

# **ST ANDREW'S CHURCH - MOSCOW**

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**

### **18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2026.**



## **A SERVICE OF THE WORD**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

*(Colossians 3: 14-15)*

We begin our worship by singing:

**Opening Hymn:** 537 – O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Good morning and welcome in the name of Christ.

Let us pray:

Faithful one, whose word is life: come with saving power to free our praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives for the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

We have come together as God's family to pray for the recovery of the unity of Christ's Church and for the renewal of our common life. The Lord is full of gentleness and compassion. In penitence and faith let us ask his forgiveness of our sins.

*A moment of silence:*

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us

to one another and to the Father:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your Father:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**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.**

### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** *(All Stand)*

**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 COLLECT**

Let us say the Collect together:

**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.**

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

### **First Reading – Isaiah 49: 1-7**

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' <sup>4</sup> But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.' <sup>5</sup> And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—<sup>6</sup> he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.' <sup>7</sup> Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalms 40: 1-12**

<sup>1</sup> I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

<sup>2</sup> He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,  
and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

<sup>3</sup> He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.  
Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> Happy are those who make the Lord their trust,  
who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

<sup>5</sup> You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your  
thoughts towards us; none can compare with you.

Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

<sup>6</sup> Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear.  
Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.'

<sup>8</sup> I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.’

<sup>9</sup> I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;  
see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

<sup>10</sup> I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness  
from the great congregation.

<sup>11</sup> Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me;  
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

<sup>12</sup> For evils have encompassed me without number;  
my iniquities have overtaken me, until I cannot see;  
they are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails me.

**Glory 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.**

### **Second Reading – I Corinthians 1: 1-9**

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **WORSHIP SONGS LED BY THE YOUTH GROUP**

416 – Lord, the light of your love

*Count your blessings*

1. When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,  
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

*Refrain:*

*Count your blessings, name them one by one;  
Count your blessings, see what God hath done;  
Count your blessings, name them one by one;  
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.*

2. Are you ever burdened with a load of care?  
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?  
Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly,  
And you will be singing as the days go by.

*Refrain*

3. When you look at others with their lands and gold,  
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;  
Count your many blessings, money cannot buy  
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.

*Refrain*

4. So, amid the conflict, whether great or small,  
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;  
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,  
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

*Refrain*

**Gospel reading - John 1: 29-42**

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'<sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me."<sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.'<sup>32</sup> And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.'<sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit."<sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' <sup>39</sup> He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **REFLECTION/HOMILY**

### **THE NICENE CREED** (*All stand*)

**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 with 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 to life in the world to come. Amen.**

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*This response is used:*

Lord, we pray to you: **you are our health and our salvation.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Believing the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 and the power, and the glory,**  
**forever and ever. Amen.**

#### **THE PEACE** *(All stand.)*

We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**Offertory Hymn: 229 – Good King Wenceslas**

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray together:

**Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer,**  
**at your table we present this 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. Amen.**

## **DISTRIBUTION OF RESERVED HOST**

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim your death,  
Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

*We invite you to receive the bread which has been duly consecrated by Fr. Arun and is now being used as the reserved sacrament.*

**Hymns during Communion:** 333 – Jesu, lover of my soul  
292 – If on our hearts the light of Christ has shone

## **NOTICES**

### **ACCLAMATION**

We are the body of Christ.

**In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.**

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
**and builds up our common life.**

**Closing Hymn:** 243 – Hail, thou once despised Jesus

### **CLOSING PRAYER AND DISMISSAL**

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **THE GRACE:**

We say together:

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

*Acknowledgment: Common Worship- Service and Prayers for the Church of England – Times and Seasons © The Archbishops' Council 2006. New Patterns For Worship, © The Archbishops' Council 2002.*