**Nativity Worships**

**Last Sunday After the Epiphany**

**March 2, 2025**

**The Rev. Kirsten Snow Spalding, Presiding**

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| Prelude  | *Willst du dein Herz mir schenken* | J.S. Bach |
| Opening | Praise to the Lord | H390 |
| Gradual | Alleluia | WLP 847 |
| Offertory     | Alleluia@ sing to Jesus! | H460 |
| Communion  | O Light of Light, Love given birth | H134 |
| Closing | All my hope in God is founded | H665 |
| Postlude | *Deep River* | H. L. Burleigh |

## The Collect

O God, who before the passion of your only ­begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Old Testament Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

## The Psalm 99 *Dominus regnavit*

1 The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; \*
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

2 The Lord is great in Zion; \*
he is high above all peoples.

3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*
he is the Holy One.

4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; \*
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; \*
he is the Holy One.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; \*
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; \*
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

## The New Testament 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

## The Gospel Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

**The Prayers**

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, Church of Our Saviour, Oakland and Church of Our Saviour, Mill Valley, whose feast day is the Last Sunday After the Epiphany.

We pray for our parish members: Jamie, Nancy B, Nina A, Marian, Norma, Duane, Amanda, Ruth, Steve K, Dick, Barbara B, Uwe and our families and friends: Myles, David, John, Violet & Aaron, B. Y., Justin, John B, Laura, Tanner, Phil, Greg, Nick, Phoebe, Seanna and Stacy.  We pray also for all those impacted by the fires in Los Angeles.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn remembering especially Bill Shepherd, Lisa, Ming Huang, Andrea Georgi, Richie Faber and those who have died in the wars in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Sudan and those who have died in the fires in Los Angeles.

**Announcements**

Please respond to the Nativity Survey. It only takes 5 minutes and will be part of Nativity Vestry’s discernment process.

<https://berkeley.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_03wc0mIVNZI69Qa>

TODAY is Pancake Sunday. We will celebrate Mardi Gras with Pancakes and Sausages, fruit and coffee. Join us after worship.

March 5th Ash Wednesday Service at 12 noon. Join us for the start of a Holy Lent.

March 9th: First meeting of the Red Door Nativity Community Immigration Task Force 9:20-9:40 in Rev. Kirsten’s office.

March 10th. Nativity Book Club. *The Ungrateful Refugee* by Dina Nayeri. Mondays at 5 pm. In the Nativity Kitchen. Everyone is invited to read and discuss this book which challenges us to think about how we understand and speak about immigrants in our community. (3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/7)

We will with thanksgiving receive offerings of Nativity pledges and plate today. You can contribute by sending a check to the church or by using the “Give” button on our website, [www.nativityonthehill.org](http://www.nativityonthehill.org).

All who participate in this Holy Eucharist virtually receive the full benefits of the sacrament by coming with the intention of being united with Christ and one another.