

**Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'**



**Sunday worship and weekly news
10 January 2021**

**BAPTISM OF CHRIST / EPIPHANY I
Welcome everyone**

We welcome to our service today
Rev'd Canon Dr Sandra Millar

No doubt your Christmas decorations are now packed away, and home may seem a touch bleak, to go with the dark cold days of January.



The lectionary adds to this abrupt change of scene. The wise men and their gifts are behind us and we are suddenly moved forward thirty years, to the beginning of Jesus's adult ministry. Jesus is baptised by John, and the

voice from heaven is heard, revealing his real nature. Epiphany is exactly that - the revealing of Jesus to the world.

We cannot linger in the stable: it is time to resume our walk with Jesus.

Jonathan

Food Parcels

St George's Church, Grange Road, is now open for Food Parcel collections every Tuesday from 10.00am until 12.00noon. Each parcel includes tinned soup, pasta or rice, tea bags, cereal and other tinned or dry goods. Food parcels are FREE OF CHARGE. Please be aware of social distancing guidelines.

Today's Service on YouTube

The Service can be accessed from the church website;
www.glos-stm-stg.org.uk

Once into the church website click on the blue banner at the bottom of the page. Enjoy, and sing aloud to your hearts content.

Tree Planting

The tree planting on the 16 January is cancelled.

Order of Service

Jesus is baptised

Processional Hymn

Songs of thankfulness and praise

Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,
Manifested by the star,
To the sages from afar;
Branch of royal David's stem
In thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to thee addressed
God in Man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding-guest
In thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in power divine,
Changing water into wine:
Anthems be to thee addressed,
God in Man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight,
Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will,
Ever bringing good from ill:
Anthems be to thee addressed,
God in Man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see thee,
Lord,
Mirrored in thy holy word;
May we imitate thee now,
And be pure, as pure art thou;
That we like to thee may be
At thy great Epiphany;
And may praise thee, ever blest,
God in Man made manifest.



Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

Acts 19 Paul in Ephesus

Read by Georgina Wood

¹ While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ² He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' ³ Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.'





⁴ Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied ⁷ altogether there were about twelve of them.

Prayer:

Lord, thank you that it is your will for everyone to receive the blessings the Holy Spirit administers to those who receive you as Saviour. Amen

Psalm 29

Read by Roger & Brenda Meadows

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, **ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; **worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters **the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.**
- 4 The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; **the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.**
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; **the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf **and Sirion like a young wild ox.**
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;
- 8 the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; **the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- 9 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare; **in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'**
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; **the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.**
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; **the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

Prayer

Open our ears, glorious Lord Christ, to hear the music of your voice above the chaos of this world; open our eyes to see the vision of your glory, for you are our King, now and for ever.

Mark 1 The Proclamation of John the Baptist

Read by David Westcott

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have

baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. ⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Prayer

Lord thank you for John's ministry and ours, of proclaiming your coming and preparing the way. Amen

Reflection from Rev Dr Sandra Millar

A revelation of love

Our readings are doing that strange time shift again. On Wednesday we were remembering the wise strangers visiting the Christ child. Four days later and John the Baptist steps out from the wilderness and Jesus steps out from the crowds who have gathered to be baptised.

We are in the season of Epiphany – the season of revelation, and we may well feel that we need a revelation. Everything about feels uncertain and unpredictable as the world gropes its way towards hope and healing. The good news is that the revelation of Epiphany can help to give us the confidence to journey through the days ahead. For in these weeks we remember just who Jesus is, beginning with the visit of the wise strangers where we realised that he is the Christ for the whole world.

Baptism is the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, the beginning of a journey that will take him all the way to Jerusalem and the cross. In his baptism Jesus is revealed as the Son of God and anointed by the Holy Spirit. This is the one whom we are following and worshipping,

And the revelation that he has a purpose, and is loved and empowered is that same revelation that is spoken to each of us in our baptism, whether that was ten, twenty, sixty or eighty years ago. In your baptism you became a follower of Jesus, God called you his child, and the Holy Spirit came to anoint you for your whole life of love and service. There might not have been a voice from heaven or a dove visible, but the truth was spoken to you and for you.

It is the revelation that we are loved and have a purpose that will take us into the uncertain days ahead, enabling us to take one day – sometimes one hour – at a time, as we remember God's love for us and turn to worship the Christ who calls us to follow him.



(For those who cannot access the church website please use the commitment of faith shown below. Those who can access the website please follow the screen text.)

We declare together our commitment to 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.**

Intercessions from Lorraine Best



Heavenly father as we move from the season of Christmas to that of Epiphany may we bring the message of the Christ child - God with us - Emanuel - into all our thoughts and actions.

Lord Jesus - we pray for the unity of the church, remembering that she is your church, your body on earth at present, your bride of heaven in the future. As you went through the waters of baptism to fulfil all righteousness and set us an example to follow, may we follow your example faithfully relying on your righteousness and not our own self effort.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer...

Heavenly Father - we pray for the peace of the world. For all who exercise leadership and hold positions of power and influence. We ask that they will have courage and compassion, acting with justice and integrity. Lord Jesus - we long for the day when you are acknowledged as King of Kings and Lord of Lords and your will, will be done on earth as in heaven.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...

Holy Spirit, you descended at the River Jordan enabling Jesus to bring healing and wholeness to the people of his generation. You continue that work in our generation and we lift before you today those who are sick in body, mind or spirit... may they find health and renewal. For those who grieve... may they find comfort....and for those who are close to despair, may they find hope and renewed strength.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...

Almighty God, father son and Holy Spirit, we ask for a fresh revelation of your glory, love and faithfulness that we may continue to trust in your care and protection.

Merciful Father accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

Offertory Hymn

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes, with succour speedy,
To those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
That love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth;
Before him, on the mountains,
Shall peace the herald go;
And righteousness, in fountains,
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall bow down before him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him,
His praise all people sing;
To him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend,
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,
He on his throne shall rest;
From age to age more glorious,
All-blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand for ever,
His changeless name of Love.

Preparing to receive Holy Communion

Rev Dr Sandra Millar offers Communion on our behalf

Final Hymn

When Jesus came to Jordan

To be baptized by John,
He did not come for pardon,
But as the sinless one.
He came to share repentance
With all who mourn their sins,
To speak the vital sentence
With which good news begins.



He came to share temptation,
 Our utmost woe and loss,
 For us and our salvation
 To die upon the cross.
 So when the Dove descended
 On him, the Son of Man,
 The hidden years had ended,
 The age of grace began.

Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
 To keep the vows we make,
 This very day invade us,
 And every bondage break.
 Come, give our lives direction,
 The gift we covet most:
 To share the resurrection
 That leads to Pentecost.

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank on a Friday morning between 9.30am and 11.30am; new collection point is the Church Centre hallway. Please note the Centre doors will be locked so please ring the bell. Toiletries now accepted at the foodbank. Thank you!**

Know someone who:

- ❖ is stuck at home without support?
- ❖ can't make ends meet?
- ❖ Just wants to talk?

Then **Contact Gloucestershire Community Help Hub on 01452 583519**

Keep picking up the phone!

People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!



CONTACTING US:

Vicar: Vacancy (please pray for new appointment)
Reader: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis 01452 502174
Pioneer: Helen McGeoch 07729 615993
 Email: tuffleypioneer@gmail.com
Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk
Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon
Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456
 Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

The Administration office is open only on Friday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am until further notice.

Please contact the Church Administrator by email or leave a message on the office telephone and our Administrator will get back to you.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican).



This Week's News 10 – 17 January

In Memoriam:

Brian Woodruff, Kyle Howell, Margaret Dee, Marjorie Cotterill RIP

We pray for all who are ill or in need at this time mentioning by name:

Margaret, Angela, Susan, Mike and Laura, Lynne, Sarah, Pat, Sarah M, Christine, June, Daphne, Darren and family, Hedley and Rosemary, Christopher and Christine, David, Karen and Gregg.

Anniversaries of death:

Gilbert Holder, Sarah MacAlpine, Greta Welch, Ken Walden, Marion Slater, Cyril Curtis, Ruby Hopson, Donald Underwood, Peter Shields, Doris Green, Lily Yates, Brian Click, John Tarbox, Keith Elias, Percy Judge, Charles Hawkins, Lionel Chiswell, John Bullard, George Mitchell, Doreen Williams, Walter Sparey, Margaret Gallo, Joan Middlecote.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Sue Winter 11th.

DIARY DATES 10 – 17 January

Mon 11	2.30pm	M	Interment of Ashes for late Valerie & Harry Phelps
Wed 13			Crossroads deadline
Wed 13	8.15am	Z	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Z	Mission Group

M = St Margaret's Z = Zoom

Desert Island Hymns

What are your 3 favourite hymns?
 Over the next few months we are seeking to include 'favourite hymns' selected by members of the congregation in our services. Contact Jonathan, or Helen (See 'Contacting us' for phone numbers) and let them know which 3 hymns, along with your bible, you would take to a desert island.

Artlift are offering a free, online, arts course starting 22 February 2021 for those:

- recently diagnosed with cancer
- in treatment for cancer
- post cancer treatment

and also for those with a terminal diagnosis but not in palliative care.

As a way to reduce barriers to participation people can now self-refer and we then seek endorsement from their GP's/ Health Workers.

It's a 10 week online course, 22 February to 3 May 2021. No interest or experience in art is necessary.

It's proven to have significant positive impacts on participants' well-being.

If you live in Gloucestershire & you're going through or recovering from cancer treatment, give yourself a lift & contact them on: **03000 200102**

Or email them at referrals@artlift.org

JUST A LITTLE
Reminder

**For February's Crossroads
Deadline is...**

Wednesday 13 January

VACANCY STANDING COMMITTEE on ZOOM



4.00pm Tuesday 19 January

4.00pm Tuesday 2 February

4.00pm Tuesday 23 February

JOINT PCC ON ZOOM



7.00PM TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY