

# Service of Morning Communion Epiphany 2 - 17<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## Welcome

## Hymn

## The Greeting

The Lord be with you

**ALL** and also with you.

## Prayer of Preparation

**ALL** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Prayers of Penitence

Remember, Lord, Your compassion and love, for they are everlasting.  
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Remember not the sins of our youth or our transgressions, but think on us in your goodness O Lord, according to your steadfast love.  
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

O keep our souls and deliver us; let us not be put to shame, for we have put our trust in you. Amen.

## Absolution

## The Collect

## The LITURGY of the WORD

## Reading

### Revelation 5:1-10 (New International Version)

Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth

could open the scroll or even look inside it. I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the centre of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God’s people. And they sang a new song, saying:

“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

## HYMN

### **Gospel Reading**

#### **John 1:43-51 (New International Version)**

The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.” Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip.

When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.” “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.”

Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.’”

## **SERMON**

The sermon can be found after the service on our website [www.stjamesroundsgreen.com](http://www.stjamesroundsgreen.com) or on our Facebook page.

## **The Creed**

We believe in God, the almighty Father, who is the creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, given birth by the Virgin Mary and suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, is seated at the Father's right hand. He will return to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and in everlasting life. Amen.

## **The Peace**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

#### **Intercessions for Epiphany 2 (2021)**

Lord, your call to Philip inspired him to encourage others to explore the wonder he beheld in you. Help us not to become so familiar with both the mechanics of church life and the Holy Scriptures that we lose that sense of wonder at being your disciple, anointed by the resurrection power of your Holy Spirit, and living constantly in your presence.

May our love for you never fade and become dull and lifeless but, instead, always be growing with an eagerness to share your glory with others.

While we know that we cannot invite others to church in the same way as before this current pandemic, we nonetheless pray that you will be preparing us to enthusiastically invite others to 'come and see' once we can again; and we pray that there are many waiting for that invitation because you have been preparing them to enter into the kingdom.

Lord, as we pray for all those in authority and power of any sort around the world, we ask that you will challenge and overturn any prejudice and distain towards others; that you will crush the way in which others are demeaned and devalued because of background, race or gender. Everyone is made in your image so we ask that respect for each other will grow and blossom so that all are valued, considered and cared for.

May governments begin to take seriously their responsibility in modelling this and ensuring that resources are equitably shared, particularly to the poor and marginalised.

And we particularly pray for America with the up and coming transference of power from Donald Trump to Joe Biden. Between now and then dissipate people's anger and fill them with the realisation that they need to work together for the good of all.

Lord, with so many activities which contribute to community life being shut down at the moment, we still ask for your blessing upon everyone living around this church.

May people still somehow be able to find delight in things around them and, against all the odds, flourish in their lives.

Thank you for all those who continue to strive to serve others in this time of need.

And, again, we pray that, in this time of desert existence, you will still be calling people within this parish into the fellowship of this church and abundant life in you.

Lord, just as you saw Nathaniel from a distance, you see all who are sick and suffering, whether in body, mind or spirit. We name those we know silently before you now.....We ask that you will sustain them with your love, relieve them of their pain, and restore them to wholeness.

## HYMN

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER H

The Lord is here.

**ALL** His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts

**ALL** We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL** It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

**ALL** You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

**ALL** He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them saying: Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**ALL** Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks and said; Drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**ALL** Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**ALL** As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song in heaven:

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

Let us now continue in prayer using the words our Saviour taught us:

**ALL:** 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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Amen.

**Breaking of the Bread**

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

**ALL** Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.



**Come  
and  
See**

## Invitation to Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he gave for you, and his blood, which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**ALL** Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared; we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners.

So, cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.

## THE PRIEST AND THE PEOPLE RECEIVE COMMUNION.

### Prayer after Communion

**ALL** Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

### Hymn

### Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**ALL:** In the name of Christ. Amen.

