

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

**MORNING PRAYER**

THE FEAST OF EPIPHANY - January 8, 2023

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

We have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him *Matthew 2.2*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening All-Ages Song: *God Came To Us In Jesus*

**MORNING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, Son of David;

born to rule, you received gifts from the wise men.

**Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our Saviour.

**Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.

**Praise and honour and glory to you, O Lord most high.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now,** **and will be for ever. Amen.** **Alleluia!**

The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship.**

**Jubilate** *- Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*

**serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*

**he himself has made us, and we are his;**

**we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*

**give thanks to him and call upon his name.**

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*

**and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of Isaiah 60:1-6.

Arise, shine; for your light has come,

and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,

and thick darkness the peoples;

but the Lord will arise upon you,

and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,

and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;

they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,

and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses’ arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant;

your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,

the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,

the young camels of Midian and Ephah;

all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,

and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72

Give the king your justice, O God, \*

**and your righteousness to the king’s son;**

That he may rule your people righteously \*

**and the poor with justice;**

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*

**and the little hills bring righteousness.**

He shall defend the needy among the people; \*

**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*

**from one generation to another.**

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*

**like showers that water the earth.**

In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*

**there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**

He shall rule from sea to sea, \*

**and from the River to the ends of the earth.**

His foes shall bow down before him, \*

**and his enemies lick the dust.**

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*

**and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**

All kings shall bow down before him, \*

**and all the nations do him service.**

For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*

**and the oppressed who has no helper.**

He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*

**he shall preserve the lives of the needy.**

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*

**and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

Long may he live! and may there be given to him gold from Arabia; \*

**may prayer be made for him always,**

**and may they bless him all the day long.**

May there be abundance of grain on the earth,

growing thick even on the hilltops; \*

**may its fruit flourish like Lebanon,**

**and its grain like grass upon the earth.**

May his name remain for ever

and be established as long as the sun endures; \*

**may all the nations bless themselves in him and call him blessed.**

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, \*

**who alone does wondrous deeds!**

And blessed be his glorious name for ever! \*

**and may all the earth be filled with his glory.**

**Amen. Amen.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

A reading from the book of Ephesians 3:1-12.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 6 - Seek the Lord*Isaiah 55.6–11*

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*

**call upon him when he draws near.**

Let the wicked forsake their ways \*

**and the evil ones their thoughts;**

And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, \*

**and to our God, for he will richly pardon.**

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*

**nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.**

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \*

**so are my ways higher than your ways,**

**and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

For as rain and snow fall from the heavens \*

**and return not again, but water the earth,**

Bringing forth life and giving growth, \*

**seed for sowing and bread for eating,**

So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \*

**it will not return to me empty;**

But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \*

**and prosper in that for which I sent it.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.**

**Amen.**

Hymn: *I Heard The Voice of Jesus Say* (CP #508)

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (2:1-12). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. [***Silence***]

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.**

For this community, our country, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

For Davidour archbishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For our own needs and those of others.

[***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and intercessions, for yourself and for others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***]

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

[***Silence. Take a moment to offer up your own thanksgivings to God.***]

We will exalt you, O God our king;

**And praise your name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. [***Silence. Take a moment to remember before the Lord those we know who have died.***]

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

Gracious God,

you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;

you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking.

Grant our requests as may be best for us.

This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Creator of the universe,

the light of your glory shines in the darkness of our lives.

Make us attentive to your presence, prompt to serve you, and ever eager to follow in the steps of the one who is our true light, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen**.

Collect

*Eternal God,*

*who by a star led wise men to the worship of your Son.*

*Guide by your light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may know your glory;*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,*

*one God, now and for ever.* **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn: *All To Jesus I Surrender* (MP #25)

Dismissal

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.**