



Sunday 17th January 2021

Led by Simon McDowell

Welcome to our service of Morning Prayer. Notices can be found on your [Friday Email](#), on our [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). Thanks to Janet Cottrell for choosing our music today.

Please join in today's service using the words in **bold**.

Opening Hymn

"O for a thousand tongues to sing"

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace

See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain;
His soul was once an offering made
For every soul of man.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood availed for me.

He speaks, - and, listening to his voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
Your loosen'd tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come,
And leap, ye lame, for joy.

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honours of Thy name.

Charles Wesley. 1739 Tune: "Lyngham" Thomas Jarman ca. 1803
Saint Michael's Singers Conducted by Paul Leddington Wright From the album :Alleluia, Sing! Recorded in
Coventry Cathedral © 2008 Classic Fox Records Released on: 2001-01-01

Prayer of Preparation

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus says, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand"
So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners,
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins,
and restore us in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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

Hymn

"Glorious things of Thee are spoken"

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
He, whose word cannot be broken,
Formed thee for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want remove:
Who can faint, while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,
Never fails from age to age.

Saviour, if of Zion's city
I, through grace, a member am,
Let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in Thy name:
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
All his boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure
None but Zion's children know.

John Newton, pub.1779 Tune Abbot's Leigh Reverend Cyril Vincent Taylor 1942
Choir of King's College, Cambridge · Conductor: Stephen Cleobury · Organ: Benjamin Bayl
From: Best Loved Hymns © 2001 Warner Classics, Warner Music UK Ltd

Psalm

Psalm 139: 1-6 & 13-18

- ¹You have searched me, LORD,
and you know me.
- ²You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.
- ³You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.
- ⁴Before a word is on my tongue
you, LORD, know it completely.
- ⁵You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.
- ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.
- ¹³For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- ¹⁴I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

¹⁷ How precious to me are your thoughts,[Ⓜ] God!
How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand –
when I awake, I am still with you.

**Glory be 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**

Scripture Reading John 1: 43-51 read by Kate Holliday

Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, 'Follow me.'

⁴⁴ Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, 'We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.'

⁴⁶ 'Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?' Nathanael asked.

'Come and see,' said Philip.

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, 'Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.'

⁴⁸ 'How do you know me?' Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, 'I saw you while you were still under the fig-tree before Philip called you.'

⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.'

⁵⁰ Jesus said, 'You believe[Ⓜ] because I told you I saw you under the fig-tree. You will see greater things than that.' ⁵¹ He then added, 'Very truly I tell you,[Ⓜ] you[Ⓜ] will see "heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on"[Ⓜ] the Son of Man.'

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn

“Jesus calls us o'er the tumult”

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea;
Day by day His voice is sounding,
Saying, “Christian, follow me.”

As, of old, Saint Andrew heard it
By the Galilean lake,
Turned from home and toil and kindred,
Leaving all for his dear sake.

In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,
Still He calls, in cares and pleasures,
“Christian love me more than these”.

Jesus calls us! By Your mercy,
Saviour, make us hear Your call;
Give our hearts to Your obedience,
Serve and love You best of all.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1852) Tune: “St Andrew” by E H Thorne, 1875
Songs of Praise at St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen. Released on 06/03/2016.

Sermon Nigel is opening God's word for us today

The Creed

I believe in God, The Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

Prepared and read for us by Deb Whittaker

The response is: Through our lives and by our prayers ~ **Your Kingdom come**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come;
your will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sin,
As we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
Now and forever. Amen.

The Collect

for the Second Sunday of 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 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

Final Hymn

"All hail the power of Jesus name"

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall,
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him, crown Him;
And crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him....

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet,
And crown Him....

Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him....

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall,
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him....

Edward Perronet (1780) Tune: "Diadem" James Ellor, (1838) 150 voice choir sing for Classic Hymns album "
Ancient of Days " Conductor : Sharada Shaffter
Organ : Arul Siromoney Recorded live at St Andrews Kirk, Chennai in 2008.

The Blessing

Grant, we beseech you, merciful Lord,
to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
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

Intro/outro music by www.purple-planet.com

Note

To contact the church please email office@stokepogeschurch.org or phone 01753 642331. Please do not come to the office in person without checking that someone will be there, as we are once again working from home.

Thank you for joining us today

Come, see, hear

John 1.43-51

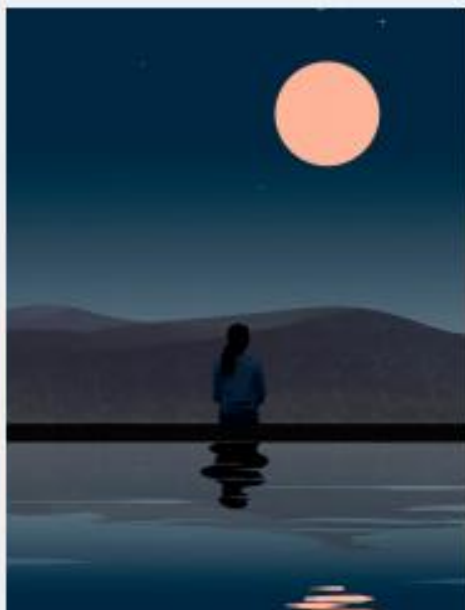
A short scene where Jesus finds Philip and he accepts Jesus' invitation to follow him straight away. Philip then finds Nathanael, but he is not so keen. Philip simply invites Nathanael to 'Come and see', to meet Jesus for himself and understand who he is.

Now read **John 1.43-51** above

A note on the passage

This is a story of two people encountering Jesus. Rather than try to persuade Nathanael that Jesus is the Messiah by clever arguments, Philip simply invites Nathanael to 'Come and see'. Some of us are like Philip and ready to follow straight away, while some of us are like Nathanael – full of questions and needing to see and hear for ourselves. Are you more like Philip or Nathanael, or somewhere in between?

Come



Jesus said that he knew Nathanael because he had seen him sitting under the fig tree. The fig tree is a symbol of peace, and it was common to sit undisturbed under its branches to meditate or pray. Where do you find peace? What helps you come to God in prayer? Perhaps you could go outside and find a sheltered spot by a tree, or maybe set aside a comfortable space in your house. Work out what environment best helps you to come, hear or see God. If you can't find/create the right environment, use this image to help you find peace and spend time with God.

See

Philip invited Nathanael to 'Come and see'. We may not feel like we have the opportunity to see Jesus in the way that Nathanael did. But we can see God at work, and we can learn more about God from what we see every day. Choose a household object – ideally, do this in a group with others, or share your thoughts with others – and use it to explain something about the way you see God, e.g. a colander – God filters out what you don't need so that you are left with the good things. Share your object and idea, and discuss the various ways we can see God and what God is like.

Hear

Listen to the sound clip at vimeo.com/406653924. What do you hear?

In a poll, 53% of people reported hearing the word 'Laurel' while 47% heard the word 'Yanny'. Different people listening to the same thing hear it completely differently. Think about, or discuss with others, how different people hear God in different ways. What helps you to hear God? How do you recognise what comes from God?

WATCH

Watch the film *The Snowman* [U] or look at the picture book by Raymond Briggs. The snowman's life is in two halves – in the first, James shows the snowman his world and in the second, the snowman shows James his. They each invite the other to 'come and see'. Talk to someone about your ways of connecting with and hearing God and ask them to show you theirs. How are they similar/different? What have you learned from each other? (As this is the week of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18-25 January – you may like to talk to a Christian of a different denomination/tradition.)



You will need: an empty container or jar, sticky notes or squares of paper, pencils.

Each evening, look back over the day and think of any moments when you heard God's call, or were aware of God's presence in your life or the lives of others. Write or draw a picture of what happened on a sticky note, fold it up and place it in the jar, giving thanks to God for that moment.

If you ever go through a time when God feels far away or absent, dip into the jar and pull out a sticky note to remind yourself of when you felt close to God.

Name _____



ROOTS Activity Sheet

17-23 January 2021
Epiphany 2

John 1.43-51

Philipp and Nathanael both have an unexpected encounter with Jesus.



Philipp brought Nathanael to, 'Come and see.'



Can you unjumble the letters to find the two friends who met with Jesus?

lipiph

ahcanaltn



Philipp brought Nathanael to hear from Jesus. Who would you bring to Jesus? Draw them into the picture.



Imagine you are Philipp and write an invitation for Nathanael to come, see and hear Jesus.

