



Epiphany 6 Yr C – 16th February 2025

Greeter: Mehry

Meditation Song: He became poor (TIS 721)
(please remain seated)

He became poor that we may be rich,
loving the world and leaving his throne.
King of all kings and Lord of all lords,
flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone.
(Repeat)

Welcome:

Greeting:

May the light of Christ be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

Christ Candle: Brian

We light this light to remind us that Christ is with us.
Christ's light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

May we carry this light of hope, peace, and justice to the world around us every day.

Acknowledgement of Country: Christo

For this Land - **We give thanks!**

For the Gadigal and Wangal people - **We give thanks!**

We honour them for their custodianship of sacred stories and their connections with the deep earth and oceans. We give thanks for the grace they have shown in extending the hand of reconciliation to us in the call to pursue justice together for a better future for all.

May we walk together for justice and peace.

Call to Worship: (based on Psalm 1)

We rejoice and praise your holy name today, O God.

You keep us from a destructive path.

We give thanks because your word gives us hope,

We reflect on your word at all times.

You are the Source of deep-seated faith,

And our spirits are refreshed in your presence.

Opening Prayer:

We draw near to you, O God,
Source of all understanding,
and ask you to draw near to us.

Teach us your wisdom,
that we may bear good fruit in our lives.

Root us beside the streams of your wisdom,
that the green leaves of our goodness,
fed by your insight, may not wither,
but grow stronger as we rest in your loving embrace.

Amen

Hymn: Glory to our boundless God (TIS 189)

1. Glory to our boundless God,
who has promised peace on earth.
God the Father, glorious, strong,
heaven's Sovereign, Lord of all:
worship, thanks, and praise we give

when your glory we recall.

2. Let unceasing praise and prayer
come to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of God, incarnate Love,
Lamb who takes our sin away.
Risen and exalted Lord,
hear with mercy as we pray.

3. For in you alone we find
God's true holiness revealed:
You alone we claim as Lord,
Jesus Christ, through whom we see
God's own fullness manifest
in the Holy Trinity.

Prayer of confession:

When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work of reconciliation, which begins with our reconciling with God. Trusting in our God of Grace, let us make our confession, beginning with a time short time of silence...

O God,
we live our lives as best we can,
dealing with difficult relationships and situations,
putting failures and disappointments behind us,
and moving into each new day
with as much energy, goodwill,
and optimism as we can muster.
But here, right now, we confess that
we seldom have the right answers,
we seldom seek your higher wisdom in our lives,
before we speak or act.
Forgive us for not asking for your insight.
Fill us with your wisdom,
that we may live lives
of love and peace. Amen.

Words of assurance:

The light of God's love
shines into the dark places of our world,
healing its brokenness,
and bringing hope to places of despair.

In the light of God's love
we are a forgiven people.

Thanks be to God!

Peace:

Jesus came to bring peace among us.
Let us sow the seeds for peace in our world by
sharing the peace of Christ with one another.

May the peace of Christ be always with you
And also with you.

Let's share Christ's peace with those around us.

Hymn: What does the Lord require? (TIS 618)

1. What does the Lord require
for praise and offering?
What sacrifice, desire
or tribute did you bring?
Do justly,
love mercy,
walk humbly with your God.

2. Rulers of earth, give ear!
Should you not justice show?
Will God your pleading hear,
while crime and cruelty grow?
Do justly,
love mercy,
walk humbly with your God.

3. How shall our life fulfill
God's law so hard and high?

Let Christ endue our will
with grace to fortify.
Then justly,
in mercy,
we'll humbly walk with God.

Moment for the young at heart: Hector

Children's activity: Carolyn

Bible Readings: Marie

Introduction to Hebrew Scripture reading:

Our Hebrew Scripture reading from the book of Jeremiah encourages the reader to trust in the Lord. The context of the passage involves the strategy of Judah's leaders to form an alliance with Egypt against the Babylonians. Jeremiah's message to Judah and its leaders was to trust in the Lord, not in political and military alliances. As it turned out, the attempt to fight back prompted the Babylonians to tighten their grip, eventually destroying the city and temple and sending the Judeans, including Jeremiah, into exile.

Jeremiah 17:5-10 (The Message)

God's Message:

"Cursed is the strong one
who depends on mere humans,
Who thinks they can make it on muscle alone
and sets God aside as dead weight.
They're like a tumbleweed on the prairie,
out of touch with the good earth.
They live rootless and aimless
in a land where nothing grows.
7-8 "But blessed is the man who trusts me, God,
the woman who sticks with God.
They're like trees replanted in Eden,
putting down roots near the rivers—
Never a worry through the hottest of summers,
never dropping a leaf,
Serene and calm through droughts,
bearing fresh fruit every season.

⁹⁻¹⁰ “The heart is hopelessly dark and deceitful,
a puzzle that no one can figure out.
But I, God, search the heart
and examine the mind.
I get to the heart of the human.
I get to the root of things.
I treat them as they really are,
not as they pretend to be.”

Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷ He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Joy

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: David

The 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 in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever.
Amen**

Community News:

Offering Prayer:

As we faithfully give for the life and mission of God's church in this place and in the world, let's pray our offering prayer.

Thank you, God of grace, for all the gifts you give us.
Help us to be gracious givers
in response to all that we have received from you.
We give these gifts of money and our lives
trusting and hoping that you will use them and us
to be your light in the world.
Amen.

We hear from our children:

Song: The Lord is my shepherd (TIS 659)

1. The Lord is my shepherd
And I want to follow
Wherever He leads me
Wherever He goes
Over the mountains
The waters and byways
Valleys and highways
He's waiting for me

Chorus:

I want to go to meet him there
To lay myself down in His love
The Lord is my Shepherd
And I want to follow
Wherever He leads me
Wherever He goes

2. And while on the journey
To where we are going
He promised to be there
To help us along
And over the mountains
We'll walk on together
To know all the wonders
He's given to me

Chorus:

I want to go to meet him there
To lay myself down in His love
The Lord is my Shepherd
And I want to follow
Wherever He leads me
Wherever He goes

Benediction & Blessing:

Go into God's world,
bearing the light of hope and peace.
Bring the Good News of the love of God
through Jesus Christ to all people.
Go in peace.

And may Almighty God bless you;
Creator, Christ and Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always

3-fold-amen

Pastoral prayers: Christo

Acknowledgements:

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Acknowledgement of Country: adapted National Assembly working group on worship

Call to worship – adapted aworshipblogspot.com

Opening prayer: adapted ministrymatters.com

Prayer of confession: adapted ministrymatters.com

Commentary on Hebrew Scripture: Working Preacher

Assurance and benediction: adapted from – ministrymatters.com