

“I WAITED PATIENTLY FOR THE LORD;
HE INCLINED TO ME AND HEARD MY CRY.”
PSALM 40:1



ECCE AGNUS DEI | GIOVANNI DI PAOLO | ITALIAN | 1455-60



THE CHURCH OF THE
INCARNATION

THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
JANUARY 18, 2026

Next Steps: Get connected!

Worship

Sunday worship services are the easiest way to enter into the life of our church. You can arrive several minutes early for the service, and a greeter will help you find your seat and answer any questions you might have.

Welcome Lunch

Newcomers are warmly invited to join us for a welcome lunch. This is a great time to meet other new folks, to ask questions in a friendly environment, and to meet the pastors. Our next lunch is January 18!

Small Groups

We gather in Small Groups geographically to share meals, listen to and pray for each other and our neighbors. Small groups are the central way we serve one another and our community.

Essentials Course

Our Essentials Course provides an in-depth look at five issues: the Gospel, Worship, Discipleship, Community, and Mission. Generally we offer this course three times a year, in the summer, the fall, and late winter. Our next course begins February 1.

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

*God calls us out of the world and welcomes us into his presence.
Opening our hearts to him in love, we respond by confessing our
sins, receiving his forgiveness, and fully devoting our lives to him in
praise and adoration.*

*Congregational responses are indicated in **boldface**.*

Please stand.

PRaise TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

Joachim Neander (1680) Trans. Catherine Winkworth; Public domain.

Praise to the Lord
The Almighty the King of creation
O my soul praise him
For he is thy health and salvation
All ye who hear now to his temple draw near
Joining in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord
Over all things he wondrously reigneth
Shelters thee under his wings
And so gently sustaineth
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what he ordaineth

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Praise to the Lord
Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee
Surely his goodness and mercy
Shall ever attend thee
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
Who with his love doth befriend thee

Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore him
All that hath life and breath
Come now with praises before him
Let the amen sound from his people again
Gladly forever adore him

*The acclamation
joyfully acknowledges
God's presence and
reign, announcing
that we gather at his
invitation and under
his authority.

THE ACCLAMATION*

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

*This ancient prayer
asks the Holy Spirit
to cleanse our hearts
so we may love God
and magnify his Name
with grace only he
provides.

*Jesus summarizes
God's Law as love
of God and love of
neighbor. As such it
reveals our calling and
our need, and leads us
to Christ himself, in
whom perfect love is
manifest and given.

*In confession we
tell the truth about
ourselves because
God has told us the
truth about his mercy.
Absolution proclaims
Scripture's promise
of full forgiveness in
Christ.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY*

Let us pray.

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

• • •

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION*

• • •

Please kneel and silently confess your sins against God and your
neighbor.

***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.***

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.**

Please stand.

*Added in the English Reformation, these sentences of Scripture assure repentant sinners of Christ's mercy and remind us that our confidence rests in his finished work alone.

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS*

• • •

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN

Edwin Othello Excell | Lowell Mason | William Cowper. Public Domain

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains
Lose all their guilty stains lose all their guilty stains
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day
And there may I though vile as he
Wash all my sins away
Wash all my sins away wash all my sins away
And there may I though vile as he
Wash all my sins away

Dear dying Lamb thy precious blood
Shall never lose its pow'r
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved to sin no more
Be saved to sin no more be saved to sin no more
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved to sin no more

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply
Redeeming love has been my theme
And shall be till I die
And shall be till I die and shall be till I die
Redeeming love has been my theme
And shall be till I die

*The Collect gathers the themes of the readings and the date in the Church calendar into one petition, asking God to accomplish in us what Scripture promises.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the Light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

A COLLECT FOR CHILDREN

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed our congregation with the joy and care of children: Give us courage, patience, and wisdom, as we bring them up in the faith, that they may never know a day apart from your love and care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Children ages 9-12 are dismissed for Children's Ministry.

Please be seated.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

When Scripture is read, Christ addresses his people. Our posture shows that God's Word governs the Church. We stand for the Gospel reading because Jesus is the center and substance of the Scriptures.

EXODUS 12:21-28

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40

¹ I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

² He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

³ He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

***4 Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust,
who does not turn to the proud, to those who go
astray after a lie!***

⁵ You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

***6 In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted,
but you have given me an open ear, Burnt
offering and sin offering you have not required.***

⁷ Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me:

***8 I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is
within my heart."***

⁹ I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

***10 I have not hidden your deliverance within
my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness
and your salvation; I have not concealed your
steadfast love and your faithfulness from the
great congregation.***

¹¹ As for you, O Lord, you will not restrain your mercy from me;

***your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever
preserve me!***

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

***As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall
be, world without end, Amen.***

1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

JOHN 1:29-42

Before the Scripture is read:

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Scripture is read:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Please stand.

*The Creed unites
us with the Church
across time, faithfully
summarizing Scripture
and guarding the
gospel as we confess
one Lord, one faith,
one hope.

THE NICENE CREED*

***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.
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 into 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.**

*Intercessory prayer
is the priestly task
of the people of
God. Because Christ
intercedes for us, we
bring the needs of
Church, world, and
neighbor to the Father
who delights to give
good gifts.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The leader will invite us to pray.

At the end of each petition:

Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

• • •

***O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your
people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with
compassion upon us and all who turn to you for
help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to
you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now
and for ever. Amen.***

*Sharing peace
declares Christ's
finished reconciliation.
Before Communion,
we express gospel
unity: those at peace
with God live at peace
with one another.

THE PEACE*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with your spirit.

Let us greet one another in the name of our Lord.

*Greet those around you with some version of these words:
"The peace of Christ be with you."*

Parents pick up infants to 9 year-olds from upstairs at this time.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY*

*We give because
God first gave to
us. Offering our
gifts—and ourselves—
expresses gratitude
and acknowledges
that our lives belong
wholly to God.

LAMB OF GOD

Kevin Turner, Michael Paul Bethany, Twila Paris © Capitol CMG Publishing.

Your only Son no sin to hide
But you have sent Him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned him as he died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
O wash me in his precious blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

I was so lost I should have died
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod
And to be called a child of God

Please stand.

BLESS THIS OFFERING, O LORD

Words and Music: Unknown.

Bless this offering O Lord
And let it multiply within your hands
Feed the hungry with the Bread of Life
And let us see your mercies
A taste of things in store
We offer up this sacrifice to you O Lord

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

God welcomes his people to feast at his table. This meal, a means of grace for all who receive by faith, is a rehearsal of the central act of the Christian faith: Christ's death on the cross — his body broken and his blood shed as a sacrifice for our sins.

SURSUM CORDA*

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

. . .

*Sursum Corda means "Lift up your hearts." By the Spirit we celebrate and remember the once-for-all offering Christ our ascended high priest offers to the Father on our behalf.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord**

**Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory**

*Consecration is when God uses ordinary means—bread and wine—to communicate extraordinary grace. We ask the Spirit to set apart these gifts, not by altering their substance, but by using them to unite us to Christ in faith.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION*

. . .

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

. . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever and ever. Amen.

*The Fraction is the breaking of the consecrated bread, recalling Christ's body broken for us. It is a visible sign that the benefits of his finished work are freely given to believers through faith.

THE FRACTION*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed, once for all upon the Cross.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who come with faith in Christ and repentance for sin are welcome to share in this feast. If for any reason you would prefer to abstain, cross your arms over your chest, and one of the servers will pray a blessing for you.

Come forward to receive communion row by row. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, take a small cup at the front of the aisle as you go forward. When arriving at the front of the communion line, place your hands in front of you to receive a piece of bread, and consume it. After receiving the bread, proceed to the first server to take a drink from the common cup (please do not dip your bread) or to the second server with your plastic cup to receive a pour of wine. Grape juice is available at the far right station and is available poured only. Individually wrapped gluten free crackers are available on a separate paten to avoid cross contamination. Please indicate your desire for this option to the server.

PSALM 34 TASTE AND SEE

Joe Rigney, Shane Barnard. © 2015. CCLI License 11069486.

I sought the Lord and he answered me
And delivered me from every fear
Those who look on him are radiant
They'll never be ashamed
They'll never be ashamed

This poor man cried and the Lord heard me
And saved me from my enemies
The Son of God surrounds his saints
He will deliver them
He will deliver them

Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt his name together
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt his name forever

O taste and see that the Lord is good
O blessed is he who hides in him

O fear the Lord O all you saints
He'll give you everything
He'll give you everything

Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night
Never ending praise
May our incense rise
(repeat)

LAMB OF GOD

Kevin Turner, Michael Paul Bethany, Twila Paris © Capitol CMG Publishing.

Your only Son no sin to hide
But you have sent Him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Your gift of love they crucified.
They laughed and scorned him as he died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
O wash me in his precious blood.
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

I was so lost I should have died
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod
And to be called a child of God

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED

James Montgomery, Sandra McCracken. © 2012. CCLI License 11069486.

Hail to the Lord's anointed
Great David's greater Son
Hail in the time appointed
His reign on earth begun
His reign on earth begun

He comes to break oppression
To set the captive free
To take away transgression
And rule in equity

He comes with comfort speedy
To those who suffer wrong
To help the poor and needy
And bid the weak be strong

To give them songs for sighing
Their darkness turned to light
Whose souls condemned and dying
Were precious in his sight

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth
Love joy and hope like flowers
Spring in his path to birth

The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove
His name shall stand forever
That name to us is love

*Fed by Christ in
Word and Sacrament,
we ask God to send
us out as witnesses.
Grace always leads to
mission.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER*

Let us pray.

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 final blessing
is God's promise
spoken over his
people. We go
out under his
protection and with
his peace.

THE BENEDICTION AND DISMISSAL*

All our problems:
We send to the cross of Christ!

All our difficulties:
We send to the cross of Christ!

All the devil's works:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All our hopes:

We set on the risen Christ!

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.

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

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

NEWS AND EVENTS

Connect with us!

If you're new, scan the QR code. We'd love to get to know you!

Welcome Lunch

If you are new here, please join us after the second service today at 12:30 PM for a chance to meet one of our pastors and ask any questions you might have. No RSVP is required!



CONNECT

CarePortal Responder Training

There will be a CarePortal responder training on January 25 from 12:15-2 PM upstairs. The goal is to have 2 people from each small group trained to be responders. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

Essentials

Essentials, our 5-week course covering essential topics in Christian faith and practice is for anyone who is new and wants to learn more about our church, is interested in becoming a member, or wants to learn more about the Christian faith. Class will be held every Sunday after the second service from February 1 to March 1, and will last from 12:30-2 PM each afternoon. Lunch and childcare included. Email Morgan* to sign up or scan the QR code by January 25.



ESSENTIALS

SIGNUP

Infertility Support Group

This is a group for women at any stage of an infertility journey. This month we will meet January 19, from 7-9 PM in the prayer room. Enter through the Elizabeth St. doors.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan 18 Welcome Lunch

Jan 25 CarePortal Responder Training

Feb 1 Essentials Begins

Feb 18 Ash Wednesday

** Staff email addresses can be found on the back cover of the worship guide.*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

All children's ministry is staffed by trained and screened volunteers.

Nursery: Also open for parents/caretakers and infants, anytime during the service for nursing or fussy babies. Located upstairs, midway down the hall to your left. Available throughout the service. You can bring your child prior to the service. Pickup at the Peace.

Toddler Room: For steady walkers up to 3 years old. Located upstairs; last classroom on the right. Check-in located outside the classroom. You can bring your child prior to the service. Pickup at the Peace.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

3–6 years: Atrium Level 1. Parents drop kids off upstairs; check in outside the classrooms before the service begins. Pickup at the Peace.

6–9 years: Atrium Level 2. Parents drop kids off upstairs; check in outside the classrooms before service begins. Pickup at the Peace.

9–12 years: New City Catechism. After the Collect, children will be dismissed to their class upstairs. Prior to the Lord's Supper, they will return to the service.

TITHES & OFFERINGS (FINAL 2025)		
	December	YTD
Received	\$184,399	\$ 1,038,852
Budgeted	\$ 83,444	\$ 1,001,328
Variance	\$100,955	\$ 37,524
RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND		
Balance Jan 2025		\$ 50,865
Received		\$ 76,217
Assistance Provided		\$ (78,331)
Balance Nov 2025		\$ 48,751



Office hours: 10 to 4, Monday through Thursday
Ring bell at Federal Street entrance

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