

**Morning Prayer**  
**Epiphany Season - Thursday 14th January 2021**

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.**

1O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth; ♦  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.

**2Know that the Lord is God; ♦**  
**it is he that has made us and we are his;**  
**we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

3Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise; ♦  
give thanks to him and bless his name.

**4For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting, ♦**  
**and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.**

**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 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.**

## *Psalm 21*

1The king shall rejoice in your strength, O Lord; ♦  
how greatly shall he rejoice in your salvation!

**2You have given him his heart's desire ♦  
and have not denied the request of his lips.**

3For you come to meet him with blessings of goodness ♦  
and set a crown of pure gold upon his head.

**4He asked of you life and you gave it him, ♦  
length of days, for ever and ever.**

5His honour is great because of your salvation; ♦  
glory and majesty have you laid upon him.

**6You have granted him everlasting felicity ♦  
and will make him glad with joy in your presence.**

7For the king puts his trust in the Lord; ♦  
because of the loving-kindness of the Most High,  
he shall not be overthrown.

**8Your hand shall mark down all your enemies; ♦  
your right hand will find out those who hate you.**

9You will make them like a fiery oven  
in the time of your wrath; ♦  
the Lord will swallow them up in his anger  
and the fire will consume them.

**10Their fruit you will root out of the land ♦  
and their seed from among its inhabitants.**

11Because they intend evil against you ♦  
and devise wicked schemes  
which they cannot perform,

**12You will put them to flight ♦  
when you aim your bow at their faces.**

13Be exalted, O Lord, in your own might; ♦  
we will make music and sing of your power.

**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.**

Crown us, O God, but with humility,  
and robe us with compassion,  
that, as you call us into the kingdom of your Son,  
we may strive to overcome all evil  
by the power of good  
and so walk gently on the earth  
with you, our God, for ever.

### *Canticle*

**Above you the Holy One arises,  
and above you God's glory appears.**

1 Arise, shine out, for your light has come, ♦  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

**2 Though night still covers the earth, ♦  
and darkness the peoples;**

3 Above you the Holy One arises, ♦  
and above you God's glory appears.

**4 The nations will come to your light, ♦  
and kings to your dawning brightness.**

5 Your gates will lie open continually, ♦  
shut neither by day nor by night.

**6 The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land, ♦  
or ruin and devastation within your borders.**

7 You will call your walls, Salvation, ♦  
and your gates, Praise.

**8 No more will the sun give you daylight, ♦  
nor moonlight shine upon you;**

9 But the Lord will be your everlasting light, ♦  
your God will be your splendour.

**10 For you shall be called the city of God, ♦  
the dwelling of the Holy One of Israel.**

**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.**

**Above you the Holy One arises,  
and above you God's glory appears.**

*A reading from 1 Corinthians 3*

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw – the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward. If the work is burned, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire.

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Do not deceive yourselves. If you think that you are wise in this age, you should become fools so that you may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, 'He catches the wise in their craftiness', and again, 'The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.'

So let no one boast about human leaders. For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future – all belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*There will be a brief time of silence before the Responsory for reflection*

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.**

*The Benedictus*

**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.**

*Luke 1.68-79*

**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.**

Prayers for the world, for others and for our parish will be offered, using  
the response:

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Collect of the day is said:*

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
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**

Believing the promises of God,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and 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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