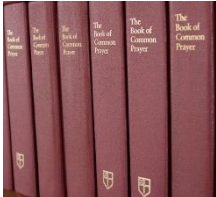




CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 26

May 2022



Our Morning Prayer Tradition

Audrey Sundwall

In Anglican Churches like the Episcopal Church, the service of Morning Prayer is as old as the first Anglican prayer book published in 1549. The service is a combination of the three morning prayer services found in the ancient Christian church tradition *canonical hours*, which were said in churches and by clergy daily.

Morning Prayer was once the chief Sunday service, with Holy Communion only being offered on the first Sunday of each month. I fondly recall this being the case at Christ Church, and it was also likely so at The Church of The Epiphany. It was in the 1960s that the Anglican church moved toward celebrating the Holy Eucharist every Sunday. Today, when no ordained minister is present, a parish may hold a Morning Prayer service lead by parishioners.

The service itself is almost entirely based on praying using words of the Bible and listening to biblical readings. It begins with an opening Scripture sentence, followed

by a confession and absolution. Next there are responses and a Psalm, usually part of Psalm 95 “*O come, let us sing to the Lord...*” or Psalm 100, “*O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands...*” After this Old and New Testament lessons are read, with the readings following the Christian year changes. One or more canticles (spiritual songs) are recited after each lesson. I especially love The Song of Mary (Magnificat) “*My soul does magnify the Lord...*” and The Song of Simeon, “*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace...*”

The Apostles’ Creed comes next, followed by the Lord’s Prayer and a set of responsive sentences. These sentences are an ancient Christian pattern of praying. Then there are several Collects and The General Thanksgiving. The service closes with A Prayer of St. Chrysostom and a blessing.

The lovely thing about the Service of Morning Prayer is that it can be said by ordained ministers, lay members of a congregation during a service, or even by yourself at home. The service is designed to remind us that God is always walking with us. Morning Prayer, along with its companion daily services of Noonday, Evening, and Compline are available for all

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday, 9:00 a.m., Sunday Service in-person and via Zoom

Sunday, May 8, Mother’s Day

Sunday, May 22, noon - 4:00 p.m., Junk in the Trunk

Monday, May 30, Memorial Day

(Zoom connection information at end of newsletter.)

to use in the Book of Common Prayer. If you don’t have a copy of it at home, you can find a free online pdf version by searching “Episcopal Book of Common Prayer.”

For me, Morning Prayer and the daily offices are a centering type of prayer, taking my mind away from daily work, and putting it where it belongs - on God’s work in our world. *Note:* I have used Rite One for my quotes because it echoes the prayers of my childhood. The prayer book also contains Rite Two, which uses more modern language.

Clergy Schedule

May 1, Morning Prayer

May 8, Morning Prayer

May 15, Morning Prayer

May 22, Rev. Andrew Osmun

May 29, Rev. Bill Cavanaugh

Junk in the Trunk

Our first Junk in the Trunk of 2022 had lovely weather and although there were only a few vendors, our own sales went well. Almost within an hour, Carol's Kitchen sold out and later received a significant donation from an angel benefactor. The Garage and Thrift Store also both did well. All together we made just over \$1,800 for the day!

Our next event will be Sunday May 22 from noon to 4:00 p.m. As always, if you want to add to our supplies of baked goods for sale in "Carol's Kitchen", Carol would be most appreciative! You can contact her at cude@snet.net.

Family Meeting

While we have postponed our planned Family Meeting on May 1, we are still planning to have a Family meeting later this summer. Look for an upcoming invitation to join the Vestry on a half-day retreat where we will discuss where we feel our parish is heading and what we are looking for in a new priest-in-charge.



Thrift Store Thank You

We have successfully switched out the Thrift Store clothing from winter to summer. Thanks to everyone who helped. The many hands certainly made this task go faster and be more enjoyable. Come drop by the store to see the lovely new inventory!

Around the Church

Palm Sunday Procession to Green



Easter



April Vestry Meeting

Next Meeting - The next Vestry meeting will be Sunday, May 22th in the Library and via Zoom after the 9:00 a.m. service.

Worship - A lack of available Supply priests means that we will have Morning Prayer the first three Sundays in May. We do have priests scheduled for the last two weeks of May and first week of June. George C continues to reach out.

Building & Grounds - We continue to have issues with our heating system. We had one circulator replaced costing \$2,000. We have another boiler that needs replacing and will cost about \$2,500 - this will be deferred until the Fall. And there is one more boiler that is starting to show signs of trouble.

We received a grant from the CT Preservation Society to cover the cost of a historic architect survey for 47 Park Place. Once this survey is done, it will allow us to apply for a wide variety of preservation grants. Huge thanks to Wendy Bellmore for her diligent work with the property.

Priest-in-Charge Search - Since we have still not heard much from ECCT, we will cancel the planned Family Meeting. Instead, the Vestry will plan for a retreat which will be open to all parishioners where we can discuss our future.

Time to Make your Painting Commitment

Astrid Swanson

Look in your mail for a letter about our exterior church painting project (mentioned in previous newsletters). We need all pledge commitments by May 25 so we can apply for the ECCT matching grant. (The money itself can be paid later).

You can submit your pledge commitment in a variety of ways - put it in the offering plate up to Sunday May 22; slide it under the Treasurer's door; or email it (by May 25) to our Bookkeeper George Coulombe at bgcoulombe@gmail.com.

If you are looking to sponsor a specific item (like a window or door) please let us know your first and second choices and whether you wish your selection to be anonymous.

Thanks so much for your generous support!

Encouraging Words

Audrey Sundwall

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
-John 3:16

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. -1 Peter 1:3

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
-John 3:16

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live." -John 11:2

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!
-2 Corinthians 5:17

We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.
-Romans 6:9



May 2 - Melanie Miller
May 5 - Pat Walters
May 8 - Audrey Sundwall
May 11 - Diane Villano
May 13 - Judith Randall
May 20 - Geneva O'Donnell



May 19 - Erick & Diane Villano
May 30 - Tony & Jill Lamberti

ECCT Spring Training

Recently Vestry members and parishioners participated via Zoom in this year's ECCT Spring Training workshops. Under the theme *God's Radical Hospitality: "Together we'll change the world"*, we attended sessions with other clergy and lay leaders around the state to learn, share, and pray together. Here are take aways from some of our C&E participants:

Barbara Coulombe attended *Creative Music Offerings in a changing Church* and noted that it included a resource booklet that lists several great internet sites for music.

Susan Shultz attended *Vestry Business Practices* and greatly enjoyed the spirited chat / discussion and idea sharing. She also attended *Worship Leader 201*.

Both **Susan Shultz** and **Audrey Sundwall** attended *Parish Website Development*. It was clear to both that the session take away was that we really need to redo our website and switch to a more modern underlying format. The "template" software we are using (which came from ECCT many years ago) is outdated and evoked a surprised "you are still using that?" from the presenters. Audrey was delighted to see that the work Diane Villano does with the church Facebook page is right on target. If you are unfamiliar with it, visit our Facebook page to see how Diane allows others to follow our church life online. Kudos to her!

Audrey Sundwall and George Coulombe also attended *Communication and Vestry Covenants* which was aimed at key leadership principles and practices in parish life. It was lead by Bishop Laura who reminded us that our Vestry leadership needs to be grounded in the Bible, and asked us to think about how information is currently shared within our congregation.

These annual workshops not only allow parish leadership to access new and important information, but also provide an opportunity to interact with others from parishes throughout Connecticut.

Read any good books?

If you have read any good spiritual books please consider dropping us a short review for our "From the Bookshelf" column. Let's share our finds with one another!



Episcopal Church in CT (ECCT)

Bishop Candidates Selected Election on May 21

The Bishop Transition Committee joyously announces, after prayerful discernment, the Committee Nominees for the XVI Bishop Diocesan of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut:

The Rev. Glenna Huber, Rector, Church of the Epiphany, Washington, DC

The Rev. Jeffrey Mello, Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brookline, MA

The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead, Dean, St. John's Episcopal Cathedral, Jacksonville, FL

The Rev. Canon Tanya Wallace, Rector, All Saints' Episcopal Church, South Hadley, MA

Information about each nominee, including a brief professional biography, photos, introductory video, curriculum vitae, essay answers and sermon links, is available at <https://ctbishopsearch.org/nominees>.

C&E Note: We strongly encourage you to view the information on the nominees and provide your feedback to Barbara and George Coulombe (bgcoulombe@gmail.com) who are our parish delegates and

will be casting our parish's votes for the new bishop.

We will also be using our Morning Prayer services on the first three Sundays in May to play sermons from the nominees.

Intercessory Prayers

Aiden & the Guida Family, Alfred, Andrew, Barbuschak Family, Beverly W., Brandon, Carol Ude, David & Irene, Diane Link, Dot Tate, Ed, Ed, Eileen F., Elaine, Erick Villano, Faith, Francesca, Judy Herzman, Jack Uberti & Grandson Zayne, Jack & Jan McDonald, Jay Medlyn, Jay W., Jim R. & Family, Joyce Aurelius, Kathrine Burdick, Keith M., Leah S., Lee Hubbard, Linda Lonardo, Lucas Sundwall, Mark Conti, Matt R., Mike, Nicole C., Rachael, Ray Sundwall Sr., Sallie Alexander, Sue R., Tricia Clearwater, Turiano Family

To submit names for the Intercessory Prayers list please call or email the church office. Names will be kept on the list for three months unless longer time is requested.

Next issue

The deadline for the June issue is **May 25**. Submissions can be sent to newsletter.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com. For an update to the Intercessory Prayers, Birthday or Anniversary lists, please call the church office at 203-467-2310.

From the Bookshelf

The Church Cracked Open

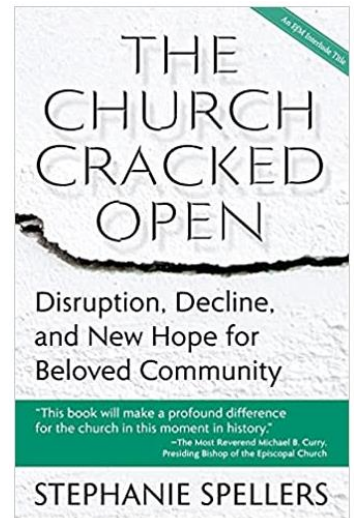
Diane W. Villano



My Education for Ministry (EfM) group just finished studying *The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline, and New Hope for Beloved Community* by Rev. Stephanie Spellers. She was the guest facilitator of the closing plenary session at this year's ECCT Spring Training. The author, Canon to Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry, covers the history of the Christian church, focusing on the Episcopal branch, the "Church of Empire", including its association with the slave trade, and suggests hope for a reimagined future.

I found my favorite inspirational quote in Chapter 8: *"Followers of Jesus don't stand still and we don't stay at the center waiting for centripetal force to draw all the people and resources inside to us. We go out beyond comfort, knowing, and certainty. We go when and where the Holy Spirit sends us."*

A difficult, insightful, and challenging but ultimately hopeful book, well worth the read and with the potential for fruitful group discussion.



Favorite Hymns

Barbara Coulombe

As many of you know, I am looking for your Ten Favorite Hymns list. If you haven't done it yet, please make one and just leave it on the organ for me (or you can email me at bgcoulombe@gmail.com). Meanwhile, I thought you would get a smile from the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Dentist' Hymn | "Crown Him With Many Crowns" |
| Weatherman's Hymn | "There shall Be Showers of Blessing" |
| Contractor's Hymn | "The Church's One Foundation" |
| The Tailor's Hymn | "Holy, Holy, Holy" |
| The Golfer's Hymn | "There is a Green Hill Far Away" |
| The Politician's Hymn | "Standing on the Promises!" |
| Optometrist's Hymn | "Open My Eyes That I Might See" |
| The Tax Man's Hymn | "I Surrender All" |
| The Gossip's Hymn | "Pass It On" |
| The Electrician's Hymn | "Send The Light" |
| The Shopper's Hymn | "Sweet Bye and Bye" |
| The Realtor's Hymn | "I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop" |
| The Massage Therapist's Hymn | "He Touched Me" |
| The Doctor's Hymn | "The Great Physician" |

Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	MAR	(UNDER)/OVER BUDGET	YTD	(UNDER)/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$5,368.21	(\$2,087.29)	\$25,935.26	(\$112.24)
EXPENSES	\$14,139.94	\$5,761.44	\$35,239.52	\$5,048.52
NET	(\$8,771.73)	(\$7,848.73)	(\$9,304.26)	(\$5,160.76)

Notes: Income-wise if you look at the year-to-date numbers, you'll see that we are very close to budget. Our over budget expenses were due to 1) ADP made a mistake and paid the organist and parish administrator three months of wages instead of one. This will be rectified over the next two months and by June we will be back on budget 2) We had a \$2,000 bill to fix the boiler and 3) We had higher than budgeted snow removal costs. We do expect to even out and somewhat catch back up over the next few months.

A Prayer for the Election of our XVI Diocesan Bishop

Please continue to pray for the Bishop Transition Committee.

God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, without you nothing can be done. Send your Holy Spirit to guide the Episcopal Church of CT, especially the Bishop Transition Committee, during this time of transition. Bless and continue the good work begun in your name. Open the committee's ears to the hurts and hopes expressed to them and broaden our vision to see where you lead. Enliven their hearts with honesty and compassion to do the work that lies ahead, within our church and beyond its walls. Grant us the gifts of wisdom, humility, and empathy. Guide the committee as they discern your will for a new shepherd, inspirational leader, and willing advocate as we further your work in the Episcopal Church of CT. Bless and be with our Bishop Ian as he transitions to a new life serving you. Bless our candidates. Bestow them with the abilities to lead and serve. Let us learn from them and they from us, so we may live your word serving all. All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Transition and Guidance

Pray for our parish as we search for a new Priest in Charge.

O Lord, you are with us in every transition and change. With your deep compassion, presence and abounding love ease our anxiety. We pray for our parish family, that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, tireless in our commitment, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, open in our search, and daring in our faith. We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. Help us accept change as a gift of your direction for our journey in this transition. Instill in us a vision of the church's family; that, guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish this mission, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Worship Schedule (9:00 a.m.)

	<u>May 1</u>	<u>May 8</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>May 22</u>	<u>May 29</u>
Usher	Barbara Parsons	Audrey Sundwall	Wendy Bellmore	Astrid Swanson	Melanie Miller
Officiant	Audrey Sundwall	Carol Link-Ude	Richard Mead	n/a	n/a
Lay Reader	Pat Walters	Gail Beck	Barbara Parsons	Wendy Bellmore	Audrey Sundwall
Crucifer	George Coulombe	George Coulombe	George Coulombe	George Coulombe	George Coulombe
Acolyte	n/a	n/a	n/a	Audrey Sundwall	George Coulombe
Lead Counter	George Coulombe	Astrid Swanson	Susan Shultz	Pat Walters	George Coulombe
Asst Counter	Barbara Parsons	Fred Bowden	Audrey Sundwall	Melanie Miller	Richard Mead

Zoom Worship Connection Information

To connect by computer click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9933030663?pwd=VnU2RjAxZDg0WWcvbVA4RHdOd3ZUUT09>

To join by phone call:

929-436-2866

Meeting ID = 993 303 0663

Password = 39

Weekly bulletins are emailed out on Fridays. Zoom is opened around 8:45 a.m. on Sunday.

If you are not receiving the email bulletin please contact Diane in the office at 203-467-2310 or christandtheepiphany@gmail.com.

If you want or need any help getting connected on Zoom please reach out any time to Susan Shultz at 203-589-1142 or sbshultz@gmail.com.

Christ and The Epiphany Church

39 Park Place
East Haven, CT 06512

Phone: 203-467-2310

Email: christandtheepiphany@gmail.com

Website: www.christandtheepiphany.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:00 a.m. In-Person & Online Zoom Worship
In-person with social distancing and optional masking

*(See the newsletter, our website, or Facebook page for
Zoom connection information details.)*