



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Informal Service
2nd Sunday of Epiphany



Sunday 17th January 2021
St Michael's Church, Bemerton
10:30am

We begin

In the name of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.
Amen.

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognize God's presence with us.

Silence is kept.

As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship God together.

As we gather we share the peace

'Where two or three are gathered together in my name,'
says the Lord, 'there am I in the midst of them.'
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Let us offer one another a socially distanced sign of peace.

Words of welcome

We Collect our prayers together

Summoning God,
inviting us to see what we find hard to notice –
the blinkers we wear, the lies we accept:
as we are held in your gaze, may our faith awaken
to see your kingdom growing and heaven open wide;
through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

First Reading

Revelation 5:1-10

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a
scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven

seals; and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?' And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.'

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

'You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed
for God
saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;
you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our
God,
and they will reign on earth.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

(Robyn) **Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

(1:43-end)

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city

of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.' This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Worship Time

Intercessions

The Lord's prayer

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

We say sorry

Friend of sinners, you bring hope in our despair.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Healer of the sick, you give strength in our weakness.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Destroyer of evil, you bring life in our dying.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We are forgiven

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive *us our* sins,
open *our* eyes to God's truth,
strengthen *us* to do God's will
and give *us* the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Declaration of our belief

**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.**

Sending Out

**God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and
worship you now and always.**

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000. Scripture quotations are from The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, Anglicized Edition copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches in the USA. Used by permission.