

EPIPHANY THIS WEEK

February 16 - 22, 2024

Church of the Epiphany ~ 85 Larch St. Sudbury, Ontario ~ P3E 1B8

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WORSHIP CELEBRATION FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT ~ SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18th 2024 ~

8:30am –Please Note: There will not be an 8:30 service this week.

10:30am – Main Worship Service with music and Holy Eucharist (BAS).

READINGS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT: Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

SUMMARY OF READINGS: The passages from the Hebrew scriptures that we hear through much of Lent provide a survey of the ancient stories. With one exception, these

biblical passages concern covenants, beginning this week with the covenant with Noah and next week the one with Abraham. Then follows Exodus and the Decalogue which is at the heart of the covenant at Sinai. The upcoming passage from Numbers reports ancient Israel’s querulousness that prompted the Lord to send poisonous snakes as punishment, and the story of the curative bronze snake – a story about covenant breaking, in a roundabout way. Then we hear Jeremiah’s promise of a new covenant, written on the heart. In the other portions of scripture for this Sunday, we hear the psalmist sing a psalm of lament. Psalm 25 is both an expression of trust and a prayer for mercy and grace. The First Letter of Peter gives expression to the theme of suffering, as experienced by both Christ and Christians. The Gospel story tells of the remarkable compact vision of Jesus’ baptism, temptation and inaugural preaching in Galilee for which the composer of Mark is so well known.

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION: The biblical flood narrative is not merely a story of the return to primordial chaos; it also contains a story of deliverance and of relationship with God. God directed Noah, the only one who found favour with the Lord, to build an ark so that he and his family and some of the animals might escape the punishing flood waters. From this small community God fashioned a new human family and established a covenant with that family and with the whole world. This is a story about deliverance and new beginnings. Where and with whom is God’s covenant making most needed in our lives, and in the world today?

AT HOME PRAYERS - Morning – God of Creation, as I rise and move more deeply into each day of Lent, I pray you will find ways to remind me of my own experiences of deliverance and the new beginnings you always provide. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

Evening - Creator God who creates and protects, I pray you protect me this night and recreate me so that whenever I see your bow in the sky or in my dreams or imagination, I will always remember your sacred promises to me and to all of creation. In the peace of Christ, I pray, Amen.



PLEASE REMEMBER - If you are not feeling well, or have any ill symptoms such as coughing, fever, fatigue, or a sore throat, please stay home and join us for the worship services that will be offered online. We are delighted to welcome you online if you are not able to join us in person.



ON THIS FAMILY DAY, LET US PRAY:

Loving and Merciful God,
bring together and keep all families in perfect
unity of love and mutual support.
Instill in each member the spirit of
understanding and affection for each other.
Keep quarrels and bitterness far from them,
and for their occasional failures instill
forgiveness and peace.
May the mutual love and affection of parents,
grandparents, aunts, uncles and all
guardians and caregivers set a good
example.
Instill in children self-respect that they may
respect others and grow in mature love for
themselves and for others.
May the mutual affection and respect of
families be a sign of our shared life in the
family of Christ, and in whose name we pray.
Amen.

**HAPPY
FAMILY DAY**



REV. ELIZABETH'S "DROP IN" OFFICE HOURS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18th:

Tuesday 10am-Noon

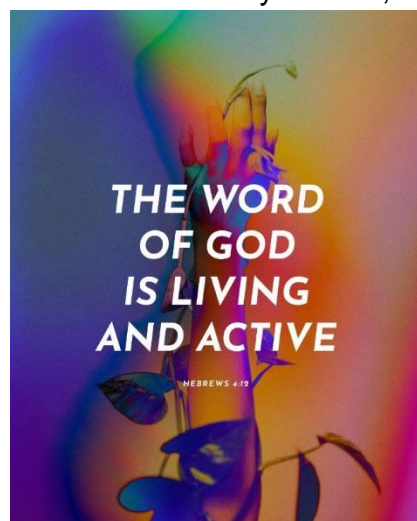
Wednesday – 10am Eucharist in the church, followed by *Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church* in the Algoma Room.

If you wish to meet with Rev. Elizabeth on **Thursday**, February 22nd, please be sure to call or send her an email, so that a meeting can be arranged.

Please be reminded that if you need to speak with Rev. Elizabeth or schedule a visit for any reason, please email her at greenepiphanypriest@gmail.com or leave a telephone message for her at the church office. Thank You.



WEDNESDAYS IN LENT – Every Wednesday during the Season of Lent, from February 21st until Wednesday March 20th, Rev. Elizabeth will be offering worship in the church with Holy Eucharist, followed by a reflective bible study in the Algoma Room entitled *Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church*. Our worship will begin at 10am, with our bible reflection to follow. Everyone is welcome.



2023 INCOME TAX RECEIPTS: If you have not yet picked up your 2023 Receipt, please pick it up this Sunday. Those not picked up will be mailed later this week.

VESTRY REPORTS: are due to Marion by 6:00 THIS Sunday evening, February 18th.

VESTRY MEETING: takes place following our 10:30 service on Sunday March 3rd.

PARISH COUNCIL: meets next on Thursday February 29th at 7:00 in the Algoma Room



THANK YOU! A Big THANK YOU to Epiphany's Outreach team for providing another excellent Lunch and Learn last Sunday. Your faithful ministry is a blessing to us all. Thank you and Thanks be to God!



COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR – FEBRUARY 24th, 2024, IN SUPPORT OF THE SAMARITAN CENTRE

- This year members and representatives of Sudbury's Downtown Churches Group have formed a Team to help support the life and outreach services of the Samaritan Centre. The name of the Team is called "Faith in Action". This year, Evelyn Fillier is serving to represent the Church of the Epiphany (Thank You Evelyn!)



Supporting the Coldest Night of the Year with our financial donations is an important way for us to serve Christ in the people who are most in need of our help. If you would like to make a donation, please follow the link below; there you will find the team's name "Faith in Action", as well as the link to support Evelyn who is doing her part to gather funds on our behalf. If you have any questions or are in need of more information, please speak with Evelyn or with Rev. Elizabeth. Thank You and Thanks be to God!

<https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1008727&langPref=en-CA>



A NOTE FROM REV. ELIZABETH:

Dear Friends in Christ,

I love it when Young People gift me with their pictures and drawings. It fills me with such joy when, following our worship, Young People present me with the art they have made and tell me the stories that go along with their drawings. Last Sunday we were blessed to have two very young people in our congregation. When I sat with them on the chancel steps at the beginning of our worship service, we reflected on the *Valleys and Mountaintops* in relation to the story of Jesus' Transfiguration in Mark. Before they were invited to go out to our Young People's Sunday Play Room, I encouraged them to use their imaginations and to draw me pictures that show how God is ever present with us in both the hills and the valleys of our lives. The two drawings that you see here are what they created in light of the Transfiguration story.



As we have now entered into the sacred season of Lent, I am reminded that what is true for children and young people is true for us all. If part of our Lenten discipline is to focus and meditate more intently on our holy scriptures, drawing pictures is a good way to help us to do that. Why?

Drawing or painting pictures can, and often does, help to deepen our spirituality in relation to the biblical stories we hear each Sunday. Drawing allows us to visualize the stories and characters from the Bible in a tangible way. When we engage with visual representations, it can help bring the stories



to life in our minds, in our hearts, and in our imaginations by making them more relatable, meaningful and memorable.

Creating art based on biblical stories can also serve as a deeply personal and introspective experience. As we sketch or paint scenes from the Bible, we may find ourselves reflecting on the meanings and messages of these stories, and how they relate to our own lives. Drawing pictures of biblical stories can likewise foster a deeper connection with the passage itself. Through the process of illustrating the stories of God we may gain a greater understanding of the events and themes that are portrayed in scripture, as well as the emotions and motivations of the characters involved. Engaging in artistic expression is, in itself, a form of prayer, meditation and/or contemplation. As we focus on creating images inspired by biblical stories, we may enter into a state of deep concentration and spiritual reflection, allowing us to connect more intimately with the divine.

And just as the Young People did with me last Sunday, sharing our artwork with others can be a way to build community and to inspire good discussions about spirituality and faith. By sharing our

interpretations of biblical stories through art, we invite others to engage with these stories in new and meaningful ways, sparking conversations and deepening our collective understanding of scripture. Overall, drawing pictures can be a powerful tool for deepening our spirituality in relation to biblical stories by helping us visualize, reflect on, and engage with the stories of God in a creative and personal manner that is entirely unique to who we are.

During this season of Lent, I invite you all to share a painting or drawing that you have created in connection with any of the biblical stories that you hear during this holy season; and if you so choose, I would be delighted to include your art work in our ETW so that others may benefit from your unique, artful and creative connection to scripture. Thank You!

Yours Faithfully,
Elizabeth+



Parish Breakfast is served!

Everyone is welcome!

JOIN US FOR:

- SCRAMBLED EGGS À LA ROGER
- PANCAKES WITH MAPLE SYRUP & BUTTER BY CHEF KEVIN
- OVEN ROASTED SAUSAGES BY SOUS CHEF TERRY
- + COFFEE & TEA


Sat. Feb 24th, 2024 | 8:30 AM | \$15/Person

Reserve your spot by emailing Terry @
terryjzett@gmail.com

SUDBURY MANITOULIN DEANERY

Join us for a
Lenten Quiet Day
"LIVING IN THE AGE OF THE SPIRIT"

Saturday March 16, 2024
10am – 2pm



SISTER ELIZABETH ANN, SSJD
(Anglican Sisters of St. John the Divine)

Sr. Elizabeth Ann will help us ponder questions such as:
"How do people of faith listen for the leading of the Holy Spirit in their lives?"
"What does being Spiritual and Religious even mean in today's culture?"
"How can we remain hopeful in today's world?"

CHURCH OF ASCENSION
1476 Sparks St., Sudbury

To register please email:
Ruth Corston - ruthcorston@gmail.com

FEE: \$25
The fee serves to offset travel and honorarium.

Tea and coffee will be provided.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BAG LUNCH.



LET US PRAY

FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY: Dr. Andrew Adegbite; David Bird and Elizabeth Wilson; Wendy Collinson; Stephen Donato; Terry Kett; Chantal McFadden.

FOR THOSE IN NEED: Sheila; William; Jean; Pat; Nick and Ellen; John and Judith; Karen and Corrine; Della and Sandra; Frances; Monique; Carol and Bob; Peter; Maybourne, Roger.



Watch us LIVE on Sunday Mornings at 10:30 at www.epiphanysudbury.org/our-services

Announcements for ETW should be sent to etw@epiphanysudbury.org by NOON each Thursday.

Donate Online: You can make a donation to the Epiphany, via PayPal, by clicking the "Donate Now" button at the top or bottom of each page on our website.