



## **St Edmund's Church Taverham and St Peter's Church Ringland**

Worship for the First Sunday of  
Epiphany  
9<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Today and over the next few Sundays we are in the season of Epiphany -a season of events that reveal to us more of who Jesus is.

### **Our gathering song**

#### **You are here, moving in our midst**

I worship you, I worship you  
You are here, working in this place  
I worship you, I worship you

*You are Way Maker, miracle worker  
Promise keeper, light in the darkness  
My God, that is who you are*

You are here, turning lives around  
I worship you, I worship you  
You are here, healing every heart  
I worship you, I worship you

That is who you are  
That is who you are  
That is who you are  
That is who you are

Even when I don't see it, You're working  
Even when I don't feel it, You're working  
You never stop, You never stop working  
You never stop, You never stop working  
(Leeland)

### **Words based on Psalm 118**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice in it!**

The Lord is my energy and strength.

**The Lord has become my salvation!**

O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;

**God's steadfast love goes on forever!**

(Silvia Purdie Let's say a Psalm 2019)

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness**

Longing for truth, we turn to you

Make us your own, your holy people

Light for the world to see

*Christ be our light!*

*Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness*

*Christ be our light!*

*Shine in your church gathered today*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled

Longing for hope, many despair

Your word alone has pow'r to save us

Make us your living voice

Longing for food, many are hungry

Longing for water, many still thirst

Make us your bread, broken for others

Shared until all are fed

Longing for shelter, many are homeless

Longing for warmth, many are cold

Make us your building, sheltering others

Walls made of living stone

Many the gifts, many the people

Many the hearts that yearn to belong

Let us be servants to one another

Making your kingdom come

(Bernadette Farrell)

**We believe in God the Father,  
who reveals his love to us in Christ.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who pours out God's Holy Spirit on us.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who teaches us God's truth.**

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

— written by Michael Perry. Posted on the **Jubilate** website.

**A reading from the gospel according to Luke beginning at chapter 3 verses 15-17, 21-22**

15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16 John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

*As you read and hear these words is there anything in particular that strikes you, perhaps a word or a phrase that you hadn't noticed before. Take some time to hear God say to you that **you** are God's beloved child.*

**O soul, are you weary and troubled?**

No light in the darkness you see?  
There's light for a look at the Saviour  
And life more abundant and free!

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus  
Look full in His wonderful face  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of His glory and grace*

Through death into life everlasting  
He passed, and we follow Him there  
Over us sin no more hath dominion  
For more than conquerors we are!

His Word shall not fail you, He promised  
Believe Him, and all will be well  
Then go to a world that is dying  
His perfect salvation to tell!

Keep your eyes upon Jesus  
Let no other one take His place,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of His glory and grace  
(Helen Lemmel)

Let us pray

**God, you loved this world so much  
that you sent your own son, Jesus Christ  
to live and die among us,  
in order that we might have life.**

**Forgive us for keeping that abundant life to ourselves,  
for jealously hoarding your generous gifts,  
for choosing self-interest over compassion and justice.**

**Teach us what it means to live as children of the light,  
generously sharing your abundance of life  
with our brothers and sisters in need. Amen.**

— Christine Longhurst, posted on the **Canadian Foodgrains Bank** website.

Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:  
may we recognise him as our Lord  
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Our Father, who art in heaven**

**Oh I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like**  
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night  
You tell me that You're pleased and that I'm never alone

*You're a good, good father, it's who You are  
It's who You are, it's who You are  
And I'm loved by you, it's who I am  
It's who I am, it's who I am*

I've seen many searching for answers far and wide  
But I know we're all searching for answers only you provide  
Because You know just what we need before we say a word

Oh you're perfect in all of your ways  
You are perfect in all of your ways  
You are perfect in all of your ways to us

Love so undeniable, I can hardly speak  
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think  
As You call me deeper still  
As You call me deeper still  
As You call me deeper still  
Into love, love, love  
(Pat Barrett & Anthony Brown)

Go now,  
confident that you are God's precious and pleasing children.  
Trust in God and do not fear.  
Accept the Word of God  
and point others to the one who baptises with Spirit and fire.

And may God be your protection and your strength;  
May Christ baptise you with his Holy Spirit.  
And may the Spirit be with you  
to empower you and give you peace.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,  
**...In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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**Now may the peace of the Lord be with you, be with you**  
Now may the peace of the Lord be with you, be with you  
Now and always

*May the Lord bless you, May the Lord keep you*  
*And may God's face shine upon you always*  
*And give you peace*  
(Graham Kendrick)

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