

THE NOON SERVICE

The Season of Epiphany 2022

Community responses are in bold.

Artwork by Megan Suttman

WELCOME & PRAYER OF THE DAY

To be read from the Lessons insert

Also known as the Collect, from Latin for “to gather”, these prayers symbolize both the start of our gathering together to pray and the gathering up of our individual prayers and intentions on this Sunday into one common prayer.

GATHERING SONG *(please stand as you are able)*

THE LESSONS

(Please be seated for the reading of the first two Lessons.

Then stand as you are able for the Alleluia and the reading of the Gospel)

COMMUNITY REFLECTION

Please be seated after the reading. Now, a brief reflection is offered and all are welcome to share. Seek to listen without judgment. Seek to speak with compassionate integrity. Seek to respond (rather than react) to the ideas others have shared and make connections. Seek to be curious and find common threads. Seek to befriend the silence between spoken words. If we disagree: may we disagree gracefully; may we be challenged and yet inspired; may we be uncomfortable and yet awakened; and may the Spirit guide us.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Officiant: Hear O my people, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

Officiant: This is the first and great commandment.

The second is like it: love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant: Let us now pray for the world, the Church, our communities and ourselves; and let us offer these prayers so that the light of Christ will shine through our hearts, will open our eyes, and will strengthen us in the Way of Love to become the hands and feet of Jesus.

We pray for our world, that we may cherish the wonderful works of God. Stir us to make small steps this week to better care for your creation around us.

*Light of the World, **shine through our lives!***

We pray for our leaders, for those who have power and authority and who make decisions on behalf of others. May we also acknowledge our own power and privilege in every situation, always choosing to *be* Love.

*Light of the World, **shine through our lives!***



We pray for our community, for those struggling to pay rent, for those who have been victims of gun violence, those who are hungry, or those who are lonely. May we be your hands and feet, bringing care and compassion to those in need. Give us strength to seek and serve Christ in all people, loving our neighbors as ourselves.

*Light of the World, **shine through our lives!***

We pray for those around us who live in the margins, who lack power, or are excluded. Those who are left-out, pushed-out, or forgotten. We pray especially for those who have been rejected by their communities of faith. May we welcome, embrace, include, and affirm the Divine in everyone. And may we strive for justice and peace among all people, always respecting the dignity of every human being.

*Light of the World, **shine through our lives!***

Officiant: We pray for those in our community who have requested prayer. We pray for [...]. Open our hearts to discover new ways that we may serve, support, and encourage them. We also invite this community to name anyone they are holding in prayer this week.... (silently or aloud)

*Light of the World, **shine through our lives!***

Officiant: Light of the World, God-incarnate, fill us with your Spirit; send us out to share your Light with a broken world in need of you; and guide us in the Way of Love so we offer your healing Light without judgment. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our King, Lord, and Shepherd. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

After offering our prayers, we seek to prepare ourselves to receive the Holy Communion, sometimes called the Lord's Supper, or the Holy Eucharist. In the tradition of our ancient faith we prepare ourselves by offering peace and reconciliation to our neighbor.

Officiant: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY

OFFERINGS

We offer our gifts to God of bread, wine, and alms.

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY SONG

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Celebrant: The Spirit of God be with you.

And also with you!

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth, for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your word, and all things have come into being.

And now we give you thanks because, in the incarnation of the Word, a new light has dawned upon the world, that all the nations may be brought out of darkness to see the radiance of your glory: in the coming of the Magi, the King of all the world was revealed to the nations; in the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Savior sent to redeem us; in the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast, turning poverty into riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore in joyful celebration of your light into our darkness we join with all the angels and saints of heaven and lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name evermore praising you and *singing*:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One
who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendor, light and power. Yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness. Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation; loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us; dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

THE STORY OF THE LAST SUPPER

On the night he offered himself up for us he took the bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup, gave you thanks, and gave it to his friends saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my Blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore through this commemoration of your Last Supper we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection and his bursting from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high, and we long for his coming again in Glory.

By your Holy Spirit let these gifts from your creation be to us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; show us we are made in the likeness of Christ and enable us to see that through you we are made a perfect offering in your sight.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with [*N and*] all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: As Christ taught us, we now pray,

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 forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION SONG

This table is welcome to all. If you wish to receive the bread, please come forward and you will be served. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest and we will happily offer a prayer for God's blessing upon you. If you do not wish to receive, no problem. Feel free to use this time as you choose in your seat. Gluten free wafers are available-just ask.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God of abundance,

you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;

you have united us with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,

That we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

Officiant: Your light has splintered our darkness. May we allow this light to shine further through us and connect us to your light in others who we meet along the way. May the blessing of God be with you and remain with you, this day and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG

DISMISSAL

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sources:

Prayers of the People: Kyle Vath

Eucharistic Prayer and Preface for Epiphany: Common Worship Times and Seasons (Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England) material from which is included in this service are copyright The Archbishops' Council [2013].

Invitation to Communion: Adapted from Bethlehem Lutheran Church by Greg Williams

Post-communion prayer: Adapted from Church of England *Common Worship* by Greg Williams

Closing Blessing: Adapted from an Antiochian Orthodox Nativity hymn



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