*Epiphany 2, Year B, 17.01.21*

*The Gathering*

*Hymn Lo, he comes with clouds descending*

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain;

thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears on earth to reign.

Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears,

cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshippers:

with what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen! let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory, claim the kingdom for thine own.
O come quickly, O come quickly; alleluia! come, Lord, come.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The Greeting*

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

*Prayers of Penitence*

The grace of God has dawned upon the world

through our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins.

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of peace:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh

and splendour of the Father:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Absolution*

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour

forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Gloria*

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

*The Collect*

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Let us pray

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 Liturgy of the Word*

*First Reading* **1 Samuel 3: 1-20**

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ and he said, ‘Here I am!’ and ran to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call; lie down again.’ So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, ‘Samuel!’ Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call, my son; lie down again.’ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, “Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.”’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’ Then the LORD said to Samuel, ‘See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.’ Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, ‘Samuel, my son.’ He said, ‘Here I am.’ Eli said, ‘What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.’ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, ‘It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.’ As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## *Second Reading* Revelation 5: 1-10

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.

*The Gospel*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations

and believed in throughout the world. *cf 1 Timothy 3.16*

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *St John*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## John 1: 43-51

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 toward 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.’

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon*

*The 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.**

*Prayers of Intercession*

*People in Zimbabwe pray daily for us. Let us also pray for them daily:*

*God Bless Zimbabwe, protect her children, transform her leaders,*

*heal her communities and grant her peace, for Jesus Christ’s sake. Amen*

*Pray for the people suffering hardship and hunger in Zimbabwe, and for our Link Dioceses: Bishop Ignatios in Central*

*Zimbabwe, Bishop Erick in Manicaland, Bishop Cleophas in Matabeleland and Bishop Godfrey in Masvingo, their clergy and people.*

*In the Diocesan Cycle of prayer we pray today for: St Laurence, Catford: Charles Pickstone (V); Iain Farquhar (PTO); Peter Charles (Reader); Grace Blyth (Reader) (PTO); Ijeoma Nwajiobi (SPA)*

*In the Anglican Community Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Bishops, priests and people of the Anglican Church of Australia.*

*In the Christ Church Cycle of Prayer we pray for those living in Ankerdine Crescent..*

*We also pray for all whose year’s mind falls at this time, especially: Brenda Valentine; Sue Crudgington*

Let us worship the Saviour with joy and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

The magi came from the east to worship your Son:

Father, grant to Christians everywhere

the spirit of adoration …

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:

Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ:

Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world …

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:

Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless, and all who suffer …

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth:

Father, protect in your love our neighbours,

our families and this community of which we are a part …

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels, the magi,

the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and all the faithful departed.

In your unfailing love for us and for all people,

hear and answer our prayers through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Merciful Father,

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

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

*The Peace*

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ’s peace.

*Hymn Will you come and follow me?*

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,

Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,

And admit to what I mean in you and you me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,

Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you, and never be the same.

In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.

Thus, I’ll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.

*Preparation of the Altar*

*Prayer at the preparation of the altar.*

Lord, accept your people’s gifts, not gold, frankincense or myrrh,

but hearts and voices raised in praise of Jesus Christ, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the magi the King of all the world was revealed to the nations. In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us. In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.

Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand. Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation;

may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. Bring us at the last with all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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

*Breaking of the Bread*

God’s holy gifts for God’s holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,**

**Jesus Christ is Lord,**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

*Agnus Dei*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

*Giving of Communion*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,**

**but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Hymn Hamba nathi*

*Prayer after Communion*

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.**

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,**

**that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home.**

**Dying and living, he declared your love,**

**gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,**

**so we and all your children shall be free,**

**and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Dismissal*

May God the Father,

who led the wise men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from light,

lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God the Son, who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,

transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit,

who came upon the beloved Son at his baptism in the river Jordan,

pour out his gifts on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn *I, the Lord of sea and sky*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my peoples pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone. I will speak My word to them, whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame .I will set a feast for them, My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide, Till their hearts be satisfied. I will give My life to them, Whom shall I send?

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