

Sunday Prayers for the Second Sunday after Epiphany

17 January 2021

The Gathering

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you.

Venite

May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

O come, let us sing to the Lord; •
Let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving •
and sing to the Lord with psalms of triumph.

For you, Lord, are a great God •
and a great king above all gods.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

O come let us bow down and worship; •
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

For the Lord is our God; •
we are the Lord's people, the flock that God shepherds.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

**Glory to God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

Blessed are you, creator of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As your dawn renews the face of the earth
bringing light and life to all creation,
may we rejoice in this day you have made;
as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.
Blessed be God, Source, Word, and Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Holy God,
you search us and know us.
You are acquainted with all our ways.
**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**
**We turn inward,
failing to follow your outward way of love.**

**We distrust those who are not like us.
We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.
Forgive us, gracious God,
for all we have done and left undone.
Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them;
receive them in your divine mercy.
Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Psalm

Lord, you have searched me out and known me; •
you know when I sit down and when I stand up,
you discern my thoughts from afar.
**You mark my path, and the places where I rest; •
you are acquainted with all my ways.**

Even before there is a word on my tongue, •
you, Lord, know it altogether.
**You guard me from behind and before, •
and cover me with your hand.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, •
so high that I cannot attain to it.
**It was you that created my inward parts, •
and pieced me together in my mother's womb.**

I will praise you, for you are awesome and wonderful; •
marvellous are your works, and you know me through and through.
**My body was not hidden from you, •
when I was being fashioned in secret,
and woven together in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes looked at my body while it was as yet imperfectly formed.
In your book all the days of my life were written, •
while as yet there was not one of them.

**How deep are your thoughts, O God, •
and how great is the sum of them.**

If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand; •
to finish the count, my life-span must needs be equal to yours.

Psalm 139.1—6, 13—18

**Glory to God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

The First Reading

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ and he said, ‘Here I am!’ and ran to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call; lie down again.’ So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, ‘Samuel!’ Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call, my son; lie down again.’ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, “Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.”’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’ Then the LORD said to Samuel, ‘See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.’

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, ‘Samuel, my son.’ He said, ‘Here I am.’ Eli said, ‘What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.’ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, ‘It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.’

As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

1 Samuel 3.1—20

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

John 1.43—51

The gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Reflection

The Prayers of the People

Versicle and Response:

, let us pray.
Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent,
for the sake of the one who dwells among us,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour,
who teaches us to pray:

<p>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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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The Collect

Insistent God,
by night and day you summon your slumbering people.
So stir us with your voice
and enlighten our lives with your grace
that we give ourselves fully
to Christ's call to mission and ministry;
through the same Jesus the Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Blessing

... and the blessing of God ...
always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.