

Morning Prayer
Sunday 10th January – 1st of Epiphany

Preparation

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.
Your light shines on us and all peoples shall see your glory.
You gave us Jesus to be the light of the world;
he makes our darkness to be light.

The Lord of glory be with you.
The Lord bless you.

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.**

The Word of God

Old Testament Reading – Psalm 73:21-26

When my heart was grieved
and my spirit embittered,
²² I was senseless and ignorant;
I was a brute beast before you.
²³ Yet I am always with you;
you hold me by my right hand.
²⁴ You guide me with your counsel,
and afterwards you will take me into glory.
²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you?
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.
²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion for ever.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Luke 2:25-35

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ 'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.
³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,
³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.'

³³ The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

O my God, in you I trust.

You are the God of my salvation,

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

In you I hope all the day long.

O my God, in you I trust.

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,

for they are from everlasting.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

O my God, in you I trust.

from Psalm 25

Benedictus

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68–79

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.

Sermon

Prayers

our intercessions are led, and may include the response:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

**Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort,
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love,
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.**

Collect

**Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's end
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Trusting in the compassion of God,
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
"Our Father, who art in heaven ..."

Hymn

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's Son;
cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in,
Jesus, our love for you we sing,
living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
now and ev'ry day
teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you.
Into our lives your pow'r breaks through,
living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
born as one of us,
Mary's Son.
Led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see
you are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
I would come to you,
live my life for you,
Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your pow'r breaks through,
living Lord.

*Patrick Appleford
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The Conclusion

The Blessing, followed by:

Through the Holy Spirit your love burns within us,
bearing witness to your truth.
As we bear your light,
may our lips never cease to sing your praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.
Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

We continue our very brief Sunday services of Holy Communion (sharing bread only, and with no singing) in our churches. We believe the precautions we take to be adequate in keeping us safe. However, we should draw your attention to the government's advice as follows: 'Travel to church is permitted, but people are advised to avoid travelling outside their village, town or the part of a city where they live.'

*Today's service is at Winksley Church at 11.15 am.
On Wednesday we have Communion at Aldfield Church at 10.30 am.*

Face coverings are compulsory in church services.