

THURSDAY MORNING PRAYER – SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Arise shine, for the light of the world has come.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

O God, the star that led the Magi to the stable announced to the world that its Saviour was born. Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to the stable door. May our lives reflect your light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us. That we might be the means through which others can encounter Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. in your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

Time for reflection and confession either silently or aloud.

PSALM

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Common Praise no.160

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold.
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
so most gracious Lord, May we evermore be led to thee.

GOSPEL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - EPIPHANY

God of light and life our prayers rise before you this day in hope and faith.
We pray for your church, for our diocese, bishops, clergy and all people.

Flame of abundant love, be our joy in proclaiming your Good News to the World. **We pray for all coming to faith, all who wonder about faith, and all who are struggling with faith.**

Light of all creation, guide us to lead, teach and nurture your disciples.
We pray for all in need of food, shelter, clothing, and of God's healing touch, especially those for whom our prayers are especially desired.

We'll take a few moments to offer our prayers silently or aloud.

Comforter of the suffering, warm our hands to loving service. **We pray for the world, especially where there is trouble and suffering, far away or nearby.**

Ember of steadfast care, fuel our passion to challenge injustice and violence and to pursue peace and reconciliation. **We pray for the land on which we stand, the peoples, creatures, plant life and waters around us.**

Star blaze of glory, lead us to care for this fragile earth, our island home, and to heal the circle of creation. **God of radiant light, your love illumines our hopes before we know them, and our needs before we ask. Kindle your flame within us, that in our prayers and service, we may know your transforming presence at work in the world around us. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING LITANY

Let us give thanks to God our Father, always and for everything, saying "We thank you Lord."

For the beauty and wonder of creation,
We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men, women and children, revealing the image of Christ. **We thank you, Lord**

For our daily food, for our homes and families and friends,
We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think and hearts to love,
We thank you, Lord.

For health, strength, and skill to work, and for leisure to rest and play.
We thank you, Lord.

For those who are brave and courageous, patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
We thank you, Lord.

For all who pursue peace, justice, and truth,
We thank you, Lord.

For all the saints whose lives have reflected the light of Christ,
We thank you, Lord.

I invite any further prayers of thanksgiving and intercession, silently or aloud...

We say together a paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer

Abba, Amma, Beloved
your name be hallowed,
your reign spread among us,
your will be done well, at all times, in all places,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us the bread we need for today.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Let us not fail in the time of our testing.
Spare us from trials too sharp to endure.
Free us from the grip of all evil powers.
For yours is the reign, the power and the glory,
the victory of love, for now and eternity,
world without end. Amen and Amen.

CLOSING

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord,
Thanks be to God

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.**