



ABOUT THE ICON OF EPIPHANY

We are blessed to have the Icon of Epiphany (depicted below) grace the western wall of our Church at St Luke.

The icon is filled with spirituality and symbolism. The entire account is found in [the Holy Bible](#). Centered on the top part of the icon we have the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove with three rays representing the Trinity. From the top of the icon, where the Dove is descending, we have the opening from heaven where the voice of God the Father is heard.

Then we see St John the Baptist, reverently laying his hand on Jesus' head, while gazing up to the Holy Spirit, reverently listening to the voice of God the Father. The feast is called Epiphany (which means a manifestation). It is also called Theophany (meaning, God is revealed or God as Trinity is shown since all Three Persons of the Trinity are present).

The angels are waiting to minister to the Lord. The ax in the tree is taken from the words spoken by St John the Baptist in Matthew 3:10: "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

Finally, we have the two figures on the fish-sea monsters. They are shown reversing course in the river which reflects the following prophecies:

Psalm 113:3 which refers to the Jordan River reversing when the baptism took place: "The sea saw it, and fled: Jordan was driven back."

Psalm 76:15 "You opened both the spring and the river; you dried up flowing rivers."

Psalm 74:13-14 "You divided the sea by Your strength; You broke the heads of the sea serpents in the waters. You broke the heads of the sea monster."