

Morning Prayer Psalms and Readings w/c 17th January 2022

Seasonal Provisions for Epiphany Season

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, king of the nations, to you be praise and glory for ever. From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is proclaimed in all the world. As the Sun of Righteousness dawns in our hearts anoint our lips with the seal of your Spirit that we may witness to your gospel and sing your praise in all the earth.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Jubilate – A Song of Joy

¹O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth; ♦

serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

²Know that the Lord is God; ♦

it is he that has made us and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

³Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; ♦ give thanks to him and bless his name.

⁴For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting, ♦

and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Psalm 100

Collect for Epiphany

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 our Lord. Amen.

Collect for this week

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.**

Monday, 17 January Antony of Egypt/Charles Gore

Psalm 145: Refrain: *Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.*

¹I will exalt you, O God my King, ♦ and bless your name for ever and ever.

²Every day will I bless you ♦ and praise your name for ever and ever.

³Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; ♦ his greatness is beyond all searching out. *R*

⁴One generation shall praise your works to another ♦ and declare your mighty acts.

⁵They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, ♦ and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

⁶They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, ♦ and I will also tell of your greatness.

⁷They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness ♦ and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

⁸The Lord is gracious and merciful, ♦ long-suffering and of great goodness. *R*

⁹The Lord is loving to everyone ♦ and his mercy is over all his creatures.

¹⁰All your works praise you, O Lord, ♦ and your faithful servants bless you.

¹¹They tell of the glory of your kingdom ♦ and speak of your mighty power,

¹²To make known to all peoples your mighty acts ♦ and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.

¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; ♦ your dominion endures throughout all ages. *R*

¹⁴The Lord is sure in all his words ♦ and faithful in all his deeds.

¹⁵The Lord upholds all those who fall ♦ and lifts up all those who are bowed down.

¹⁶The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, ♦ and you give them their food in due season.

¹⁷You open wide your hand ♦ and fill all things living with plenty. *R*

¹⁸The Lord is righteous in all his ways ♦ and loving in all his works.

¹⁹The Lord is near to those who call upon him, ♦ to all who call upon him faithfully.

²⁰He fulfils the desire of those who fear him; ♦ he hears their cry and saves them.

²¹The Lord watches over those who love him, ♦ but all the wicked shall he destroy.

²²My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord, ♦ and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

King of the universe, you show the bright glory of your reign in acts of mercy and enduring love; raise the spirits of the downcast and restore those who have fallen away, that we may sing for ever of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Matthew 24.1-14

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. Then he asked them, 'You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' Jesus answered them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, "I am the Messiah!" and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

'Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But anyone who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.

The Collect Most gracious God, who called your servant Antony to sell all that he had and to serve you in the solitude of the desert: by his example may we learn to deny ourselves and to love you before all things; 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.**

Tuesday, 18 January: Amy Carmichael

First Day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Psalm 132 Refrain: *Arise, O Lord, into your resting place.*

- ¹Lord, remember for David ♦ all the hardships he endured;
²How he swore an oath to the Lord ♦ and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:
³I will not come within the shelter of my house, ♦ nor climb up into my bed;
⁴I will not allow my eyes to sleep, ♦ nor let my eyelids slumber,
⁵Until I find a place for the Lord, ♦ a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob.' *R*
⁶Now, we heard of the ark in Ephrathah ♦ and found it in the fields of Ja-ar.
⁷Let us enter his dwelling place ♦ and fall low before his footstool.
⁸Arise, O Lord, into your resting place, ♦ you and the ark of your strength.
⁹Let your priests be clothed with righteousness ♦ and your faithful ones sing with joy.
¹⁰For your servant David's sake, ♦ turn not away the face of your anointed. *R*
¹¹The Lord has sworn an oath to David, ♦ a promise from which he will not shrink:
¹²Of the fruit of your body ♦ shall I set upon your throne.
¹³If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, ♦
their children also shall sit upon your throne for evermore.'
¹⁴For the Lord has chosen Zion for himself; ♦ he has desired her for his habitation: *R*
¹⁵This shall be my resting place for ever; ♦ here will I dwell, for I have longed for her.
¹⁶I will abundantly bless her provision; ♦ her poor will I satisfy with bread.
¹⁷I will clothe her priests with salvation, ♦ and her faithful ones shall rejoice and sing.
¹⁸There will I make a horn to spring up for David; ♦ I will keep a lantern burning for my anointed.
¹⁹As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; ♦ but on him shall his crown be bright.'

Jesus, Son of David, make us a priestly people; clothe us in righteousness, make us fruitful, and give us hearts to shout for joy in your salvation; we pray in the power of the Spirit.

Matthew 24.15-28

'So when you see the desolating sacrilege standing in the holy place, as was spoken of by the prophet Daniel (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains; someone on the housetop must not go down to take what is in the house; someone in the field must not turn back to get a coat. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a sabbath. For at that time there will be great suffering, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. Then if anyone says to you, "Look! Here is the Messiah!" or "There he is!"—do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and produce great signs and omens, to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. Take note, I have told you beforehand. So, if they say to you, "Look! He is in the wilderness", do not go out. If they say, "Look! He is in the inner rooms", do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

Wednesday, 19 January: Wulfstan *Second Day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

Psalm 81 Refrain: *O come, let us sing to the Lord.*

¹Sing merrily to God our strength, ♦ shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

²Take up the song and sound the timbrel, ♦ the tuneful lyre with the harp.

³Blow the trumpet at the new moon, ♦ as at the full moon, upon our solemn feast day.

⁴For this is a statute for Israel, ♦ a law of the God of Jacob,

⁵The charge he laid on the people of Joseph, ♦ when they came out of the land of Egypt. *R*

⁶I heard a voice I did not know, that said: ♦

‘I eased their shoulder from the burden; their hands were set free from bearing the load.

⁷You called upon me in trouble and I delivered you; ♦

I answered you from the secret place of thunder and proved you at the waters of Meribah.

⁸Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: ♦ O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

⁹There shall be no strange god among you; ♦ you shall not worship a foreign god.

¹⁰I am the Lord your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt; ♦

open your mouth wide and I shall fill it.’ *R*

¹¹But my people would not hear my voice ♦ and Israel would not obey me.

¹²So I sent them away in the stubbornness of their hearts, ♦ and let them walk after their own counsels.

¹³O that my people would listen to me, ♦ that Israel would walk in my ways!

¹⁴Then I should soon put down their enemies ♦ and turn my hand against their adversaries.

¹⁵Those who hate the Lord would be humbled before him, ♦ and their punishment would last for ever.

¹⁶But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat ♦ and with honey from the rock would I satisfy them.

Father of mercy, keep us joyful in your salvation and faithful to your covenant; and, as we journey to your kingdom, ever feed us with the bread of life, your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Matthew 24.29-end

‘Immediately after the suffering of those days

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light;

the stars will fall from heaven,

and the powers of heaven will be shaken.

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see “the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven” with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

'Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom his master has put in charge of his household, to give the other slaves their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions. But if that wicked slave says to himself, "My master is delayed", and he begins to beat his fellow-slaves, and eats and drinks with drunkards, the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know. He will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The Collect Lord God, who raised up Wulfstan to be a bishop among your people and a leader of your Church: help us, after his example, to live simply, to work diligently and to make your kingdom known; 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.**

Thursday, 20 January: Richard Rolle of Hampole *Third Day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

Psalm 76 Refrain: *The Lord has made fast his throne for judgement.*

¹In Judah God is known; ♦ his name is great in Israel.

²At Salem is his tabernacle, ♦ and his dwelling place in Zion.

³There broke he the flashing arrows of the bow, ♦ the shield, the sword and the weapons of war. *R*

⁴In the light of splendour you appeared, ♦ glorious from the eternal mountains.

⁵The boastful were plundered; they have slept their sleep; ♦ none of the warriors can lift their hand.

⁶At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, ♦ both horse and chariot fell stunned. *R*

⁷Terrible are you in majesty: ♦ who can stand before your face when you are angry?

⁸You caused your judgement to be heard from heaven; ♦ the earth trembled and was still,

⁹When God arose to judgement, ♦ to save all the meek upon earth. *R*

¹⁰You crushed the wrath of the peoples ♦ and bridled the wrathful remnant.

¹¹Make a vow to the Lord your God and keep it; ♦

let all who are round about him bring gifts to him that is worthy to be feared.

¹²He breaks down the spirit of princes ♦ and strikes terror in the kings of the earth.

Majestic and gracious God, more awesome than the agents of war, more powerful than the wrath of nations, restrain the violence of the peoples and draw the despised of the earth into the joyful life of your kingdom, where you live and reign for ever and ever.

Matthew 25.1-13

'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Friday, 21 January: Agnes, Child Martyr

Fourth Day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Psalm 27 Refrain: *The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

- ¹The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? ♦
The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- ²When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, ♦
they stumbled and fell.
- ³Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not be afraid, ♦
and though there rise up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.
- ⁴One thing have I asked of the Lord and that alone I seek; ♦
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
- ⁵To behold the fair beauty of the Lord ♦ and to seek his will in his temple.
- ⁶For in the day of trouble he shall hide me in his shelter; ♦
in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me and set me high upon a rock.
- ⁷And now shall he lift up my head ♦ above my enemies round about me;
- ⁸Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness; ♦
I will sing and make music to the Lord. *R*
- ⁹Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; ♦ have mercy upon me and answer me.
- ¹⁰My heart tells of your word, 'Seek my face.' ♦ Your face, Lord, will I seek.
- ¹¹Hide not your face from me, ♦ nor cast your servant away in displeasure.
- ¹²You have been my helper; ♦ leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- ¹³Though my father and my mother forsake me, ♦ the Lord will take me up.
- ¹⁴Teach me your way, O Lord; ♦ lead me on a level path, because of those who lie in wait for me.
- ¹⁵Deliver me not into the will of my adversaries, ♦
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and those who breathe out violence.
- ¹⁶I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord ♦ in the land of the living.
- ¹⁷Wait for the Lord; be strong and he shall comfort your heart; ♦ wait patiently for the Lord.

God, our light and our salvation, illuminate our lives, that we may see your goodness in the land of the living, and, looking on your beauty, may be changed into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Matthew 25.14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You

wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

The Collect: Eternal God, shepherd of your sheep, whose child Agnes was strengthened to bear witness in her living and her dying to the true love of her redeemer: grant us the power to understand, with all your saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love that surpasses knowledge, even 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.**