

## Morning Prayer Second Sunday of Epiphany 17 January 2021

### Preparation

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Your light springs up for the righteous  
**and all the peoples have seen your glory.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,  
king of the nations,  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
From the rising of the sun to its setting  
your name is proclaimed in all the world.  
As the Sun of Righteousness dawns in our hearts  
anoint our lips with the seal of your Spirit  
that we may witness to your gospel  
and sing your praise in all the earth.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### The Word of God

#### **Psalmody: Psalm 139.1-5, 12-17**

O Lord, you have searched me out and known me;  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.

**You mark out my journeys and my resting place  
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

For there is not a word on my tongue,  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

**You encompass me behind and before  
and lay your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
so high that I cannot attain it.

**For you yourself created my inmost parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**  
I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

**My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished;  
already in your book were all my members written,

**As day by day they were fashioned  
when as yet there was none of them.**

How deep are your counsels to me, O God!  
How great is the sum of them!

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

#### **Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 3.1-10**

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Canticle: A Song of Ephrem the Syrian**

Behold: Fire and Spirit in the womb that bore you:

Behold: Fire and Spirit in the river where you were baptized.

**Fire and Spirit in our baptism:**

**In the Bread and the Cup, Fire and Holy Spirit.**

In your Bread is hidden a Spirit not to be eaten,  
In your Wine dwells a Fire not to be drunk.

**Spirit in your Bread, Fire in your Wine,**

**A wonder set apart, yet received by our lips.**

How wonderful your footsteps, walking on the waters!

You subdued the great sea beneath your feet.

**Yet to a little stream you subjected your head,**

**Bending down to be baptized in it.**

The stream was like John who performed the baptism in it,

In their smallness each an image of the other.

**To the stream so little, to the servant so weak,**

**The Lord of them both subjected himself.**

### **New Testament Reading: John 1.43-end**

A reading from the gospel of John.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsory**

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;

**let the whole earth tremble before him.**

Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is King.

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

Tell out his salvation from day to day.

**Let the whole earth tremble before him.**

Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;**

**let the whole earth tremble before him.**

### **Gospel Canticle: The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)**

This is the Christ, the Chosen of God,  
the one who will bring healing to the nations.

**Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,  
To show mercy to our ancestors,  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.  
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

This is the Christ, the Chosen of God,  
the one who will bring healing to the nations.

**Address**

**Music**

## **Prayers**

We pray for the coming of God's kingdom.

You sent your Son to bring good news to the poor,  
sight to the blind,  
freedom to the captives  
and salvation to your people:  
anoint us with your Spirit;  
rouse us to work in his name.  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to bring help to the poor  
and freedom to the oppressed.  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to tell the world  
the good news of your healing love.  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to those who mourn,  
to bring joy and gladness instead of grief.  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to proclaim that the time is here  
for you to save your people.  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Father, use us, unworthy as we are,  
to bring in your kingdom of mercy, justice, love and peace.  
Empower us by your Spirit and unite us in your Son,  
that all our joy and delight may be to serve you,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## **The Collect**

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Believing the promises of God, as our  
Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

### **The Conclusion**

May Christ, who sends us to the nations,  
give us the power of his Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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