

Prayer

The 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.
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.**

Hymn

Angel voices ever singing, 34

Final Prayer

**Holy Jesus, before your infant form sages bowed the knee
and acknowledged your lordship over all power and
wisdom. Grant us also clear vision and courage, that in
the light of your light, we may devote our power and
potential to your service, even when that requires us to go
home by another way.**

Blessing

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts with the good news
of his kingdom and the blessing of God almighty, father, Son
and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Epiphany Family Worship

6 January 2008



Stars cross the sky, wise men
journey from pagan lands, earth
receives its saviour in a cave. Let there be no one without a
gift to offer, no one without gratitude as we celebrate the
salvation of the world, the birthday of the human race. Now it
is no longer, "dust you are and to dust you shall return", but,
"you are joined to heaven and into heaven you shall be taken
up". *Basil the Great (AD 330 - 379)*

Opening Verse - John Chapter 8:12

Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the light of the
world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will
have the light of life."

Opening Prayer

**Lord Jesus as we gather together
may your light shine upon us
as once it guided the steps of the magi
that we too may be led into your presence
and worship you the child of Mary
the Word of the Father
Saviour of all people. Amen**

Hymn

As with gladness men of old, 39

Confession

**God of all people and all places
like the magi, we would journey into the presence of Christ.
There we would lay our gifts before the Christ child.
We lay the realities of our lives, good and bad,
we offer our joy and happiness, our love and laughter
and we ask that they might be made holy.
We relinquish our bitterness, our hatred and our worry
we ask that we might be made whole.
Forgive us when, like Herod,
selfish ambition makes us willing to hurt others,
Forgive us when, unlike the magi,
we refuse to follow the light you give us.
Shine in our lives, through the light of Christ, in whom we
pray. Amen**

*The minister will pronounce words of forgiveness
May God grant you pardon, forgiveness of all your sins
time to amend your life
and the grace and comfort of his Holy Spirit. (Methodist W)*

Hymn

Come and join the celebration, 83

Offering

*(If you are a tax payer, please use the envelopes provided
so that we can reclaim tax, thank you!)*

**Guiding God, bless us on the road of life we travel as we
seek to follow your leading star. Lighten our minds with
your truth and help us to bring gifts worthy of the Christ.
that he may use all that we offer and make us wise in all
that we do.**

Bible Readings

Collect Prayer for the Day *(Before we read we pray)*

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Common Worship

Isaiah 60: 1-6, Ephesians 3: 1-12, Matthew 2: 1-12

R: This is the word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning, 65

Sermon

The Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman

Hymn

We three kings, 740

Affirmation of Faith

Let us confess the faith of the Church

**We believe in God the father,
who made the world
We believe in Jesus Christ, his Son,
who redeemed humankind.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God**