

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

22nd January 2023

THE GATHERING

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

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 155 [tune, O Store Gud]

1. **O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand has made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:**
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art, how great thou art!*
2. **When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:**
Then sings my soul . . .
3. **But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die—I scarce can take it in
that on the cross, our burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away our sin:**
Then sings my soul . . .
4. **When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home—what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim: My God, how great thou art!**
Then sings my soul . . .

Words and music © Stuart K. Hine
1953 Kingsway Thank You Music
Based on Carl Gustaf Boberg 1859–1940
tr. from a Russian version Stuart Wesley Keene Hine 1899–1989 alt.

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

Loving God,
the light of the minds that know you,
the life of the souls that love you,
and the strength of the hearts that serve you:
help us so to know you
that we may truly love you,
and so to love you
that we may faithfully serve you,
whose service is perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah [9. 1–4]

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish.
In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun
and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make
glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee
of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

Psalm 27. 1-10

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?:

**the Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**

When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes,
come upon me to devour me:

they shall stumble and fall.

If an army encamp against me, my heart shall not be afraid:
and if war should rise against me, yet will I trust.

One thing I have asked from the Lord, which I will require:

**that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,**

To see the fair beauty of the Lord:

and to seek his will in his temple.

For he will hide me under his shelter in the day of trouble:

**and conceal me in the shadow of his tent,
and set me high upon a rock.**

And now he will lift up my head:

above my enemies round about me.

And I will offer sacrifices in his sanctuary with exultation:

I will sing, I will sing praises to the Lord.

O Lord, hear my voice when I cry:

have mercy upon me and answer me.

My heart has said of you, 'Seek his face':

your face, Lord, I will seek.

A reading from The First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians [1. 10–18]

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.'

Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.)

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

Gradual Hymn AHB 202/TiS 274 [tune, Crediton]

- 1. The people that in darkness walked
have seen a glorious light;
the light has shined on them who dwelt
in death's surrounding night.**
- 2. To hail you, Sun of righteousness,
the gathering nations come:
rejoicing as when reapers bear
their harvest treasures home.**
- 3. To us a child of hope is born,
to us a Son is given;
him shall the tribes of earth obey,
him all the hosts of heaven.**
- 4. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
for evermore adored,
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the great and mighty Lord.**
- 5. His power increasing still shall spread,
his reign no end shall know:
justice shall guard his throne above
and peace abound below.**

John Morison 1750-98 vv. 3-5
and compilers vv. 1-2

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew [4. 12–25]

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the
Gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.’

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, people possessed by demons or having epilepsy or afflicted with paralysis, and he cured them. 25 And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

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

Sermon

Silence for 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

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Lord, be a light to our path, and a strength for our journey.

When we call, have mercy and answer us.

May we hear and heed your call, that we may walk as children of light.

May we leave the trivial things of this world
to come to behold your glory.

As the disciples were called to be fishers of men,
keep us true to your gospel.

May we seek to bring others to you.

We pray for evangelists and preachers,
for Bible teachers, and leaders of study groups.

Lord, our light and our salvation,

Lord, be the strength of our life.

Shine in the dark places of our world,
that there may be hope and light.
We pray for impoverished peoples,
those who have suffered from natural disasters,
those who have suffered through the greed of others or through war.
In Ukraine, Russia, Somalia, Afghanistan, Pakistan
and in our own nation.

We remember all whose freedom is limited,
whose lives are darkened by cruelty.
Lord, our light and our salvation.

Lord, be the strength of our life.

Lord, with you is the well of life,
and in your light we shall see life.
We give thanks for parents
and pray that they may seek and find your strength for their service.
We pray for our families and loved ones,
for our places of work and the communities to which we belong.
Lord, our light and our salvation,

Lord, be the strength of our life.

- ◆ We pray for those who feel lost, without vocation or purpose.
We remember the unemployed, the redundant,
the severely handicapped.
We remember the world poor and the hungry.
We pray for all who are in sickness, especially those known to us and
those commended to our parish prayers: Trent. Emily. Brady. Kate
Jessup. Vi Bussell. Nina Colson. Bronwyn. Josef. Kaye McKenzie.
Neliya Don Leonard. Nancy Backlund. Ross Backlund.
Scatter the gloom from all who are in anguish.
Lord, our light and our salvation,

Lord, be the strength of our life.

We give thanks for all who have served you faithfully,
for those who have enriched the world by their goodness,
for the well known and those who were never noticed except by you;
may they continue to serve you in glory.
In particular we remember this week:
Marjorie Mathews. William Salisbury. Doug Elliott. Leo Jewell. Bobby
Muir. Frank Star. Bradley Hilder.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.

And may light perpetual shine upon them.

Lord, our light and our salvation.

Lord, be the strength of our life.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on 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.**

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 144/TioS 215. [tune, Laudate Dominum]

1. **You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.**
2. **Our God rules on high, almighty to save;
and still he is nigh, his presence we have;
the great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our king.**
3. **Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!
let all cry aloud, and honour the Son:
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.**
4. **Then let us adore, and give him his right,
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honour and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never-ceasing, and infinite love.**

Charles Wesley 1707–88 alt.
Reproduced with permission

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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour, be yours now and always,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

You anointed him as Messiah, the light of the nations,
and revealed him as the hope
of all who thirst for righteousness and peace.
By his death on the cross and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying/singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that we who eat and drink them
in obedience to our Saviour Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
may be partakers of his body and blood,
and be made one with him and with each other
in peace and love. ✠

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.' ✠

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' ✠

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

As we eat and drink this holy sacrament,
renew us by your Spirit
that we may be united in the body of your Son
and serve you as a royal priesthood
in the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Receive our praises, Father,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom and in whom,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life, to share in the body of Christ.
and that life is the light of the world:

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

The Agnus Dei is said or sung

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: grant us your peace.**

The Priest gives the invitation to receive communion.

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and
proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every
disease and every sickness among the people.

Matthew 4.23

Gracious God, lover of all,
by this sacrament you make us one family in Christ your Son,
one in the sharing of his body and blood,
one in the communion of his Spirit.
Help us to grow in love for one another
and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ.

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body
and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Closing Hymn—TiS 179 [tune, Praise My Soul]

1. **Praise with joy the world's Creator,
God of justice, love and peace,
source and end of human knowledge,
force of greatness without cease.
Celebrate the Maker's glory,
power to rescue and release.**
2. **Praise the Son who feeds the hungry,
frees the captive, finds the lost,
heals the sick, upsets religion,
fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence —
Friend and Stranger, Guest and Host.**
3. **Praise the Spirit sent among us,
liberating truth from pride,
forging bonds where race or gender,
age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure —
foolishness none dare deride.**
4. **Praise the Maker, Son and Spirit,
one God in community,
calling Christians to embody
oneness and diversity.
Thus the world shall yet believe, when
shown Christ's vibrant unity.**

John L. Bell 1949— and Graham Maule 1958—
Words from Wild Goose Songs 1, Heaven Shall Not Wait
by permission Wild Goose Publications

Blessing

Christ our Lord,
to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts,
reveal to you his glory
and pour upon you the riches of his grace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

St Michael's Ladies Guild:

Contact: Sue Wheeler (Events and catering Coordinator)
(m) 0414 259 154

Parish Women's Fellowship:

Contact: Jean Martens (m) 0408 497 169

Parish Men's Fellowship:

Contact:

Glenrowan Community Contact:

Convenor: Robyn Coles (m) 0427 662 209
Meets every 3rd Wednesday from 2 pm--3.15pm

St Michael's Friendship & Craft Group:

Contact Jenny Still (p) 572 18241
Meets Wednesdays at 9.30 am

Parish Paper & Pewsheets:

Margaret Gibson—margaret.a.g@bigpond.com (m) 0428 276 255

St Michael's Hall Bookings

Parish Office/Vicarage: (p) 5722 6692

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**OUR VISION IS TO
STRENGTHEN AND GROW
A COMMUNITY OF FAITH IN CHRIST**

Our Mission therefore is to: REAP

Reach out to all people,
families, the marginalised and disadvantaged
through Parish, community and personal engagement.

Encourage and educate our parish community
through discipleship initiatives.

Advance and develop relationships
with each other and the community
through Pastoral Care.

Promote, nourish and deepen our spiritual lives
through worship and outreach

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