



A Liturgy of the Word: First Sunday after the Epiphany
10 January 2021



Ven. Moses Thabethe



Rev. Allie Joseph



Rev. Matthew Wright



Rev. Margaret Place



Rev. Alison Thabethe

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

Processional Hymn

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh.
Awake and harken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin:
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward.
Without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

[Psalter Hymnal, (Gray)]

Opening Prayer

All your children shall be taught by the Lord
And great shall be the peace of your children.

In righteousness you shall be established;
You shall be far from oppression

For you shall not fear any form terror,
For it shall not come near you.

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob
That he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. 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

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King
almighty God and Father
we worship you, we give you thanks
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
Lord God, Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**



**For you alone are the Holy One
you alone are the Lord
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**



The Collect for Purity

Let us pray.

**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.**



The Kyrie

Morena re hauhele, o re hauhele
Morena re hauhele, re hauhele

Kriste re hauhele, o re hauhele
Kriste re hauhele, re hauhele

Morena re hauhele, o re hauhele
Morena re hauhele, re hauhele

The Penitence

*See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God.
Let us therefore confess our sins, trusting in God's boundless and forgiving love.*

**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.**

The 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

Creator God, our soul's delight,
your voice thunders over the waters,
liberating the future from the past:
speak your affirming word
that we may share in the baptism of Jesus Christ,
drink from his cup
and serve the world in his name;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

The Word of God

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7



The Gospel Acclamation

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 a God has come to save.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Gospel Reading

Mark 1:4-11

The Sermon

by Rev. Matthew Wright

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**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 the 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

For the Church:

Lord of Word and Sacrament, we thank you for the gift of your Church. At this critical time of the COVID pandemic, where your Church has been closed once more, we pray that you would protect and sustain every one of your children by the presence of your Holy Spirit amongst them.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of the world:

All temporal power is granted by you, gracious Father. We ask therefore for a spirit of wisdom and compassion to reign among the leaders of the world. As work continues to roll out a COVID vaccine internationally, we pray that your will would be done, and justice would prevail.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**





For the leaders of our own country

Heavenly Father, we pray for the National Corona Virus Command Council, for the medical staff and government ministers who comprise this council, grant them wisdom and insight to make the right decisions for our country at this time. We pray for our president, Cyril Ramaphosa, and his cabinet, keep your hand of protection over them all, strengthen them to lead our country through this unprecedented crisis.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For all affected by COVID

Heavenly Lord, we now commit into your hands all those who have been, and will continue to be, affected by COVID – all doctors, nurses, and hospital employees. Protect them physically from the virus and protect them mentally and emotionally from burnout and stress. May your hand, too, be over all their families. We pray for all those who have been lost to the virus and the family members they have left behind. Grant them your peace and comfort, Lord. We pray for the untold millions who have been, and will continue to be, affected financially by COVID. We commit into your hands all those who have lost jobs and livelihoods. Guide us Lord, as we seek to find new ways, to meet the material needs of your people.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For families and friends

Gracious Father, at the Baptism of your Son, his sonship was gloriously revealed. We thank you that, by virtue of our own baptisms, we become part of your family. In this time of uncertainty and separation, grant to all earthly families your peace and comfort. Grant them, too, an overriding assurance that you will sustain them and see them through this difficult time.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious father, we make these prayers in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our supreme Saviour and Friend.

Amen

Blessing of Offering

God of love and joy, God of peace and hope, we are so grateful for these gifts, which bring comfort and courage even in the most challenging times.

Receive our gifts as tokens of our love and loyalty. Bless them with your grace so that they will bring love to those who need it so much this year.

Bless our lives, too, so that we shine with your love, blessing others in the name of Jesus, our friend and Saviour. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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 them that 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.**



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord of Hope
we give You thanks for a new year.
Despite all the uncertainty, fear, and anxiety, we arise
to a horizon guiding our eye beyond the everyday;
to a dawn gently lighting up the wonders of Your creation;
to a declaration of our unique identity as your sons and daughters.
For this and more we thank You.

Lord of Hope
We too acknowledge Your Son, our Lord, who goes before us;
into the hope that through His presence we will all be transformed;
into the promise of salvation for all.
For this and more we thank You.

Lord of Hope
we give You thanks for a new start.
We turn our backs on the ways of judgement and criticism;
reaching out to every brother and sister with generous compassionate hearts
For the promise of a new start, a new year, a new day,
for these gifts and for so much more we thank You. **Amen**



The Final Blessing

The Lord be with you
And also with you
May this day, this year unfold as it should;
may you find solace in scripture and spirit;
and may your journey into this new year
be filled with the hope and promise of God
for the sake and the peace of the world.
And may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

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





Recessional Hymn

Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light.



Author: John Marriott (1813)

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

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