

Where all find a welcome and are nurtured in their journey with Christ.

# The third Sunday after Epiphany

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.

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.

O praise the name of the Lord!

Grace, mercy and peace be with you and also with you.

## Words of Welcome and Introduction

# **Hymn**

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise, manifested by the star to the sages from afar; branch of royal David's stem, in thy birth at Bethlehem; anthems be to thee addressed: God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, prophet, priest and King supreme, and at Cana wedding guest, in thy Godhead manifest, manifest in power divine, changing water into wine; anthems be to thee addressed:

God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, mirrored in thy holy word; may we imitate thee now, and be pure, as pure art thou; that we like to thee may be at thy great Epiphany, and may praise thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

# **Prayers of Penitence**

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

The president says

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

## The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.

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 Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure' – for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.'

Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Revelation 19.6-10

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# The Gospel

An acclamation is sung to herald the Gospel.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

cf I Timothy 3.16

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it.

When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.'

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

John 2.1-11

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

## An Affirmation of Faith

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 slave,
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 of Intercession**

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven, 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.

## **Anthem**

Here we bring new water from the well so clear, for to worship God with, this happy New Year.

Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine; the seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her toe, open you the West Door, and turn the Old Year go.

Sing levy dew, sing levy dew...

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her chin, open you the East Door, and let the New Year in.

Sing levy dew, sing levy dew...

Words: Anonymous

Music: Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

# **Closing Prayer and Acclamation**

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Holy Father, Creator of all things, whose blessed Son turned the water into wine, grant that he may come to us and change us, and so transform our lives that in us your glory may be revealed; through the same Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and glory for ever and ever.

#### Amen.

Gracious God, we give you thanks and praise for Jesus Christ our Lord, for he was the Word before all creation.

Through him all things come to be; not one thing has its being but through him.

Jesus, light of the world,

### we worship and adore you.

His life is the light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness cannot overpower.

Jesus, light of the world,

#### we worship and adore you.

The Word was the true light coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him.

Jesus, light of the world,

we worship and adore you.

He came to his own, and they did not accept him. But to all who accept him he gives power to become children of God.

Jesus, light of the world,

#### we worship and adore you.

The Word was made flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus, light of the world,

#### we worship and adore you.

To God our creator, born as one of us, be all praise and glory.

With all the company of heaven, we worship you, saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

cf John 1

## **Hymn**

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy to those who suffer wrong; to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong; to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light; whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest, from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest; the tide of time shall never his covenant remove; his name shall stand for ever; that name to us is love. The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

Amen.

## The Dismissal

Glory to God,

whose power, at work among us, can do infinitely more than all we can ask or conceive; to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.

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