

A Liturgy of the Word Second Sunday after Epiphany
15 January 2023

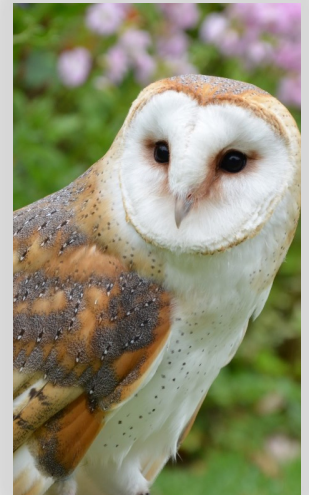
The video of the service or the sermon can be viewed on the website, YouTube or Facebook

Hymn

Father, Lord of all creation,
ground of being, life and love;
Height and depth beyond description,
only life in you can prove:
You are mortal life's dependence:
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;
Yours is every hour's existence,
sovereign Lord of time and space.

Jesus Christ, the man for others
we, your people, make our prayer
help us love, as sisters, brothers
all whose burdens we can share
where your name binds us together
you, Lord Christ, will surely be
where no selfishness can sever
there you love the world may see.

Holy Spirit, rushing, bringing
wind and flame of Pentecost
fire our hearts afresh with yearning
to regain what we have lost
may your love unite our action
nevermore to speak alone
God, in us, abolish faction
God, through us, your love make known.



Call to Worship

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Behold: Fire and Spirit in the womb that bore you:
Behold: Fire and Spirit in the river where you were baptised.

Fire and Spirit in our baptism:

In the Bread and the Cup, Fire and Holy Spirit.

In your Bread is hidden a Spirit not to be eaten,

In your Wine dwells a Fire not to be drunk.

Spirit in your Bread, Fire in your Wine,

A wonder set apart, yet received by our lips.

How wonderful your footsteps, walking on the waters!

You subdued the great sea beneath your feet.

Yet to a little stream you subjected your head,

Bending down to be baptised in it.

The stream was like John who performed the baptism in it,

In their smallness each an image of the other.

To the stream so little, to the servant so weak,

The Lord of them both subjected himself.

The Penitence

The light is among you for a little while longer.

Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you.

The one who walks in the darkness does not know where they are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become children of the light.

Let us call to mind and confess our sins:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father

in penitence we confess

that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

forgive us all that is past

and grant that we may serve you

in newness of life

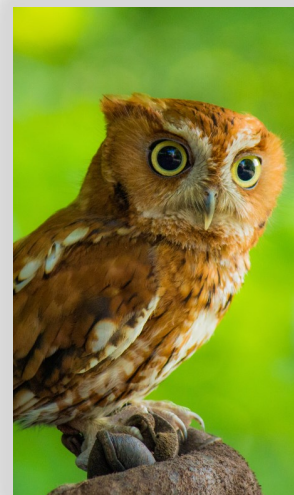
to the glory of your name.

Absolution

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins,

heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.



The Collect

Heavenly Father,
by your grace alone you accepted us
and called us to your service:
strengthen us by your Spirit
and make us worthy of our calling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and forever. Amen

Gospel Reading

Gospel: John 1:29-34

The Sermon

The Revd Sharmain James

Affirmation of Faith

I believe and trust in God the Father
who made the world.
I believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ
Who redeemed humankind.
I believe and trust in his Holy Spirit
who gives life to the people of God.
I believe and trust in one God
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

As we intercede on behalf of God's people let us pray for the Church, which is Christ's Body, and for the world, for which Christ died.

Gracious Father, we thank you for the holiday season which is now passed. We thank you for rest and restoration, for time spent with family and friends. As we resume our daily responsibilities in the workplace, in school and at home, this year may we be guided by your Holy Spirit and sustained by your peace.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We continue to pray for all scholars and students as they return to their various places of learning. We pray for our primary and secondary schools, especially those which may be under resourced or understaffed. We

pray that those with means, whether in the private and public sector, may work to relieve and improve the learning conditions of our children.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We bring before you all who are sick or suffering. We pray for those who are mentally or emotionally unwell. We believe that salvation in Christ is holistic and all-encompassing: restore to those in need health in body, mind, and spirit. We commend into your hands those who may have passed on over the holiday season and those whose year's mind occurs this week. May their souls rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for our country and its people. We pray for responsible and accountable leadership and governance on behalf of our citizenry. We pray for an end to corruption and an improvement in our law enforcement and policing structures. May public and private sectors work together to make our country a better place to live in for all.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Finally, we pray for the universal Church, may the bonds of fellowship and cooperation be strengthened across denominations and faiths. We pray for the leadership of our own Church, for Thabo our Metropolitan, for Steve our Bishop. May your Holy Spirit empower and equip the Church to fulfil its mandate to serve God's people.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We know you are a faithful God who hears our prayers. According to your will, grant them as it best for us, in the name of Christ. **Amen**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your Name
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen**

Final Blessing

In this season of Epiphany, may the light of Christ shine in your hearts and minds, may it illumine our path as we follow in Christ's footsteps; and may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you now and always. **Amen**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

Hymn

**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take:
proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord and King,
that all the world his glorious praise may sing.**

**Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all,
he will in grace respond to all who call:
how shall they call if they have never heard
the gracious invitation of his word?**

**Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:
share God's good gifts — let no one be denied;
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,
your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.**

**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, arise!
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
go till all nations his great name adore
and serve him, Lord and King for evermore.**



CREDITS

LITURGY

A Song of Ephrem the Syrian (in place of Gloria):

<https://cwdp.oremus.org/canticles/othercanticles.html>

Authorised Forms of Confession and Absolution (CoE)

<http://justus.anglican.org/~ss/commonworship/word/confessions.html>

St Michael's Anglican Church, Bryanston



MUSIC

Father, Lord of All Creation

Written by Bishop David Cross, published in 1951.

The tune is 'Abbot's Leigh' written by Cyril V. Taylor in 1941.

It is performed here from the Collegium Regale Network.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5fqJaLg3ug>

Go Forth and Tell (tune Yanworth)

Jubilate – Words and music for worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2kvft8QkiQ>

Giving

Thank you for your continued financial contribution to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.

E.F.T

St Michael's Church Bank

Standard Bank (051001)

Account Number: 000 176 397

Account Name: Bryanston St Michael

SNAP SCAN



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