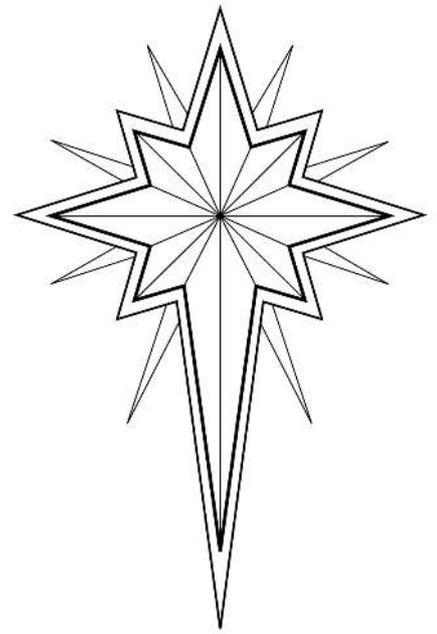


Morning Prayer at Home

Epiphany: January 2021

Wednesdays at 10am



Opening sentences

One thing I have asked of the Lord,
this is what I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life;
to behold the beauty of the Lord
and to seek Him in His temple.

Who is it that you seek?

We seek the Lord our God.

Do you seek Him with all your heart?

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Do you seek Him with all your soul?

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Do you seek Him with all your mind?

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Do you seek Him with all your strength?

Amen. Christ, have mercy.

Readings & Reflections from the Story of the Magi

6th January **Matthew 2:1-2**

At the time of king Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage'

Where do you come from? What are the influences and cultures that shape you?

13th January **Matthew 2:7-8**

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring word so that I may also go and pay him homage.'

Is there a mismatch between our words and our actions or intentions?

20th January **Matthew 2:12**

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

An encounter with God changes us and sets us off in a new direction. Where will our steps with God take us next?

27th January **Matthew 2:1-12**

Reading the whole story, give thanks for those who are prepared to be curious about matters of faith and set off to discover more. What questions do you have about faith or God?

Prayers for our world

At the end of each petition:

Child of Bethlehem, **hear our prayers.**

We come before you, Christmas child in silent amazement.
May we welcome you among us.....

As Mary welcomed you and rejoiced in God's holiness and mercy, we pray for the church as we celebrate your birth.....

As shepherds welcomed you, disturbing their work and lives, we pray for your disturbing presence in our world.....

As Joseph welcomed you, giving you a home and a name, we pray for all who seek shelter in our community today.....

As angels welcomed you, singing of glory and peace, we pray for all who seek healing and hope.....

As wise men welcomed you, risking a journey and following a star, we pray that we may take risks in following you.....

In our journeying we find you,
God of the unexpected places.

We find you there – in our doubts and our uncertainties, in our fears as well as our courage,
when we are brought low, when we need others to care.

Help us to journey on, knowing that you came to us,
and that you will never leave us. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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.
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**

Blessing

**May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,
wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the wilderness,
protect you through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors.**