

# Monday Evening Prayer for Epiphanytide

with centering prayer / contemplative sit.

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

*Invocation of a memorial or commemoration, as appropriate.*

*Bell x 3*

### Gathering Words

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our hope. **Thanks be to God.**

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### The Psalm

*The psalm of the day is said or chanted.*

...Glory to You, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

**The Reading**     *A reading of the day is read.*

### The Contemplative Sit

The Principles of Centering Prayer.

1. Choose a sacred word or a sacred breath as the symbol of your intention to consent to God's presence and action within.
2. Sitting comfortably and with eyes closed, settle briefly and silently introduce the sacred word as the symbol of your consent to God's presence and action within.
3. When engaged with your thoughts, return ever-so- gently to the sacred word. Thoughts include body sensations, feelings, images, and reflections.
4. At the end of the prayer period, remain in silence with eyes closed for a couple of minutes.

*20 minutes of silence begins and ends with a bell. We bow toward each other.*

### The Responsory

Arise, shine, for your light has come; the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

**Arise, shine, for your light has come; the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

God's salvation has been openly shown to all people.

**The glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:

**Arise, shine, for your light has come; the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

**The Canticale:** A Song of Christ's Appearing (1 Timothy 3.16; 6.15, 16)

*A Song of God's Children may be said or chanted.*

Christ Jesus was revealed in the flesh \*

and vindicated in the spirit.

Christ was seen by angels \*

and proclaimed among the nations.

Believed in throughout the world, \*

Christ was taken up in glory.

This will be made manifest at the proper time \*

by the blessed and only Sovereign, who alone has immortality, \*

and dwells in unapproachable light.

Glory to You, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit\*

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

**Affirmation of Faith: "Jesus" From "A Song of Faith"** (United Church of Canada)

We sing of Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, born to a woman in poverty...

He knew human joy and sorrow. So filled with the Holy Spirit was he

that in him people experienced the presence of God among them.

We sing praise to God incarnate.

Jesus announced the coming of God's reign;

a commonwealth not of domination but of peace, justice, and reconciliation.

Jesus healed the sick and fed the hungry. He forgave sins.

Jesus freed those held captive by all manner of demonic powers.

Jesus crossed barriers of race, class, culture, and gender.

Jesus preached and practised unconditional love—

love of God, love of neighbour, love of friend, love of enemy—

and he commanded his followers to love one another as he had loved them...

He was crucified. But death was not the last word.

God raised Jesus from death, turning sorrow into joy, despair into hope.

We sing of Jesus raised from the dead. We sing hallelujah.

By becoming flesh in Jesus, God makes all things new.

In Jesus' life, teaching, and self-offering, God empowers us to live in love.

In Jesus' crucifixion, God bears the sin, grief, and suffering of the world.

In Jesus' resurrection, God overcomes death.

Nothing separates us from the love of God.

The Risen Christ lives today, present to us and the source of our hope.

In response to who Jesus was and to all he did and taught,

to his life, death, and resurrection, and to his continuing presence with us through

the Spirit, we celebrate him as the Word made flesh,

the one in whom God and humanity are perfectly joined,

the transformation of our lives, the Christ. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

### **The Litany** Anglican Church of Canada

Redeemer of the nations, guide all who seek you with a pure heart.

**Host of the wedding feast, hear our prayer.**

Usher in your promised reign of justice and peace.

**Host of the wedding feast, hear our prayer.**

Encompass us with your light as with a cloak,  
and conquer the darkness of our night.

**Host of the wedding feast, hear our prayer.**

Feed the hunger of your people in desert places with your eternal bread.

**Host of the wedding feast, hear our prayer.**

Change our vessels of water into the gladdening wine of new life.

**Host of the wedding feast, hear our prayer.**

Welcome sinners to your banquet table.

**Host of the wedding feast, hear our prayer.**

*Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings  
may be offered in silence or aloud.*

### **Collecting Prayers**

*One of these, or another collecting prayer (collect) may be said:*

*Week of Epiphany:* O God of light and peace, whose glory, shining in the child of Bethlehem, still draws the nations to yourself: dispel the darkness that shrouds our path, so that we may come to kneel before Christ in true worship, offer him our hearts and souls, and return from his presence to live as he has taught. **Amen.**

*Week of the Baptism of Christ:* God, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, mark us with your image and raise us to live our baptismal vows empowered by the Holy Spirit and the example of Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

*Between the Baptism of Christ and Presentation:* Perfect Light of revelation, as you shone in the life of Jesus, whose epiphany we celebrate, so shine in us and through us, that we may become beacons of truth and compassion, enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy. **Amen.**

*Or* O God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus the Christ. Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth. **Amen.**

*Presentation:* God of steadfast love, you sent your Son to be the light of the world, saving people everywhere from sin and death. As Anna gave thanks for the freedom he would bring and Simeon say in him the dawn of redemption, complete your purpose once made known in him. Make us vessels of his light, so that all the world may glory in the splendour of your peace. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

...Rejoicing that the light has come  
and gathering our prayers and praises into one  
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,  
**Our Father** (or Source, or Maker, or Parent) **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.**

## **THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

### **The Dismissal**

God of immeasurable grace,  
Bless us with spirituality as deep as the ocean  
Call us to a discipleship as bold as the saints'.  
Compel us to a justice as daring as the Redeemer's love,  
In the name of our Impossible Hope, Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Jennifer Henry The United Church of Canada.

*Or* God, give our bodies restful sleep;  
and let the work we have done today  
be sown for an eternal harvest.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Jennifer Henry The United Church of Canada.

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

Almighty God grant us a restful night and a peaceful death. **Amen.**  
May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. **Amen.**

*We stand, bow to each other, and depart in silence.*

*Bell x 3*