

Sunday 17th January 2021

Prayer and worship at home

The Second Sunday of Epiphany



Preparation

'Christ is the one who calls' says the hymn writer Timothy Dudley-Smith. This is clearly seen as Jesus begins his public ministry and summons the first disciples. Our first lesson – the call of Samuel shows divine calling to be personal. Have we listened and responded to God's call to us?

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Act of Penitence

*As we pray, we reflect on the week that has passed
and ask the Lord for his forgiveness and healing.*

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living
word:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of forgiveness

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Special Prayer for this week

Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory, hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Word of the Lord

First Reading | *Samuel 3. 1-10*

A reading from the book of Samuel

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.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel | John 1. 43-51

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

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 toward 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Affirmation of faith

With our Christian brothers and sisters, we 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

(Here you may wish to offer prayer in your own words, or be prompted by the words here)

We pray for our world, especially at this time of anxiety and fear...

We pray for our nation and its well-being...

We pray for neighbours, family and friends and we remember all those self-isolating at the moment...

We pray for all who are sick, worried or anxious, and for those who feel cut off from friends and family...

We pray for those who have died in recent days, and all whom we remember with love and affection....

The Lord's Prayer

Joining with Christians throughout the world, we pray:

Our Father...

or

Our Father in heaven...

The Grace

We conclude our prayers

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen**

