

Blofield Benefice

A Service for the
Season of Epiphany



Praise the name of the Lord;
ascribe greatness to our God.

Lord, open our lips
and we shall praise your name.

cf Deuteronomy 32.3; Psalm 51.15

Opening prayer

Lord God, you sent the Lord Jesus Christ to be
the light of our world.

As he shines in our hearts may he banish all that
obscures your goodness and darkens our lives.

Illuminate our worship, with the light of your presence
and reveal your glory, in our hearts as we worship.

All

Amen

Hymn

- 1 Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad his wonderful name;
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.
- 2 God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
And still he is nigh, his presence we have;
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our king.
- 3 'Salvation to God who sits on the throne!'
Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

- 4 Then let us adore, and give him his right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honour and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never-ceasing, and infinite love.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
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Prayer of Confession

By the mercies of God,
let us confess our sins and present our bodies as a living
sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to him,
which is our spiritual worship.

Romans 12.1

All **Lord God,**
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from
our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore to us the joy of your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring *you* his pardon and peace, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Collect Prayer

God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation:
send your Holy Spirit to transform us
by the good news of everlasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Reading The Gospel of Mark.Chapter.1.21-28

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!”

“Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” The evil spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching – and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him.” News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

After the reading this response is used

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

The Confession of faith

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Praise Song

Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ, His Son.
(Repeat)

And now let the weak say 'I am strong,'
Let the poor say 'I am rich,'
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
(Repeat)

Give thanks *(Last time)*

Henry Smith (born 1952)
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The Intercessions

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

May your saving power be known on earth.

Jesus holy one of God, your teaching astounded those in the synagogue.

Build up your church through goldy preachers and teachers of your word,

Excite our hearts to hear your truth and declare your glory.

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

May your saving power be known on earth.

Jesus, Holy One of God, your authority awakened the people.

Raise up leaders of vision in the church whose authority under Christ will bring blessing to your people.

Raise up leaders of wisdom and justice to carry the burden of government in our nation

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

May your saving power be known on earth.

Jesus, Holy One of God, your fame spread throughout the region.

May the glory of your name spread through our communities and bring hope and the renewal of your kingdom.

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

May your saving power be known on earth.

Jesus, Holy One of God, your healing sparked amazement.

Give peace and wholeness to all disturbed by ailments of mind, body and spirit.

Especially today we live before you . . .

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

May your saving power be known on earth.

Jesus, Holy One of God, your bring hope to those in the shadow of death. Remember those who grieve over the death of a loved one today.

Bring your people to rejoice in your courts forever.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All

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 those who 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

A hymn is sung.

- 1 Join all the glorious names
of wisdom, love, and power,
that mortals ever knew,
that angels ever bore:
All are too mean to speak his worth,
too poor to set my Saviour forth.

- 2 Great Prophet of my God,
my tongue would bless thy name:
by thee the joyful news
of our salvation came:
The joyful news of sins forgiven,
of hell subdued and peace with heaven.

- 3 Jesus, my great High Priest,
offered his blood, and died;
my guilty conscience seeks
no sacrifice beside:
His powerful blood did once atone
and now it pleads before the throne.

- 4 My Saviour and my Lord,
my Conqueror and my King,
thy sceptre and thy sword,
thy reigning grace I sing:
Thine is the power; behold, I sit
in willing bonds beneath thy feet.

5 Now let my soul arise,
and tread the tempter down:
My Captain leads me forth
to conquest and a crown:
March on, nor fear to win the day,
though death and hell obstruct the way.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)
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Concluding prayer

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his
glory
and gladden your hearts with the good news of his
kingdom;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.