



Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m.

# The MESSENGER

## MISSION STATEMENT

So that ALL may know and serve God, our mission is to let the love of Christ shine brightly in our daily lives by being a welcoming, nurturing, and supportive community grounded in God's Word and Sacraments

## JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER - EPIPHANY

**St. Germain's  
Episcopal Church  
"The Church on the Hill"**

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360-877-9879

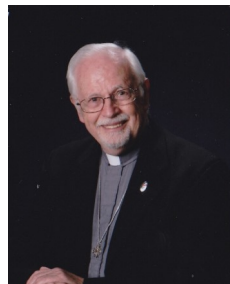
[saintgermainhoodsport@gmail.com](mailto:saintgermainhoodsport@gmail.com)  
[stgermainhoodsport.org](http://stgermainhoodsport.org)

**The Rev. Peter Van Zanten, Vicar**  
**Bishop's Committee**

**Joanne Hash, Senior Warden**  
**Joe Castonguay, Junior Warden**  
**Skip Hash, Stewardship**  
**Cyndy Reynolds, Evangelism**  
**Kim Elderkin & Samuel Peters**  
Hospitality and Events

**Donna Wessel, Treasurer**  
**Lu O'Leary, Office Administrator**

**We are an inclusive,  
welcoming community of  
faith open to everyone**



Dear Ones:

As we approach the end of the most violent, disruptive and deadly year that I can remember, I believe there is some good news down the line as we enter 2021. First, all of the 5 people who came down with COVID have all recovered. I checked with our local clinic as to when it is safe for them to return to worship and was told that if they have completed their 14 days quarantine and had shown no symptoms for 24 hours, and their temps are normal, they are free to return to church. Of course they must follow all the protocols for attendance.

We WILL celebrate Christmas on Sunday, January 3rd with all the music planned for the 25th. We can't have refreshments, however, until we are back in phase three. Plan to be a few minutes early because the prelude will start about 4 minutes ahead because of its length. So lets celebrate!

*Blessings,*

*Fr. Pete*



## FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The church celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany, which marks the end of the 12 days of Christmas each year on January 6. Epiphany is a Greek word meaning “manifestation” or “appearing.” At the Feast of the Epiphany we celebrate Jesus being made manifest or appearing as Christ. Traditionally, there are three manifestations celebrated on this feast day. The most widely celebrated manifestation of Christ on this feast day, and the one that has been historically celebrated by Christian churches in the West, is Jesus revealed as Christ to the three wise men, or Magi, from the East, who followed the Star of Bethlehem at Jesus’ birth.

The second manifestation celebrated today is the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan. Although this was part of the original Epiphany celebrations in second century Christian churches in the East, by the fourth century Western churches had largely stopped observing the Holy Baptism in Epiphany celebrations. The 1979 Book of Common Prayer began to introduce Jesus’ baptism into this celebration by revising the lectionary readings for the First Sunday After the Epiphany to include gospel passages each year about Christ’s baptism. The First Sunday After the Epiphany is now also known as the Baptism of Our Lord.

The third manifestation of Jesus as Christ that is traditionally celebrated on this day is the miracle of turning water into wine at the wedding at Cana in Galilee, Christ’s first recorded miracle.

## SUNDAY SERVICE REMINDERS

**Prelude:** The prelude begins after the church bells are rung. Please enter the sanctuary quietly. Many people kneel while they prepare their hearts and minds for worship.

**Processional:** Although we do not have a processional and we are not singing, it is customary to stand as the priest enters the sanctuary.

## FROM THE OFFICE

### A REQUEST FROM LU

**This Saturday, January 2nd, I will be at church from 9 a.m. until noon tidying up and cleaning the parish hall for the new year. I could sure use some help with moving some furniture if you are able to be there. I’d do it myself but I’m just not as young as I used to be! Thanks so much!**

### HOOD CANAL FOOD BANK

The need now is greater than ever. Show your support to help the hungry in Hoodspport by making a donation today. The barrel for food collection is located just inside the front door of the parish hall.



Dear St. Germain Members and Friends,

*Generous Creator, who knits us together into one common life: open our eyes and hearts to your gracious hand at work in all of creation, so that, rejoicing in your glory, we may be faithful stewards of your gifts as One Body - A Cloud of Witnesses; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.*

**Amen**

This year has been unlike any we've experienced before, and it's paramount to remember that God is with us, especially in times like these. He's with us daily as we respond to the changes required during Covid-19. God is with us as we reach out to one another to counter the isolation of social distancing. And, of course, He's with us when we're able to safely gather together in church to offer our thanks and praise.

Please remember your 2021 financial pledge for St. Germain. If you're already making a pledge, please consider renewing and increasing it, if possible. If you're not currently making a pledge, there's no better time to begin than now. Many people find that beginning a stewardship practice of regular giving deepens their faith and increases their connection to God and the Church. Every dollar pledged directly makes possible the continuing work of our small church, both inside our walls and outside in our local community. Your financial commitment ensures that we can continue to keep our doors open, providing spiritual and material support to each other and to our neighbors in need.

Please join us in making a financial pledge to St. Germain for 2021. St. Germain needs you - perhaps now, more than ever. We need one another to make it through these uncertain times, to do the work Christ calls upon us to do, to be God's hands and feet in the world.