



Evening Prayer on Epiphany 'Is this what we came for?'

6th January 2021



Newbury, St George & St John

Welcome to Evening Prayer

with St George the Martyr, Wash Common and
St John the Evangelist, Newbury.

The Greeting & Introduction

A candle is lit.

The Lord is my light and my salvation:

my God shall make my darkness to be bright.

From the rising of the sun to its setting

Your glory is proclaimed in all the world.

A Prayer of Desire, by Symeon the New Theologian, (b.949CE)

Come, true light. Come, life eternal. Come, hidden mystery. Come,
treasure without name. Come, reality beyond all words. Come, person
beyond all understanding. Come, rejoicing without end.

Come, light that knows no evening.

Come, unflinching expectation of the saved. Come, the raising of the fallen.

Come, the resurrection of the dead.

Come, all-powerful, for unceasingly you create,

Come, invisible, whom none may touch and handle.

Come, for you continue always.

Come, for your name fills our hearts with longing and is ever on our lips;

Come, eternal joy. Come, unfading garland.

Come, Alone to the alone.

Come, for you are yourself the desire that is within me.

Come, my breath and my life. Come, the consolation of my humble soul.

Come, my joy, my glory, my endless delight.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now

and shall be for ever.

Amen.

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever.

Amen.

A Hymn of Hope. Psalm 98

Refrain: The Lord has made known his salvation.

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, •
for he has done marvellous things.
- 2 His own right hand and his holy arm •
have won for him the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his salvation; •
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness
towards the house of Israel, •
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5 Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; •
break into singing and make music.
- 6 Make music to the Lord with the lyre, •
with the lyre and the voice of melody.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn •
sound praises before the Lord, the King. R
- 8 Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, •
the world and all that dwell upon it.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands •
and let the hills ring out together before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world •
and the peoples with equity.

Refrain: The Lord has made known his salvation.

*Holy God, just and true,
you make your salvation known in the sight of the nations;
tune the song of our hearts to the music of creation
as you come among us to judge the earth;
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Gospel Reading John 2.1-11

On the third day 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.

Epiphany. Is this what we came for?

A reflection on journeying.

A suitable song or chant,

Arise, shine, for your light has come;
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

**Arise, shine, for your light has come;
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

God's salvation has been openly shown to all people.

The glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**Arise, shine, for your light has come;
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you**

Journey of the Maji TS Eliot

Read by former refugee, Revd Denis Adide

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.

**Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.**

For I am always with you;
you hold me by my right hand.

And afterwards receive me with glory.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.**

from Psalm 73

The Magnificat (*The Song of Mary*)

*Refrain. Behold, my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
the anointed one on whom my Spirit rests.*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; •
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed; •
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him, •
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm •
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones •
and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things •
and sent the rich away empty.

The promise made to our ancestors, •
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*Refrain. Behold, my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
the anointed one on whom my Spirit rests.*

Prayers

The response to each prayer,
God of the endless journey,
Be with us on our way.

The Collect

The Collect of the day is said

O God, who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
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 Lord's Prayer *is said*

Let us pray in 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.

Forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For theine is the kingdom, the power,

and the glory,

For ever and ever.

Amen.

Closing Responses

May Christ, who has opened the kingdom of heaven,
bring us to dwell with him in glory. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God.



Some material in this service is copyright:
Common Worship© 2000 The Archbishops' Council
and Common Worship:
Festivals© 2008 The Archbishops' Council