January 02, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

We have seen His star in the east, and have come to worship Him. Matthew 2: 2

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 60: 1-6 Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3: 1-12 Matthew 2: 1-12

As foretold in Isaiah and Psalm, our light has come. He is our judge, full of righteousness. He will be our Redeemer. We have been given the gift of grace by the working of God's power through Jesus. We have boldness through faith in Him. The wise men followed His star, for they knew of the child being born who would be King, the King of Glory! Let us journey as well and get to know Jesus more through His word and prayer, to follow Him daily as Paul and the wise men did. May we hear His voice in the silence of our hearts and minds.

Collect: God of power and life, the glory of all who believe in you, fill the world with your splendour and show the nations the light of your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Jesus, the hope of the nations, is shown to the world. We all are companions on a spiritual journey. As we travel together let us pray.

Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray that the worldwide church may always be ready to travel in your way and in your direction. Continue to shine your guiding light for Rev. Wayne and Rev. Sam as they lead us at All Saints.

Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray for the nations as they live through conflict and struggle with identity. We long for all peoples to acknowledge the true and living God.

Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray for the families and the streets we represent, asking for a spirit of generous love, understanding and mutual respect.

Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray for all who are finding their way tedious, lonely or frightening at the moment; for those who have lost their way and do not know what to do for the best.

Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray for those who have come to the end of their earthly journey, and for those who have died unprepared.

Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We offer our thanks and praise for the way you see us when we are still far off and welcome us home. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

January 09, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "you are my beloved Son: in you I am well pleased." Luke 3: 22

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 43: 1-17 Psalm: 29 Acts 8: 14-17 Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

God loves each and every one of us. He has called us by name. He is always watching over us. We were given the gift of the Holy Spirit that only God can give. He dwells in each one of us. We give Him honor, praise and glory through Jesus our Saviour as we are baptized in His name, marked as His forever.

Collect: Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed Him to be your Son, anointing Him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Jesus is baptized and God confirms His identity and His calling. Let us pray to God who calls us each by name.

We pray for all baptized Christians to live out their calling in loving and holy lives. We pray for those preparing for Baptism and Confirmation, for parents and godparents to be given the grace and perseverance to keep faithfully the promises made.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We pray for peace and integrity in all our dealings as individuals, and in local, national and international conflicts; for openness to hear God's wisdom and courage to follow His lead.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We pray for harmony and understanding in our relationships with family and neighbours; for the willingness both to give and receive; for the generosity of forgiving love.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We pray for those whose weariness or pain make it difficult for them to pray. May they sense the support and love of the Church of God.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We pray for those whose souls have left behind their frail and broken bodies, and now can fly freely to live in God's company for the whole of eternity. Bless and comfort their loved ones, and bring us all in your good time to share the joy of heaven.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We give you thanks, Father, for calling us by name, and keeping us safe through all the storms and difficulties of this life in the power of the Holy Spirit. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

January 16, 2022

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Jesus manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him. John 2: 11

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 62: 1-5 Psalm 36: 5-10 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11 John 2: 1-11

God is love, the fountain of life. The Spirit of the Lord changes us. Just as Jesus changed the water into wine at the wedding feast, so the Lord changes us when we receive Him into our hearts and live by the gospel message, displaying God's light, love and truth for the good of the world around us.

Collect: Almighty God, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world. May your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of His glory, that He may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit; one God, now and for ever.

Drawn by God's love and constant faithfulness to us, let us pray:

We pray for all those who would love to believe, but cannot yet trust in the living God. We pray for those who have rejected God because of the unloving behaviour of His followers.

Fill us Lord: fill us to the brim.

We pray for all who give orders and have influence over other people. We pray that all people may be led justly and with sensitivity.

Fill us Lord: fill us to the brim.

We pray for all our relationships which need your transforming love. We pray for those we irritate and upset and those who have hurt and upset us.

Fill us Lord: fill us to the brim.

We pray for those whose lives feel empty and lack real meaning. We pray for those whose frailty, pain or illness makes it difficult to pray.

Fill us Lord: fill us to the brim.

We pray for those who are dying and those who have completed their life on earth that they may be brought to peace and everlasting joy. Fill us Lord: fill us to the brim.

We thank you for all the joys of loving relationships, all the friendships we share, and the love we are enabled to give. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

January 23, 2022

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

The Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor and release to the captives. Luke 4: 18

Scripture Readings:

Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a Luke 4: 14-21

In Nehemiah, we read of the Book of the Law of Moses being opened and read for the first time in public. In the Psalm reading the glory of God is being declared. In 1 Corinthians, we are told that we are one in the body of Christ though we are many members. In Luke, Jesus declares, as He read from the scriptures, He has been appointed to preach the gospel, heal the sick, proclaim liberty, restore sight to the blind, set free the oppressed. He is here to do all this. The scripture is fulfilled by Him. He has opened the scriptures to us all. We thank God for the revelation of His word, and granting us the understanding to know what to do to carry out His work here on earth, through faith and trust in Him.

Collect: Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Let us still our bodies and our minds as we pray together. Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

Lord God, as we call to mind that we are members of the worldwide church, we pray for those who are insulted or persecuted for our shared faith. We stand alongside them now.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We pray that all of us who inhabit planet earth in this age, may learn to hear you again and respond to your voice of love.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We pray that whenever materialism or stress or sin have deafened us to your will, we may be prompted to put things right.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We pray that our homes may be a place where you are welcomed and recognized through the good and troubled times.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We bring to your love all our fellow members who are ill, injured or sad. Alert us to see how we can help, and give them a real sense of your comforting presence. Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We remember those who have travelled through life and have now gone through death into eternity. We thank you for their lives and commend them to your keeping. Prepare us all through our living for eternal life.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

Thank you, Lord God, for all you have shown us through Jesus, and through word and sacrament week by week. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

January 30, 2022

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.

Luke 4: 21

Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 1: 4-10 Psalm 71: 1-6 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 Luke 4: 21-30

We trust in God by faith as the prophets of long ago, that He will equip us on the mission field to carry our His work. We trust that He will give us the right words to speak, and most importantly to show His love to all, which is the greatest gift we can pass on to others in His most Holy Name.

Collect: Living 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 glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

As we gather in Christ's name, let us bring to mind those who particularly need our prayer support. We remember those who teach the faith throughout the church and throughout the world. Keep them close to your guiding, and open the hearts of those they teach to hear and receive your truth.

Show us your ways: and help us to walk in them.

We remember those in positions of authority and influence in this country and in all societies, that needs may be noticed and addressed, good values upheld, and all people respected.

Show us your ways: and help us to walk in them.

We remember those who looked after us when we were very young, and those who have no one to love and care for them. We remember all young families and

all the children in our parish, that they may be introduced to the one true God and live their lives in His company.

Show us your ways: and help us to walk in them.

We remember the elderly faithful, and especially those who are housebound and can no longer join us to worship in person. We thank you for their example, and ask you to increase our love for one another across the age groups.

Show us your ways: and help us to walk in them.

We remember those who have finished their lives on earth and commit them to your everlasting care and protection. We ask you to keep us faithful to the end of our life.

Show us your ways: and help us to walk in them.

We remember with thankfulness, our elderly friends and relatives, and celebrate the way their lives enrich our community. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer