



# St. Stephen's E-NEWS

WHERE GOD IS SEEN, LOVE IS FELT, LIVES ARE CHANGED.

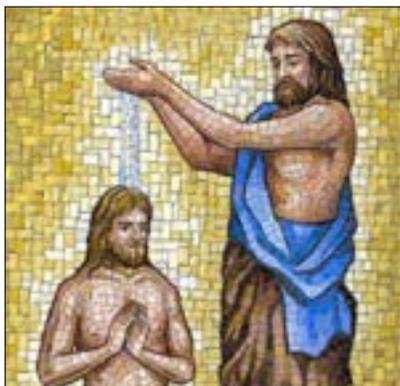
January 7, 2022

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

It's a new year and a new liturgical season! Welcome to the first Sunday after the Epiphany. Our readings will be:

- Isaiah 43:1-7
- Psalm 29
- Acts 8:14-17
- Luke 3:15-22

Every year, the First Sunday after the Epiphany is when we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord.



## FEAST OF LIGHTS: SUNDAY AFTER THE 10 A.M. SERVICE

We are pleased to announce that our annual Feast of Lights celebration of The Epiphany will be immediately following the 10 A.M. service on January 9, 2022 in the Parish Hall. The celebration will include the appearance of the Three Kings, a simple soup lunch, King cake (we hope!) and the Presentation of your gifts for the Compassion Closet. Check out our poster boards in the Narthex and outside the Nave for gift options.



## INTERIM NURSERY SUPERVISOR

While we are continuing to search for a permanent Nursery Supervisor, we are excited to announce that our own Ashley Hillis will be the Interim Nursery Supervisor starting on Sunday, January 9, 2022. We are so grateful for her help and her experience working with children! Welcome, Ashley!



## SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

This Sunday the class will complete their review of the Book of Luke with a look at Jesus' final days on Earth with his disciples. View a [brief video on this topic](#) at home at and then come to the Library this Sunday for a light discussion.

Sunday Bible Class Reviews Luke, part 2 Sundays at 9 A.M., in the Pollard Room.

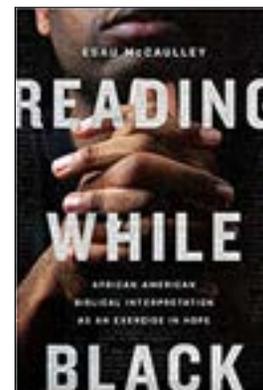
~Jack Campbell

## EPIPHANY BOOK STUDY: READING WHILE BLACK

Beginning on January 16, 2022 after the 10 A.M. service and going through Epiphany, Fr. Bailey will be leading a study on "[Reading While Black: African American Interpretation as an Exercise in Hope](#)" by The Rev. Dr. Esau McCaulley. Dr. McCaulley who teaches New Testament at Wheaton College. His book is part of the major strand of his work - helping white Christians and academics understand that there are other ways to hear and interpret the stories of Scripture. Specifically, how do other cultures - in this case, African-Americans - read the stories from their own experiences? How can we better listen to these experiences? And how can we take these unique interpretations and grow to greater unity as Christians while more deeply appreciating our God-given diversity?

This class will give us the chance to grow in our understanding of the Scriptures, challenge some of our preconceptions, and allow us to hear the richness of diversity within our own parish but also appreciating the perspective of others' stories.

Books and E-books are available online, but if you would like us to order one, please let the church office know.



## WEEKLY PRAYERS

WE PRAY FOR PARISH MEMBERS

Jim and Nancy Anderson  
 Rhonda Ashburn  
 Matt and Leah Bailey  
 Derek, Liz and Noah Baker,  
 Jacob Anthony, Gabe Ledford

*Please include these people in your prayers.*