

# Morning Service 17 January 2021

## Greeting

## Opening Prayer

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## Readings

Psalm 139: v 1 – 10

O LORD, you have searched me and known me!  
2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.  
3 You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
4 Even before a word is on my tongue,  
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.  
5 You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is high; I cannot attain it.  
7 Where shall I go from your Spirit?  
Or where shall I flee from your presence?  
8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there!  
If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!  
9 If I take the wings of the morning  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea  
10 even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me.

John Ch. 1: v 43 – end

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."  
44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to  
him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the  
son of Joseph." 46 Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him,  
"Come and see." 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite  
indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" 48 Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered  
him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." 49 Nathanael answered him,

“Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” 50 Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree’, do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” 51 And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

## Sermon

### The Benedictus

**Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.**

**He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,**

**To show mercy to our ancestors,  
and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

**Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.**

**And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

**To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

**In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**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.**

### Intercessions

*Finishing with this prayer:*

**God bless all those that I love;**

**God bless all those that love me;**

**God bless all those that love those that I love**

**And all those that love those that love me**

**Amen**

## The Collect

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;  
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

**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.**

## The Blessing and the Close