

## **WORSHIP for the third Sunday of Epiphany 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Give us the joy of your saving help

**and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.**

*A candle may be lit and silence is kept.*

Almighty God, your Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence.

Give us new hearts and constant wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross so that, free from sin,  
we might live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.

Let us confess our sins.

We have not always worshipped God, our creator.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We have not always followed Christ, our Saviour.

**Christ, have mercy.**

We have not always trusted in the Spirit, our guide.

**Lord, have mercy.**

### **The Absolution**

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth,  
strengthen us to do God's will,  
and give us the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,

**there is no end to his greatness.**

One generation shall praise your works to another  
**and shall declare your power.**

All your works praise you, Lord,

**and your faithful servants bless you.**

They make known the glory of your kingdom

**and speak of your power.**

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:

**let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.**

## **Psalm 19:1-6**

- 1 The heavens are telling the glory of God ♦  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- 2 One day pours out its song to another ♦  
and one night unfolds knowledge to another.
- 3 They have neither speech nor language ♦  
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Yet their sound has gone out into all lands ♦  
and their words to the ends of the world.
- 5 In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun, ♦  
that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber  
and rejoices as a champion to run his course.
- 6 It goes forth from the end of the heavens  
and runs to the very end again, ♦  
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

**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 third Sunday of Epiphany**

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10 – *Ezra reads the book of the Law*

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a – *The body of Christ has many parts*

Luke 4:14-21 – *Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophets.*

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

"Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

*Luke 4:21*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

*Let us affirm our faith in God.*

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*(cf Ephesians 3)*

## **Prayers**

Some pointers for prayer:

For the Church:

*That we may be the body of Christ in the world.*

*For the Crown Nominations Committee and those shortlisted to be the next Bishop of Carlisle.*

For the world:

*For the United States of America*

*For places of war*

*For the places we carry on our hearts today*

For our community:

*Those affected by recent storms*

*For our PCC meeting this week*

*How can we share our faith in Jesus in this community*

For the sick:

*We pause and lift before God all those known to us who are suffering in body, mind or spirit.*

For those who mourn:

*For the family and friends of John Hill*

*For any known personally to us*

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

## **The Collect for the Third Sunday of Epiphany**

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
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.**

**Blessing**

We are called and loved by God the Father  
and kept safe by Jesus Christ.

Mercy, peace and love be ours in abundance,  
from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

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