**Morning Prayer – 2nd Sunday of Epiphany**

Sunday 19th January 2025 at 9.30 (call in from 9.15)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85649430168?pwd=QzFzNytXM01TQTc5cTROaHc2aElvZz09

Meeting ID: 856 4943 0168

Passcode: 336782

**Telephone instructions:**

\* Dial: 0131 460 1196  
  
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\* When passcode requested type numbers i.e. 336782 plus #.  
  
\* At this point you should be admitted to the call.****

**Preparation**

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Your light springs up for the righteous  
**and all the peoples have seen your glory.**

**Diagram

Description automatically generated**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.**

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

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.**

**A prayer of confession**

We confess to you our moments of doubt, of inaction,  
of falling short of what we know we can be;  
moments when we have been unwilling to help others  
because it was easier not to or we couldn’t be bothered.  
In this moment of silence, we reflect on our failings and  
seek your forgiveness …  
Lord God Almighty, forgive us we pray.  
**Amen.**

**Assurance of forgiveness**

The Lord hears our prayer, never falters or wavers,  
but forgives us our sins, our failings, our faults  
and sends us on our way as forgiven people.  
Thanks be to God.  
**Amen.**

Psalm 36: 5-10

Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens,  
    your faithfulness to the skies.  
**6**Your righteousness is like the highest mountains,  
    your justice like the great deep.  
    You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.  
**7**How priceless is your unfailing love, O God!  
    People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.  
**8**They feast on the abundance of your house;  
    you give them drink from your river of delights.  
**9**For with you is the fountain of life;  
    in your light we see light.

**10**Continue your love to those who know you,  
    your righteousness to the upright in heart.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**The Word of God**

*First reading* Isaiah 62: 1-5

For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent,  
    for Jerusalem’s sake I will not remain quiet,  
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
    her salvation like a blazing torch.  
**2**The nations will see your vindication,  
    and all kings your glory;  
you will be called by a new name  
    that the mouth of the Lord will bestow.  
**3**You will be a crown of splendour in the Lord’s hand,  
    a royal diadem in the hand of your God.  
**4**No longer will they call you Deserted,  
    or name your land Desolate.  
But you will be called Hephzibah,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2062&version=NIV#fen-NIV-18859a)]  
    and your land Beulah[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2062&version=NIV#fen-NIV-18859b)];  
for the Lord will take delight in you,  
    and your land will be married.  
**5**As a young man marries a young woman,  
    so will your Builder marry you;  
as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride,  
    so will your God rejoice over you.

*Canticle*  *Isaiah 60.1-3, 11a, 18, 19, 14b*

**Above you the Holy One arises,  
and above you God’s glory appears.**

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

Though night still covers the earth,   
and darkness the peoples;

Above you the Holy One arises,   
and above you God’s glory appears.

The nations will come to your light,   
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Your gates will lie open continually,   
shut neither by day nor by night.

The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land,   
or ruin and devastation within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation,   
and your gates, Praise.

No more will the sun give you daylight,   
nor moonlight shine upon you;

But the Lord will be your everlasting light,   
your God will be your splendour.

For you shall be called the city of God,   
the dwelling of the Holy One of Israel.

**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.**

*Second reading* John‬

**2**On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there, **2**and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. **3**When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, “They have no more wine.”

**4**“Woman,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john%202&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26100a)] why do you involve me?” Jesus replied. “My hour has not yet come.”

**5**His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

**6**Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john%202&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26102b)]

**7**Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim.

**8**Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.”

They did so, **9**and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside **10**and said, “Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.”

**11**What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*We pause to reflect on the readings before turning to prayer.*

**

**Prayers of intercession**

For the signs of your glory in the ordinary things of life, **give us thankful hearts and hear our prayers**

For the places where you are already at work to bring transformation in people’s lives.  
For the sharing of many gifts to build up our church communities.   
For the surprise of promises fulfilled beyond what we imagined.

For the signs of your glory in the ordinary things of life  
**All: Give us thankful hearts and hear our prayers.**

For restrained and simple living that honours the earth’s finite resources and the determination to change our lives.  
For all who confront the vested interests of fossil fuel companies and challenge climate science denial.  
For the political will to control our emissions and end our ceaseless consumption, and for healthy debate in Parliament on the Climate and Nature Bill.

For the signs of your glory in the ordinary things of life  
**All: Give us thankful hearts and hear our prayers.**

For the lost and lonely; for the sick; the disturbed and the despairing; that all will know your light and your life. *Today we remember especially ….*  
For ourselves, that our longing to see the kingdom you promise would lead us to action.  
For the bright hope of a world where all find safety, home and security, and for renewed commitment to bring it closer to reality.

For the signs of your glory in the ordinary things of life  
**All: Give us thankful hearts and hear our prayers.**

For fragile signs of peace in the Middle East amongst old hatreds and years of mistrust.  
For all delicate negotiations that build bridges between communities and make peace possible; and for the ability to resolve conflict and live in peace where we are.  
For the persistence of hope in the midst of devastation and for the renewal of the fire-scorched, war-torn and famine-ravaged areas of our world.

For the signs of your glory in the ordinary things of life  
**All: Give us thankful hearts and hear our prayers.**

 For moments of beauty that fill us with gratitude and hope, and for the first snowdrop of spring in the midst of frozen earth.  
For life that pushes its way into the light in spite of the struggle.  
For signs of growth in our communities and for people who encourage us in our day-to-day faith.

For the signs of your glory in the ordinary things of life  
**All: Give us thankful hearts and hear our prayers.**

For the feast of love to which all are invited and the taste of your goodness in the here and now.  
For the water of life you offer us and the promise that you will satisfy our thirst.  
For your love that calls us daily and fills our hands with more gifts than we can hold.

For the signs of your glory in the ordinary things of life  
**All: Give us thankful hearts and hear our prayers.**

*The Collect of the day*

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.**

Believing the promises of God,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

*The Lord’s Prayer*

*All* **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.**

***Conclusion***

At the wedding at Cana,  
Mary saw there was a problem.  
She told Jesus about it and he responded  
with unexpectedly abundant generosity.  
May we have eyes that see the needs of others,  
a faith that expects Jesus to help,  
and the confidence to pester him in prayer.  
**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.   
**Thanks be to God.**

**Contacting Church Office**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10.00am -12 noon

Email: [office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org](mailto:office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org) Tel:01884 250417 or 07733949295

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