



1<sup>st</sup> February 2026



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

### *Acknowledgement of Country*

We acknowledge the triune God, the Creator of heaven and earth and God's ownership of all things (Psalm 24:1). In God's sovereignty, God has allowed other groups to migrate to these shores. We acknowledge the cultures of our First Nations Peoples and are thankful for the community that we share together now.

**Cantor:** *Thank you for joining our service today, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany. Please stand to sing our opening hymn.*

### *Opening Song: Immortal, Invisible*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious,  
the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious,  
your great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, but ruling in might;  
your justice like mountains high soaring above,  
your clouds which are fountains  
of goodness and love.

You give life to all, Lord,  
to both great and small,  
in all life now living, the true life of all;

### *Minister's Greeting*

Grace and peace to you from the one who sits on the throne:

**God our Father and his Son Jesus Christ.**

Come and let us worship our God. **Let us be faithful to the end.**

Let us offer a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. **The fruit of our lips to honour his name.**

### *Sentence of the Day*

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

we blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree,  
then wither: but ever unchanged you will be.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;  
of all your rich graces this grace, Lord, impart-  
take the veil from our faces,  
the veil from our heart.

All praise we would render: reveal to our sight  
what hides you is only the splendour of light;  
and so let your glory, Almighty, impart,  
through Christ in the story,  
your Christ to the heart.

© Together in Song CCL Licence no: 89934

## *Prayer of Approach*

*Deacon will lead us saying,*

*Let us prepare our hearts for worship,*

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:**

**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. Amen.**

## *Collect of the Day*

*The Minister prays,*

Living God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## *Ministry of the Word*

**The first reading is from the book of the Prophet Micah, chapter 6 verses 1 to 8.**

<sup>1</sup>Listen to what the Lord says:

"Stand up, plead my case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say.

<sup>2</sup>"Hear, you mountains, the Lord's accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the Lord has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel.

<sup>3</sup>"My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. <sup>4</sup>I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. <sup>5</sup>My people, remember what Balak king of Moab plotted and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord." <sup>6</sup>With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? <sup>7</sup>Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

<sup>8</sup>He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

May your word live in us **and bear much fruit to your glory.**

**The Psalm of the day is number 15.**

**We will read this psalm in alternate verse.**

<sup>1</sup>Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent?

Who may live on your holy mountain?

**<sup>2</sup>The one whose walk is blameless,**

**who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart;**

**<sup>3</sup>whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbour,  
and casts no slur on others;**

**<sup>4</sup>who despises a vile person but honours those who fear the Lord;**

**who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;**

**<sup>5</sup>who lends money to the poor without interest;**

**who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.**

Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

Come, Holy Spirit, giver of life, breathe on your Church and make us a living people, holy and

free. **Come Holy Spirit, bond of love, pour your love into our hearts that we may serve you with joy.**

***2<sup>nd</sup> Reading is from Paul's first letter to the Church in Corinth, chapter 1, 18-31.***

<sup>18</sup>For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written:

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup>God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup>It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written: "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord."

Blessed are those who hear these words

**and take to heart what is written, for the time is near.**

*The Deacon will announce the Gospel song,*

### *Gospel Song: Be Still for the Presence of the Lord*

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here;  
come bow before Him now  
with reverence and fear:  
in Him no sin is found-  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire,  
with splendour He is crowned:

how awesome is the sight-  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place:  
He comes to cleanse and heal,  
to minister His grace-  
no work too hard for Him.  
In faith receive from Him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place.

© Mission Praise CCL Licence no: 89934

### *The Gospel of our Lord*

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 5 commencing at verse 1 through to 12. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>1</sup>Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup>and he began to teach them. He said:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the Good News concerning our Lord Jesus Christ.

**May our lives praise and honour his name.**

*Sermon: Rev John West will present the message*

*The Apostles' Creed*

*The Deacon will lead saying,*

*Let us affirm together the faith of the Church, the Apostles' Creed.*

**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 from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;**

**from there 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.**

*Offertory Hymn: Jesus, God's Righteousness Revealed*

Jesus God's righteousness revealed,  
the Son of Man, the Son of God,  
His kingdom comes.

Jesus, redemption's sacrifice,  
now glorified, now justified,  
His kingdom comes.

*And His kingdom will know no end,  
and its glory shall know no bounds,  
for the majesty and power  
of this kingdom's King has come,  
and this kingdom's reign,  
and this kingdom's rule,*

*and this kingdom's power and authority,  
Jesus, God's righteousness revealed.*

Jesus, the expression of God's love,  
the grace of God, the word of God,  
revealed to us.

Jesus, God's holiness displayed,  
now glorified, now justified,  
His kingdom comes.

*And His kingdom will know no end...*

© Mission Praise CCL Licence no: 89934

*The Prayer of the Week*

O Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are worth nothing: send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you; Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

*Prayers for God's mission and upcoming ministries*

*The rostered Intercessor will prepare prayers for our world, our community, those who are sick and those requiring specific needs.*

*Let us pray together,*

**Thank you, Eternal Father, for you have promised to not only hear our prayers, but to grant that what we have asked in faith we may obtain through the name of your Son Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

*We conclude by praying as our Saviour taught us:*

**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 forever. Amen.**

### *Preparation for the Lord's Supper*

*The Deacon will lead our preparations saying,*

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let me return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

### *Confession and promise of forgiveness*

In the presence of the One who walks amongst the seven lampstands in the temple of God, Jesus Christ the Son of God, let us bring our darkness to his radiant light, confessing our sins in repentance and faith,

**Holy God, we have disobeyed your commandments,  
we have resisted your call, we have failed to live by your generous love.  
We are sorry for all our sins, and ask you to forgive us,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Minister will declare the promise of forgiveness:*

God who is merciful and loving will not punish you as you deserve, nor repay you for your sins and wrongdoing. As high as the sky is above the earth, so great is his love for you; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed your sin from you. For those who have placed their faith and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ have been forgiven and made right with God. **Amen.**

### *Greeting of Peace*

God so loved the world that he gave his own Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Through believing in Him, we have been washed. We have been sanctified. We have been redeemed. Let us therefore share in the peace we have received.

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

### *Thanksgiving and Communion*

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

For he is the true High Priest, who walks amongst the lampstands in the temple of God with the seven stars in his right hand.

He is the one who made us a royal priesthood to serve you, our God and Father.

You anointed him as Messiah, the light of the nations,

and revealed him as the hope of all who thirst for righteousness and peace.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life,

he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

And now, gracious God, we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine,

and pray that we who receive them, in the fellowship of Holy Spirit,  
according to our Saviour's word, in remembrance of his suffering and death,  
may share his body and blood.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread,

and when he had given you thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'  
After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and  
for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

*Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith,*

**Christ has died                      Christ is risen                      Christ will come again.**

We eat this bread and drink this cup **to proclaim the death of the Lord.**

We do this until he returns. **Come, Lord Jesus!**

Father as we recall his saving death and glorious resurrection,  
may we who share these gifts be renewed by your Holy Spirit  
and united in the body of your Son.

Bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom,  
there to feast at your table and join in your eternal praise:

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive praise and honour  
and glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.**

### *The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion*

We who are many are one body in Christ. **For we all share in the one bread.**

*Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.*

**Announcements:** Please refer to the church newsletter for notices.

### *Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord*

Gracious God, thank you for feeding us with the spiritual milk of your word, and the spiritual  
nourishment of the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you for reassuring us of  
your goodness and love, and that we are living members of Christ's body.

Father, **we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.**

### *The Benediction and Blessing*

Let us trust in the Lord and do what is right, finding in him our joy and contentment; let us give  
ourselves to him, serving obediently with passion and zeal, waiting for him in patience; and the  
blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with  
you always. **Amen.**

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

### *Closing Hymn: Lord Your Almighty Word*

Lord, your 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.

Saviour, who came to give  
those who in darkness live  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
now to all humankind  
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving holy dove,  
speed forth your 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.

©Together in Song CCL Licence no: 89934