



Church of the Epiphany

FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOP

Monthly Newsletter • Cloudcroft, New Mexico • October 2024



The Collects of Advent

Every Sunday after the opening hymn we say the Collect for Purity. This short prayer is addressed to God for Him to cleanse our hearts and minds and prepare us for the service that follows. He knows us and we ask that he now calm us so that we can have a glorious period of communion and that the Lord will be with us.

And after the Gloria we will pray the Collect for the Day. These short prayers come to us from the historic Church and proceed the readings from scripture. Many of these ancient prayers were written for us and translated from the ancient Latin prayer by Thomas Cranmer for the 1549 Book

of Common Prayer. Each Sunday of the church year has its appropriate Collect with additional collects written to cover Saints Days and other liturgical services.

The usual format for a collect is to open with an address to God and with some praise or attribute attributed to him. Then comes the petition to Him that we ask for and the reason why we ask. It is concluded with a doxology and an Amen said the people.

During the remaining Sundays of Pentecost collects are numbered Propers for the date of the Sunday. Then we will start the new liturgical Year with the four Collects of Advent.

The four Collects of Advent offer to us a concise introduction to the season. We pray for God's grace to sinners. These prayers give us the historic Christian tradition and focus our attention on the scripture for our justification by faith through God's grace. These collects can be found on pages 598 and 599 of the 2019 Anglican Book of Common Prayer.

The collect for the First Sunday of Advent is an 85 word sentence where we ask for God's grace as we prepare for the first and second coming of Christ. The first is the birth of the Messiah and the second coming when he comes to judge the people. The keynote is the asking for God's grace and by that means we can cast away the works of darkness. Sinful man

needs God's grace to accomplish this.

This prayer became a favorite of the people and was read every day during the season of Advent.

The Second Sunday's Collect is the familiar plea for us to hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Word for our blessed hope for everlasting life. I once heard from a pastor that this collect gave us the opportunity and permission to mark our Bibles. It was quite all right to make notes to ourselves on the pages. This prayer was one of Cranmer's lasting desires for the people to read all scripture and live by it.

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent has a change as the prayer is addressed to Lord Jesus rather than to God the Father. We need to prepare for the coming of Christ by hearing the words of the prophets especially John the Baptist. We need this time in the period of Advent to prepare our hearts and minds to repent and be ready for his coming. We will want to be a people acceptable in Christ's sight when he comes.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, for some, is known as "Stir up Sunday" with the opening charge for God to show great might among us. This is the Sunday before the birth of Christ, and we will be the ones who will receive the benefits of God's grace through His Son.

These four Collects show us the themes of the historic Anglican traditions. They are used to gather us together in community worship and set the focus for that Sunday's service.

Pastor Fred



Meeting God In His Front Porch

Meeting God in His Front Porch
I wonder what He would say?
Would He welcome me completely?
Or would He be troubled by me today?

I'd knock on His front door,
And apologize for everything I've done wrong.
But I'd thank Him for all that He's given me.
How He has helped me along.

Meet God on His front porch.
Could I speak right and not be overwhelmed?
Of course not! He's the creator of everything!
My tears would fall down like rain.

I'd feel guilty.
For every time I had tested my faith.
I already tell God....
"You've gotten me here already.
I don't know what you have in store.
But I confess I'm always going to count on you
more and more."

*An original poem by
Southern Longoria, Cloudcroft friend of
Tom and Fran Gregg and of the Church of Epiphany*

Aspen photo by Annette Fazenbaker

PRAYER – EXAMPLES IN HOLY SCRIPTURE

Only a little searching and seeking is needed to unearth examples of and teachings on prayer in the Holy Bible. Some of these may be more familiar than others. All are summarized or quoted from the Bible we use each week for our Sunday lectionary readings (English Standard Version). My prayer is that meditating on some or all of these verses will enhance your understanding of the unfathomable depth of God's love for each and every one of us. And how much He wants to enjoy an intimate relationship with us - through prayer.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing." - 1 Thess. 5:17

"Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." - 1 Cor. 10:31

"Let the Word . . . dwell in you richly . . . with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And . . . do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to the Father through Him." Col. 3:16-17

The prophet Daniel "got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God" even though he knew that the penalty for doing so was death. - Daniel 6:10

Jesus asked, "So, could you not watch with me one hour?" - Matt. 26:40

"I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people . . . that we may lead a quiet and peaceful life, godly and dignified in every way." - 1 Tim. 2:1

"And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up." - James 5:15

"O God, hear my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth." - Ps. 54:2

"Give ear to my prayer, O God, and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy." - Ps. 55:2

"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." - 2 Pet. :18

Consider one or two of these during your time with God in prayer. Perhaps you will discover another favorite to recite each day along with the Lord's Prayer.

Rev. Frank K. Wilson
Associate Pastor

Happy Birthday to Donya! Saturday, October 12

We celebrated Donya Conine's 85th birthday on Saturday, October 12 at a luncheon hosted by her daughter, Kelli and her granddaughter, Emma. The celebration was held at Casa de Suenos, in Tularosa.

Kelli graciously invited Donya's church family, her friends in the pink lady volunteer organization at Gerald Champion, almost all of Donya's Texas family from Kingsland and Austin, and even Wayne's longtime secretary who came from New York and 5 great-grandchildren!

Donya and her husband Wayne joined our congregation in 2002 when they moved from Marble Falls, TX. and have been faithful members, helping us to make the move to our new building in 2010.

We congratulate Donya and wish her many more years of love from family and friends.



Saying Goodbye Is Hard To Do!

We have had such a lovely summer at Epiphany but the last of September and the first of October is a time when we say goodbye to our summer congregation.

We have been blessed by each one. John and Susan Scott have sold their property in Cloudcroft and will return to their permanent home in Bellville, Texas, north of Houston. We will miss them and truly hope that they will manage a trip this way sometime. It does get hot over there!



Nancy Knowles was our musician for the summer giving Esther a break for several months. She and her dogs did get home to north Florida safely between the two hurricanes. Praise the Lord! She plans to return next summer.



We Say "Hello"

We are so pleased to welcome back to Epiphany, Walter and Carolyn Ford. Many of you may remember the Fords. They joined Epiphany when we were still in the Chapel at the Museum. Several years ago they moved to Fort Worth, TX and now they have returned to Alamogordo. Their son resides in Russia Canyon and they have a grandson, in Albuquerque. We are so happy to have them back with us.



Epiphany "Thank You's!"

To: Doug Price has graciously taken over the "books" at Epiphany, providing us with a financial report each month.

Becca and Doug Price returned to San Antonio in September and we look forward to their return in July, 2025.

To: Sarah Griffin for being our website guru. Epiphany now has a full-fledged website:

Website: [www churchoftheepiphanynm.org](http://www.churchoftheepiphanynm.org)

Prayer List For Those in the Armed Forces

Epiphany Military Prayer List

Dominick Rankin, USArmy, Ft. Bliss, TX
Gabriella Murley, US Army, Ft. Bliss, TX
Mason Gregg, US Marines, Camp Courtney,
Okinawa

Creed Napier, USAF
JW Grove, US Navy
Nicholas Tran, USAF, Joint Base Lewis-McChord,
Shawn Zima, US Army, Hong Kong
Wyatt Green, US Navy

31. PRAYER FOR AN ELECTION

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide and direct, we humbly pray, the minds of all those who are called to elect fit persons to serve [in _____]. Grant that in the exercise of *our* choice we may promote your glory, and the welfare of this *nation*. This we ask for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. *Pg. 655 ABCP*

Bible Studies

Fr. Frank's Bible Study Wednesdays at 4:00 PM

At Grace Methodist Church 16th St. and Cuba, Alamogordo. Wednesdays 4-5 pm.
They are studying the Book of Revelation.
For more information call or text Fr. Frank
At 575-442-1354.

Ladies Bible Study

Thursdays, at 10 am at Westminster
Presbyterian Church, 2201 15th St. , Alamogordo.
We are studying
"The Letter to the Ephesians" written by Sinclair
B. Ferguson
Contact Nancy Griffin for more information
Call or text - 575/495-3811

Praise Reports

- For** Hannah Conine's GED
- For** the recoveries of Carolyn Wilson, Wally Skidmore, Fr. Tom Atamian, Harry Toepher,
- For** Becca and Doug Price, Nancy Knowles, and John and Susan Scott's safe return to their homes after summer in Cloudcroft.
- For** a surprise visit by Deacon Dwight and Marge Harp
- For** Walter and Carolyn Ford's move back to Alamogordo
- For** Donya's 85th Birthday celebration and for all her family who could attend

Prayer Concerns

- For** Annette Fazenbaker a successful surgical procedure on her right hand and recovery
- For** Norman Bloom III for recovery from a broken hip
- For** Election 2024, Nov. 5, 2024
- For** the ADSW synod in November in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.
- For** Fr. Frank and Carolyn Wilson, George and Gayla Chapman, Patty Kendrick, and all our caregivers
- For** David, Mico and Abby LaMaster as they work through the immigration process for Mico and Abby.
- For** the Diocese and Bishop Steven, for Fr. Frank as co chair of the ROC committee and for Annette Fazenbaker as a deanery representative to the Standing Committee of the Diocese.
- For** the 4 new churches joining the ADSW in November.
- For** church plants within the diocese: Light of Life Ministries, Emmaus Anglican Church, Albuquerque; Comunidad del Rey de Justicia, Iglesia Piedra Angular, Juarez MX; Comunidad de Gracia, Xalpa, MX

October Service Schedule LEMS & Lectors

The Rev. Willis F Griffin, Pastor
The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Associate Pastor

Pentecost 20 - Sunday, October 6 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred
LEM Patrick Zima
Lector Paul Fazenbaker

Pentecost 21 - Sunday, October 13 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank
LEM Karli Sorensen
Lector Patrick Zima

Pentecost 22 - Sunday, October 20 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank
LEM Patrick Zima
Lector Annette Fazenbaker

Pentecost 23 - Sunday, October 27 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred
LEM Karli Sorensen
Lector Donya Conine

All Saints - Sunday, November 3 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred
LEM Patrick Zima
Lector Annette Fazenbaker



Evelynn Conine
And
Jerry Cuenca
keeping busy
during the service

October Event Schedule

Sunday, Oct. 6

Potluck after the service

Thursday, Oct 17

Clergy zoom conference, 4 pm and 7 pm

Saturday, Oct. 19

Deanery Meeting, St. Clement's, El Paso
11 am to 1 pm



Coffee Fellowship

October

Oct. 6 - Potluck

Oct, 13 - Nancy Griffin

Oct, 20 - Karli Sorensen

Oct. 27 -

Sign-up sheets are on the table.



October Birthdays

Donya Conine - 13
Joan Manley - 13
Alonso Marquez - 28

October Anniversaries

Murl & Gayle Tullis - 5
Stan & Sandy Thomas - 13
Jim & Mary Ann Russ - 15
Tom & Fran Gregg - 16
Esther & Joel Fyock - 24

ACNA Lectionary B for October

Pentecost 20 • October 6, 2024

Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 8
Hebrews 2:8-18
Mark 10:2-16

Pentecost 21 • October 13, 2024

Amos 5:6-15
Psalm 90:1-12
Hebrews 3:1-6
Mark 10:17-31

Pentecost 22 • October 20, 2024

Isaiah 53:4-12
Psalm 91
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:35-45

Pentecost 23 • October 27, 2024

Isaiah 59:9-20
Psalm 13
Hebrews 5:11-6:12
Mark 10:46-52

All Saints • November 3, 2024

Wisdom 1:16-2:1
Psalm 54
James 3:16-4:6
Mark 9:30-37

The Head of the Church is Jesus Christ

The Anglican Church in North America,

The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Archbishop

Diocese of the Southwest,

Bishop Steven Tighe

The Church of the Epiphany

The Rev. Willis F. Griffin, Pastor

The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Associate Pastor

Musicians: Esther Fyock, Stan & Sandy Thomas.

Donya Conine, Senior Warden

Annette Fazenbaker, Junior Warden

Doug Price/Bookkeeper

Church Board

Karli Sorensen Aguilar,

Patrick Zima, Nancy Griffin, Clerk

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere where the Word of God fills each person with an understanding and renewal of their faith in Christ.

Outreach, both within our own community as well as abroad, is a further extension of this faith.

Romans 10:17 ~ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.

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The Church of the Epiphany, Cloudcroft, Rev. Fred Griffin, Rev. Frank K. Wilson

Christ the King, Albuquerque (Rev. Peter Falk, Rev. Kyle MacKenney, Deacon Bill Lock); Church of our Lord, Albuquerque (Rev. Harold Trott, Michael Kline); Emmaus Anglican Church, Albuquerque (Revs. Greg & Noel Pfeifer; Christ Church, Farmington (Revs. Carl & Barbara Brenner); St. Clement's, El Paso (Revs. Bill Cobb, Rick Milliorn, Eduardo Gonzalez, Michael Sheehan, Deacon Courtney Brown) Rey de Paz, El Paso (Revs. John Dixon, Ken Hanna); Good Shepherd, San Angelo (Rev. Hal Scott); St. Stephen's, Roswell (Rev. Bob Tally); All Saints' and St. Paul's, Midland Texas (Rev. Tom Finnie); Iglesia La Trinidad, Guadalajara (Lay Leader, Miguel Meriono Lobos) Iglesia de Jesus & Jesus es la Resurreccion, Aguas Caliente, Mexico (Revs. Elias Rosales Mendez and Maria del Rayo Jimenez Victoria, Deacon Roger Griffin); Gran Pastor, Fresnillo, Mexico (Sr. Warden, Norma Rodriguez, Missionary Meredith Omland); Good Shepherd, Hill New Mexico (Rev. Farhid Adabache); Iglesia Anglicana, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (Rev. Jack Wehrs, Deacon Fernando Sandoval); St. James, Dalhart, Texas (Rev. Philip Ray). Emmaus Anglican, Castle Rock CO (Rev. Theron Walker; Resurrection Anglican Fellowship, Greenwood Village, CO (Fr. Phil Eberhardt) St. Paul's Anglican Church, Owasso, OK (Fr. Chris Waters); Christ the Redeemer, Oklahoma City, OK (Fr. Brad Van Deventer); Iglesia Piedra Angular & Comunidad de Fe, Rey de Justicia, Juarez, Chihuahua;