

The Second Sunday after Epiphany

15th January 2023—11.00am

THE GATHERING

The Greeting

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe!
**From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

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

Opening Hymn TiS 787 [tune, Christ be our Light]

- 1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

***Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.***

- 2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.**

Christ, be our light

- 3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.**

Christ, be our light . . .

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA PAROCHIAL DISTRICT OF WANGARATTA WEST & THE WARBYS

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4. **Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.
*Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.***
5. **Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
*Christ, be our light . . .***

Words and Music © Bernadette Farrell 1957-,
admin. OCP Publications

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Two Great Commandments

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one;
you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind,
and with all your strength.’

Jesus said: ‘This is the great and first commandment. And a
second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

.The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
whose Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, is the light of the world:
may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah [49. 1–7]

Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me,
‘You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.’
But I said, ‘I have laboured in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.’

And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength—he says,
‘It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.’

Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,
‘Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.’

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm 40. 1-14

I waited patiently for the Lord:
and he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**He brought me up from the pit of roaring waters,
out of the mire and clay:
and set my feet upon a rock,
and made firm my foothold.**

And he has put a new song in my mouth:
even a song of thanksgiving to our God.

**Many shall see it and fear:
and shall put their trust in the Lord.**

Blessed are those who have made the Lord their hope:
who have not turned to the proud,
or to those who wander in deceit.

**O Lord my God,
great are the wonderful things which you have done,
and your thoughts which are towards us:
there is none to be compared with you;**

Were I to declare them and speak of them:
they are more than I am able to express.

**Sacrifice and offering you do not desire:
but my ears you have marked for obedience;**

Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required:
then said I, Lo, I come.

**In the scroll of the book it is written of me,
that I should do your will:
O my God, I long to do it, your law delights my heart.**

I have declared your righteousness in the great congregation:
I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, and that you know.

**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart:
I have spoken of your faithfulness and of your salvation.**

I have not kept back your loving-kindness and your truth:
from the great congregation.

**O Lord, do not withhold your mercy from me:
let your loving-kindness and your truth ever preserve me.**

A reading from The First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians [1. 1–9]

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
and our brother Sosthenes,
To the church of God that is in Corinth,
to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints,
together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord
Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God
that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have
been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—
just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—

so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn AHB 191/TiS 246 [tune, Christe Sanctorum]

1. **Christ is the world's light, he and none other:
born in our darkness, he became our brother;
if we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
*Glory to God on high.***
2. **Christ is the world's peace, he and none other:
no one can serve him and despise his brother.
Who else unites us, one in God the Father?
*Glory to God on high.***
3. **Christ is the world's life, he and none other;
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother—
he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father:
*Glory to God on high.***
4. **Give God the glory, God and none other;
give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father;
give God the glory, God in man my brother;
*Glory to God on high.***

Frederick Pratt Green (1903-2000)

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [1. 29–42] Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

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 of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jesus, hope of all who call on you, hear our prayers for all your people.

We pray for the nations of the world:

for all people in places of danger and conflict;
for the hungry, the homeless and the dispossessed;
for all who govern and all who administer the law.

Praying this week for: the Arabian Peninsula: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

By your light illumine the hearts of your people,
that we may learn to share justly the rich bounty of the earth
and live together in harmony and peace.

Jesus, Light of nations, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church:

for all leaders of churches and all who minister in your name;
for those who feel a sense of failure in their ministry;
for all with whom we worship in this parish.

We pray for The Diocese of Melbourne, Archbishop Philip Freier (Joy),
Regional Bishops and the Clergy and People.

For Clarence our Bishop (*Michelle*) The Parochial District of
Numurkah/Nathalia as they begin the search for a new Vicar.
the Parish leaders and communities at: Numurkah, Nathalia and Wakiti
Creek.

By your light illumine the hearts of all who follow in your way,
that we may faithfully serve you in all we do,
and by our lives lead others to your presence.

Jesus, Lamb of God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our community:

for all who work to enhance community life;
for all who are marginalised by our prejudice or neglect;
for our families, our neighbours, our friends and for ourselves.

We pray for all involved in Primary Industry: Farmers and farm
workers. Primary Industry organisations. Agricultural researchers.

By your light illumine our hearts,
that we may learn to be a caring and hospitable community,
where all are welcomed, valued and loved.

Jesus, Saviour of the world, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in need:

for those who cannot care for themselves

and for all with responsibility of care;

for the sad, the lonely and all who grieve the loss of loved ones;

for those in pain or anxiety, for the sick and the dying.

We remember before you dear Lord: Trent. Emily. Darby. Kate Jessup.

Vi Bussell. Nina Colson. Bronwyn. Josef. Kaye McKenzie.

Neliya Don Leonard. Nancy Backlund. Ross Backlund.

By your light illumine the hearts of all who are in distress, that they may know the comfort and consolation of your presence in their lives.

Jesus, Son of God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for your faithful servants of every age,

for those from this parish who have gone before us,

for all who have drawn us closer to you.

We remember this week those whose Years Mind occurs:

Raymond Harris. Malcolm Woodgate. Leon Hunt. Gwen Salisbury.

Brian Whitehead. Robert Salisbury. John Butcher. John Collier.

John Verdon.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.

And may light perpetual shine upon them.

You call us into your fellowship with Andrew, Peter and all the saints;

may we, like them, recognise you as the Messiah, offer ourselves in

your service and come at length into the light of your eternal presence.

Jesus, Redeemer of the world, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray;

**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.

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

cf Titus 2.11-14

Let us confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.
Have mercy on us,
forgive us all that is past,
and grant that we may serve you
and live a new life to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

the minister may say this Word of Assurance

if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous:
and he is the perfect offering for our sins,
and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world:

1 John 2.1,2

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ is our peace.
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.
The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.

2 Corinthians 5.17

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

All may exchange a COVID Safe sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn AHB 580. [tune, Lobe Den Herren]

- 1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation;
all you who hear,
now to his altar draw near,
join in profound adoration.**

2. **Praise to the Lord, let us offer our gifts at his altar;
let not our sins and transgressions now cause us to falter:
Christ the high priest
bids us all join in his feast,
victims with him on the altar.**
3. **Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work
and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend us:
ponder anew
all the Almighty can do,
he who with love will befriend us.**
4. **Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in us adore him!
all that has life and breath,
come now in praises before him!
Let the amen
sound from his people again,
now as we worship before him.**

Joachim Neander 1650-80
tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827-78 and others

This prayer is said

God of life and freedom,
we celebrate the revelation of Jesus
as the Christ who makes all creation new.
Accept all we offer you this day
and make us new in him,
who is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Notices

Closing Hymn—AHB 215/TiS 290 [tune, Corde Natus]

1. **Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!**

2. **O that birth for ever blessed,
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Spirit's power conceiving,
bore the Saviour of our race;
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!**
3. **This is he whom seers and sages
sang of old with one accord;
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long expected,
let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore!**
4. **In the heights of heaven, adore him;
angel-hosts, his praises sing;
all dominions bow before him,
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert sing,
evermore and evermore!**

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413);
trans. John Mason Neale, 1854; and Henry Williams Baker, 1861 and others

The minister says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13.14