

Worship for the Second Sunday of Epiphany - 14th January 2024

God in Christ has revealed his glory.

Come let us worship.

From the rising of the sun to its setting

The Lord's name is greatly to be praised.

Come Holy Spirit of God and search our hearts with the light of Christ.

A candle may be lit and silence is kept.

Jesus has brought us out of darkness,

to live in his marvellous light.

Arise, shine; for your light has come

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

At our Lord's baptism in the river Jordan,

God showed himself to all who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

The Father spoke from heaven,

the Holy Spirit descended as a dove,

and Jesus was anointed with power from on high.

Here is the door of faith, through which we enter the kingdom of heaven.

As children of God, we are adopted as his sons and daughters,

and called to proclaim the wonders of him

who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Prayer of Confession

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

God be gracious to us and bless us,

and make your face shine upon us: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Make your ways be known on the earth,

your saving power among the nations: Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,

and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness

draw *us* to himself, and cleanse *us* from all *our* sins

that *we* may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh,

Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Psalm 139 (verses 1-9)

- 1 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.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place ♦
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue, ♦
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You encompass me behind and before ♦
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, ♦
so high that I cannot attain it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; ♦
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning ♦
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me, ♦
your right hand hold me fast.

**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**

The Bible readings for the second Sunday of Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10 – *God calls Samuel.*

Revelation 5:1-10 - *The Lamb is the only one worthy to open the scroll.*

John 1:43-51 - *Philip encourages Nathanel to 'Come & see', and his encounter with Jesus (the one who sees and understands him), transforms his life.*

A few moments of quiet for thought, thanksgiving & reflection.

Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?' Nathanael asked. 'Come and see,' said Philip. When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, 'Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.' 'How do you know me?' Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, 'I saw you while you were still under the fig-tree before Philip called you.' Then Nathanael declared, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.'

John 1:46-49

Creed

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine,

**he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a servant,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

(cf Philippians 2.6-11)

Prayers *(we can add our own prayers at each section)*

Generous God, we thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit.

We ask that we and all Christian people may be strengthened to serve you better.

We thank you for the wisdom of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to make your Church wise to understand your will, and especially we pray for...

Lord, come to bless us. **Fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the peace of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to keep us confident of your love, wherever you call us, and we pray for...

Lord, come to bless us. **Fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the healing of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness, where there is division, sickness and sorrow, and we pray for...

Lord, come to bless us. **Fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the gifts of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us, so that you reveal in our lives the love of Jesus...

Lord, come to bless us. **Fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the breath of your Holy Spirit, given by the risen Lord.

We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed, in the joy of eternal life.

Lord, come to bless us. **Fill us with your Spirit.**

Generous God,

you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the River Jordan,
and upon the disciples in the upper room.

In your mercy fill us with your Spirit.

**Hear our prayers,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for the Second Sunday of Epiphany

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 your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer *(or traditional form, if you prefer)*

**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.**

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May God, who in Christ
gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life,
perfect in us the image of his glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with us and all who we love
and pray for, now and always. **Amen.**