

# WORSHIP - 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY - 24 JANUARY 2021

*Today we have no physical services in our churches, but we still meet on Zoom at 11.30 - the link is on the website. This is the Order of Service that is based on the Zoom service.*

**Hymn - Songs of thankfulness and praise - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjT2SPzLw90>**

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**A Song of the Messiah - Isaiah 9.2,3b,4a,6,7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, upon them the light has dawned.  
You have increased their joy and given them great gladness;  
they rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest,  
For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them;  
the collar that lay heavy on their shoulders.  
For unto us a child is born and to us a son is given,  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder.  
And his name will be called: Wonderful Counsellor; the Mighty God;  
the Everlasting Father; the Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,  
Upon the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
to establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness.  
From this time forth and for evermore; the zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.  
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.

**The Collect**

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.

**Old Testament reading - Genesis 14.17-20 - is printed on the blue noticesheet**

**Hymn - The God of Abraham Praise - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvTgzJ2nZGo>**

**Gospel - John 2.1-11 - is printed on the blue noticesheet**

**Address - my sermon is on the website, and there is one by Clive as well (you're spoilt!!)**

## The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Anthem** – Author of life divine - words: Charles Wesley - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPyUZ7kBjQ4>

Author of life divine,	Our needy souls sustain
Who hast a table spread,	With fresh supplies of love,
Furnished with mystic wine	Till all thy life we gain,
And everlasting bread,	And all thy fullness prove,
Preserve the life thyself hast given,	And, strengthened by thy perfect grace,
And feed and train us up for heaven.	Behold without a veil thy face.

**Prayers of Intercession** - based on the prayers set for a Marriage service

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we lift up our hearts to you through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him you have made a covenant of grace with your people by the outpouring of your Holy Spirit.  
We praise you for the gift of life, for the gift of marriage in which the love of husband and wife is brought together and reflects your plan of love for the world. We give thanks for our love, our relationships, the people with whom we share our lives. We thank you for those who are planning their weddings in our churches this year, for leading them to each other in friendship and love, commitment and trust, and for bringing them to us for the blessing of their marriage. We pray that the weddings will be able to take place this year, that we will be able to gather in celebration.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As you blessed the earthly home at Nazareth with the presence of your Son, may our homes be places of security and peace. Bless us, our families, our children, that they may grow up to know and love you in your Son. We pray for families who are struggling, parents trying to cope with their children and with their jobs, those who are struggling to make ends meet. We pray for those who are homeless, for all who find no one cares - and for those who are trying to make life bearable, to hold people together.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our leaders. For the Prime Minister and his government, for those in local government. For those involved in the political and economic life of our country, our city. We pray for Jo Biden and his administration, for healing of that country, and - together - for healing of our world. Help us Lord, to have faith, to pray and care, to be grateful for those who try and make life better - and help us to put you first. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We continue to pray for the battle against Covid. For those at work in our hospitals and emergency services, our medics, those involved in vaccination. Lord, we are tired of praying, tired of trying to find

the right words - and, if we're tired, we cannot imagine what the people in the midst of it are going through. Lord, we ask for your strength, your purpose, your blessing - and we pray for those who have to manage this, who have to find the resources we need. We pray for those who are unwell, those with Covid, and so many others. In the silence we name before God people for whom we are concerned. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember those who have died, those we miss so much. We pray that you will bring us all at the last to that great marriage banquet of your Son in our home in heaven, where, with all your saints and angels, in the glory of your presence, we will for ever praise you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We bring our prayers together as we pray the prayer that Jesus 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. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn - Christ is the king, O friends rejoice - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TyMBxqovByc>

### **The Blessing**

The God all grace,  
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,  
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;  
and the blessing of God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with you, this day and for evermore. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Final music** - Toccata, Charles-Marie Widor - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VmiBbOxxis>  
*Shaun was my organist in Ponteland before he went on to Blackburn Cathedral.*

Peter Barham, 21 January 2021 - revpeterbarham@btinternet.com