

# **St Martin's Church, North Nibley**

**24<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

## **A Service of the Word for the Third Sunday of Epiphany**

### ***Gathering as the People of God***

Welcome in the name of Christ!  
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you!

*The priest introduces the service.*

### ***Hymn : Angel Voices***

1 Angel voices, ever singing, round thy throne of light,  
angel harps, for ever ringing, rest not day or night;  
Thousands only live to bless Thee, and confess Thee  
Lord of might.

2 Thou who art beyond the farthest mortal eye can scan,  
can it be that thou regardest songs of sinful man?  
Can we know that thou art near us and wilt hear us?  
Yea, we can.

3 Yea, we know that thou rejoicest o'er each work of thine;  
thou didst ears and hands and voices for thy praise design;  
craftsman's art and music's measure for thy pleasure  
all combine.

4 In thy house, great God, we offer of thine own to thee;  
and for thine acceptance proffer, all unworthily,  
hearts and minds and hands and voices,  
in our choicest psalmody.

5 Honour, glory, might and merit, thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, blessed Trinity!  
Of the best that thou hast given earth and heaven  
render thee.

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### ***Preparing for the Word***

We worship with Christians near and far, living and departed, old and young.  
God's word is for all of us.

May it be a lamp to our feet  
and a light to our path.

*You may like to open a Bible and place a candle lit near it.*

## **News and Notices**

### ***Opening Prayer***

Lord, speak to us  
that we may hear your word.

Move among us  
that we may behold your glory.

Receive our prayers  
that we may learn to trust you. Amen.

### **The Collect, the prayer for the day:**

God of all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen

### ***Proclaiming the Word of the Lord***

#### **Epistle** Revelation 19 vv 6-10

<sup>6</sup>Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out,

‘Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God  
the Almighty reigns.

<sup>7</sup>Let us rejoice and exult  
and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his bride has made herself ready;

<sup>8</sup>to her it has been granted to be clothed  
with fine linen, bright and pure’ — for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

<sup>9</sup> And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' <sup>10</sup> Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

### **Hymn I heard the voice of Jesus say**

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest.  
Lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad.  
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream.  
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am the dawning light.  
Look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun,  
and in that light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.

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### **Gospel Reading** John 2 vv1-11

#### **The Wedding at Cana**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup> When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' <sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' <sup>6</sup> Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup> He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. <sup>9</sup> When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' <sup>11</sup> Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## **Sermon**

### **Anthem** Almighty and Everlasting God by Orlando Gibbons

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities, stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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**Creed** *[Priest]* Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### ***Praying for Ourselves: for Forgiveness:***

**Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore to us the joy of your salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### ***The priest declares God's forgiveness***

**May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
forgive our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ***Praying for Others : our Intercessions***

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Hymn Hark! the sound of holy voices**

1 Hark! the sound of holy voices, chanting at the crystal sea:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord, to thee:  
multitude, which none can number, like the stars in glory stands,  
clothed in white apparel, holding palms of victory in their hands.

2 They have come from tribulation, and have washed their robes in blood,  
washed them in the blood of Jesus; tried they were, and firm they stood;  
gladly, Lord, with thee they suffered; gladly, Lord, with thee they died,  
and by death to life immortal they were born and glorified.

4 Now they reign in heavenly glory, now they walk in golden light,  
now they drink, as from a river, holy bliss and infinite;  
love and peace they taste for ever, and all truth and knowledge see  
in the beatific vision of the blessed Trinity.

5 God of God, the one-begotten, Light of Light, Emmanuel,  
in whose body joined together all the saints for ever dwell;  
pour upon us of thy fullness, that we may for evermore  
God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost adore.

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### ***Our service draws to a conclusion***

Almighty Father,  
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;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

### ***The Blessing***

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