

Virtual Worship: 4th Sunday after Epiphany

St John the Evangelist Anglican Church

Jesus went about Galilee, teaching, preaching, and healing every disease. See Matthew 4.23

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

Let us pray,

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name.

Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Living 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 glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.. Amen

The Proclamation of the Word

Psalm 111

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the Lord! they are studied by all who delight in them.

His work is full of majesty and splendour, and his righteousness endures for ever. He makes his marvellous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

He gives food to those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works in giving them the lands of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures for ever.

Generous and bountiful God, give us grace always to thank you and share your gifts with others, that the world may be filled with the joy of our Saviour Jesus Christ **Amen**

First Reading (Deuteronomy 18:15-20)

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak - that prophet shall die."

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 8:1-13)

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth - as in fact there are many gods and many lords - yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel (Mark 1:21-28)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching - with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey

him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Reflection: Rev. Donna Gauthier

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith as we say,

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father

He will come again 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

Let us join in prayer with God's faithful people throughout the world, saying
"God of Love: hear our prayer."

We pray for the unity of your church, that our life may reflect the love you have shown us. **God of love: Hear our prayer.**

We ask your grace for Jane our bishop, for Bishop Mary, for Rev Cheryl and the Rector of Kigina Parish in Buyé Diocese and for all who minister in word and in action, that we may bear faithful witness to your good news. **God of love: Hear our prayer.**

We seek your peace and justice in our world, our country, and our community, that the needy may never be forgotten. **God of love: Hear our prayer.**

We ask your blessing on our homes, our friends and family, and on those who live alone, that we may know your presence ever near us. **God of love: Hear our prayer.**

We name before you all whom you have given us to pray for including ... and all those who have asked for prayers, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can ask or imagine. **God of love: Hear our prayer.**

We commend to you all who have died especially Joan, that our trust in you may deepen as you keep them safe in your care. **God of love: Hear our prayer.**

We offer our thanks and praise for all you have done for us, rejoicing in the knowledge that you are with us always. **God of love: Hear our prayer.**

We look for your purposes to be accomplished, and ask you to fill us with the strength and vision to further your reign. **God of love: Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Doxology

Glory to God

whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord

Thanks be to God