

A Liturgy of the Word Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany











Ven. Moses Thabethe

Rev. Matthew Wright

Rev. Sharmain James

Rev. Margaret Place

Rev. Alison Thabethe

The full service or the sermon can be viewed on the website.

Processional Hymn

1.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. 3.Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.

Chorus

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

2.Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. 4.Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

Chorus

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

5.Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.





Artist: Bernadette Farrell

Call to Worship

Happy are those whose delight is in God's Word. They are like trees planted by streams of water.

They yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

We come to root ourselves in your love, O God.

May we bear the fruit of your Spirit, the fruit of your love. Amen

Introductory Rite

The Lord be with you **And also with you**



Praise the Lord:

Praise God, you servants of the Lord.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit: Blessed be God's Name, now and forever.

The Gloria

Tlotlo le be ho Molimo
Ea busang maholimong
Khotso e be teng lefatsheng
Ho batho ba lokileng
Re u boka ka thabo
Re phehella thorisong
Gloria! in excelsis Deo!

Re ntse re u khumamela Ka tumelo e phelang A re rosiseng Molimo Tebohong e sa feleng U mohloli e moholo Ea busang maholimong Gloria! in excelsis Deo!

Jesu mora oa Molimo U konyana e tlosang Libe tsa lefatshe lohle Re batla ho u rata U re hauhele bohle Ba llang mona lefatsheng Gloria! in excelsis Deo!

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord.



Sung by Ven Moses Thabethe

Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele Kriste, Kriste hi tsetselele Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele

The Penitence

Crowds gathered around Jesus and many reached out in faith to experience his life changing power. Let us return to the Lord in penitence with our whole heart acknowledging the wrong we have done and the good we have failed to do. Let us ask him to increase our faith so we may fully embrace his forgiveness







Let us confess together:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
In penitence we confess
That we have sinned against you
Through our own fault
In thought, word and deed
And in what we have left undone.
For the sake of your Son, 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. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you: pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Holy and righteous God,
You set before us life and death:
Grant us grace in the face of many temptations
To seek the mind of Christ and choose eternal life
For Jesus Christ our Lord
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Word of God

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Let your hearts rejoice in the Lord Let your word proclaim his deeds Let your voice sing out to the world That our God has come to save

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel Reading

Luke 6:17-26





sung by Ven Moses Thabethe





Sermon: Revd Sharmain James

Affirmation of Faith

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Holy God, help us to hold high the standard of your teaching, even when it is hard to apply it to our modern way of life. May we strive to never lower your standards, or to change what you teach, but to pray diligently for a realistic understanding of what you want for us in every aspect of our lives. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

We pray for all in our church, the people of Christ. We thank you for our clergy at St Michael's, who preach and for all those who pray. We support them in their calling and the immense responsibility of leadership. We pray for each of us, who make up the body of Christ, sharing their skills and their gifts for the benefit of all, making our church a worthy place. A place where we can all come to worship. As we approach the time of Vestry stir up the desire in all of us to serve where appropriate. Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Our world is a troubled and dangerous place. There are serious environmental issues and pandemic feel unresolvable; poor national leadership seems to threaten our governance and social media seeks to dominate our thinking. Protect us from the rivalry, vanity and pride of world leaders and the ego of self-proclaimed influencers. May your Peace enter their thinking. Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Loving God, we ask for your healing touch on all who are ill or suffering. We especially pray for any we know who are experiencing emotional pain or are broken in spirit through personal or family problems. Pour your blessings on all those who care for the vulnerable. We pray for those who face a life changing decision, for those who will make sacrifices for the sake of their families. For families where love is breaking down and for the children of broken homes. We pray for those in debt and the turmoil that it brings. Keep safe all family members who may find themselves in dangerous places and pray for all who are lonely and separated. We pray for the pain of bereavement. May your Holy Spirit bring healing to all in need. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

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



Prayer for Offering

With gratitude, God, we offer these gifts. You pour out blessing upon blessing for us. Now we celebrate this opportunity to return a portion of what you've first given us. Accept these offerings, and help us use these funds to further build up your Realm on earth. **AMEN**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your Name
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as 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 for ever. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, our heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in this liturgy of the Word.

Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Final Blessing

Grounded in God's love, we are sent out to share abundance with those who have so little.

Blessed with Jesus' hope, we go forth to fill the emptiness of those longing for justice.

Blessed with the Spirit's delight, we dance into the world to take the hands of our sisters and brothers, and gather at the edge of living waters for a picnic.

And may the blessing of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, this day and forever. **Amen**

Dismissal

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







Dismissal

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. 2 Perfect communion, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight. Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Saviour all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Saviour all the day long. [Refrain]

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest. I in my Savior am happy and bless'd, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]

> This is my story, this is my song, praising my Saviour all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Saviour all the day long. [Refrain] Author: Fanny Crosby (1873)





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

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