

**Service of Morning Prayer.** Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January  
2021 Epiphany Sunday

**The Gathering of God's People**

*Welcome everyone by Revd Grant.*

*All Saints is an English speaking international  
Anglican Church,  
A church which is, at all times and in all seasons,  
committed to being a church of  
Up (worship & prayer),  
In (deep community & lifelong discipleship),  
and Out, (service of others & evangelism).*

Happy New Year everyone.  
Epiphany Sunday, which begins a new church  
season until the Presentation of Christ in the  
temple. A Sunday to celebrate the visit of the  
magi – wise men. Christ is revealed to the  
Gentiles. This season of Epiphany is an  
appropriate time to pray for the ongoing  
worldwide mission of the church – currently 2.1  
billion in our world have no gospel witness, no  
church to show God's love through Christ. The  
number of people who do not know Christ, is  
growing by 55.000 people per day.

*In the brief silence we settle into prayer, we hold  
before our Lord, the peoples of tribes, language,  
nation, that he came to save...*

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

**All and also with you.**



People of God: shout and sing!  
Tell the good news of peace on earth.  
Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace.  
All God's people say:  
**All Amen!**

Angels dance  
and the bright star shines.  
All creation bows to the Lord of all.  
Lord, bring us today into Christ's light.  
All God's people say:  
**All Amen!**

One with us,  
yet born to save,  
he will show us the way to God.  
Lord, bring us today into Christ's love.  
All God's people say:  
**All Amen!**

People of God: shout and sing:  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!**

**Opening Carol: Once in Royal David's City**

We have come together, the people of God,  
drawn by his Spirit, longing for his word,  
to praise the holy name of the Lord,  
to share his glorious news of grace,  
to pray our needs  
and the pain of the world,  
to rejoice in his love and be sent in his peace.

**Prayers of Penitence**

Christ the Light of the World has come to dispel  
the darkness of our hearts.  
In his light let us examine ourselves  
and confess our sins...

**Silence**

Lord of grace and truth,  
we confess our unworthiness  
to stand in your presence as your children.  
We have sinned:  
**All forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call  
to be the mother of Jesus.  
Forgive our disobedience to your will.  
We have sinned:  
**All forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour  
was born in poverty in a manger.  
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
We have sinned:  
**All forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks  
to go to Bethlehem.  
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.  
We have sinned:  
**All forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star  
to find Jesus the King.  
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.  
We have sinned:  
**All forgive and heal us.**

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

Blessed is the Lord,  
**All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**  
therefore shall our hearts dance for joy  
**All and in our song will we praise our God.**

**Gloria in Excelsis**  
**Glory to God in the highest,**  
**and peace to his 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 night has passed,  
and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

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.**

### **Proclaiming and Receiving the Word**

*Psalm 72 attributed to Solomon.*

- <sup>1</sup> Endow the king with your justice, O God,  
the royal son with your righteousness.
- <sup>2</sup> May he judge your people in righteousness,  
your afflicted ones with justice.
- <sup>3</sup> May the mountains bring prosperity to the  
people,  
the hills the fruit of righteousness.
- <sup>4</sup> May he defend the afflicted among the people  
and save the children of the needy;  
may he crush the oppressor.
- <sup>5</sup> May he endure as long as the sun,  
as long as the moon, through all generations.
- <sup>6</sup> May he be like rain falling on a mown field,  
like showers watering the earth.
- <sup>7</sup> In his days may the righteous flourish  
and prosperity abound till the moon is no  
more.
- <sup>8</sup> May he rule from sea to sea  
and from the River<sup>[b]</sup> to the ends of the earth.
- <sup>9</sup> May the desert tribes bow before him  
and his enemies lick the dust.
- <sup>10</sup> May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores  
bring tribute to him.

May the kings of Sheba and Seba  
present him with gifts.

<sup>11</sup> May all kings bow down to him  
and all nations serve him.

<sup>12</sup> For he will deliver the needy who cry out,  
the afflicted who have no one to help.

<sup>13</sup> He will take pity on the weak and the needy  
and save the needy from death.

<sup>14</sup> He will rescue them from oppression and  
violence,

for precious is their blood in his sight.

<sup>15</sup> Long may he live!

May gold from Sheba be given to him.

May people ever pray for him  
and bless him all day long.

*All* **Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

**NT : Ephesians 3:1-12 (Anouk / Winston)**

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Carol: We three kings.**

**Gospel: Matthew 2:1-15**

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle: A Song of the Chosen One**

(Words from Isaiah 11)

*All* **The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stock  
of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

**2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,**

3 The spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

*All* **The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

**4 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear,**

5 But with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

*All* **The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

**6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the goat.**

7 The calf, the lion and the fatling together,  
with a little child to lead them.

**8 They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy  
mountain,  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of  
the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.**

Isaiah 11.1, 2, 3b-4a, 6, 9

*All* **The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

*All* **Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

**Sermon : we welcome Peter Gillies to bring  
God's word today.**

**Post Sermon Carol: It came upon a midnight  
clear**

## **The Creed**

We stand with Christians throughout the centuries, and throughout the world today, to affirm our faith in the words of 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 from the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
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

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**



Merciful Father,  
*All* **accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

### **Offertory Prayer for gifts to All Saints**

Generous God,  
Creator, redeemer, sustainer,  
To you we present our money,  
Symbol of the work you have given us to do.  
Use it, use us,  
In the service of your world  
To the glory of your name.

**All Amen.**

### **Collects**

**All** O God,  
who by the leading of a star  
manifested your only Son  
to the peoples of the earth:  
mercifully grant that we,  
who know you now by faith,  
may *at last*  
behold your glory face to face;

**All Amen.**

### **As we begin a New Year ...**

Eternal Lord God,  
we give you thanks for bringing us  
through the changes of time  
to the beginning of another year.  
Forgive us the wrong  
we have done in the year that is past,  
and help us to spend the rest of our days  
to your honour and glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who called your Church to witness  
that you were in Christ reconciling  
the world to yourself:  
help us to proclaim the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
  
asking this through him who was lifted up on the  
cross, and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

Lord our God,  
you have helped us by your grace  
to make these prayers,  
and you have promised through Christ our Lord  
that when two or three agree in his name  
you will grant what they ask.  
Answer now your servants' prayers  
according to their needs;  
in this world grant that we may truly know you,  
and in the world to come  
graciously give us eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has  
taught us.

**All 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.**

### **Going out as God's People**

#### **Announcements**

##### **Life Groups.**

A fruitful time for people  
Gathering in 3s, to talk, share, pray, care,  
worship, to meet with the Living Lord who  
promised where 2 or 3 gather, he is there...

Using some great prayer resources called the  
Prayer Course: <https://prayercourse.org/>

## Alpha.

Begins Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

I wanted to invite you to be part of preparing for Alpha.

We shared last week about invitation. ACORN. We ask (A), we receive a name, the Call (C), whom God we believe lays on our heart. We obey (O) – he is asks us to invite. The Response (R) – we can only invite , the response is in God's hands. Notice (N) what God was doing – maybe you got into a new conversation about faith, notice what they say, you have new things to pray for, or even can share your response to what they say.

Any questions? Talk to Joshua, Nienke or Grant

## Final Carol: As with gladness

### Blessing

May the joy of the angels  
the eagerness of the shepherds  
the perseverance of the wise men  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of Christ  
be yours this Christmastide ;

and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**All Amen.**

*We finish with praying the grace together...*

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

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