda White (Hon.)

**For our Companion Diocese of Tarime** We pray for Mogabiri - Rev. Daniel Bisaku

**For Members of our Parish family** James and Linda Kutchaw; Elizabeth Labelle; Norm and Shirley Labelle 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*** – Loving God, reveal to me the greatness of your power, that I may see your presence among the lowly and the lost and know the authority and sovereignty of your love in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is my brother, Lord and humble teacher. Amen.

***Evening*** – Lord Jesus, when did I see you hungry? When did I see you thirsty? When did I welcome you, or clothe you, or take care of you, or visit you? Have I ignored your claim upon my time, my attention, my resources? Open my eyes; melt my heart; enlighten my understanding. Let me see you in the world, welcome you as my brother, and serve you as my Lord, with the family you acknowledge as your own: the poor, the stranger, the sick and the prisoner. Amen.

**[Announcements for Epiphany This Week should be sent to etw@epiphanysudbury.org by NOON each Thursday](mailto:etw@epiphanysudbury.org)**