

Epiphany on the Jordan

by Steve Bell & Malcom Guite

<https://stevebell.com/epiphany-on-the-jordan-the-baptism-of-jesus/>

The heavens split and the water spilled
And streamed around that man like a quickening rain
A quickening rain
The word behind all worlds revealed
That God in man makes everything new again
New again
This word of God to His beloved
Has settled on me like a dove

He calls us too, to step into that river
To die and rise to life and love forever
So graciously extends to me a sinner
To tread the sacred waters of, the mystery of love

What can be said about a mystery
Except to say that the last word can never be said
Never said
Best leave that to poetry
Kindling words for quickening the dead
The living dead
Pure single heart behind all things
Each, to the other, by the Spirit sings

He calls us too, to step into that river
To die and rise to life and love forever
So graciously extends to me a sinner
To tread the sacred waters of, the mystery of love



A Gathering Prayer

Lord God, giver of light and life,
by your word you bring everything into being -
the far-flung galaxies and the tiniest atomic particle.
You have given us a world to enjoy and to care for.
Give us compassion in the use of its resources,
wisdom in our stewardship of your gifts,
and reverence for all that you have made - for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

Prayer for Others

Eternal God, it feels as if the whole world has changed
and yet in you there is stability and the opportunity of a new beginning.
So, we pray now for those whose lives are in turmoil,
those whose lives have been turned upside down, those who feel lost.
May they feel supported, find fresh hope:
Lord, use our prayers in Jesus' name to strengthen them.
(repeated after further prayers)

We pray for one another, our families,
our communities, our church fellowships.
May we support those who are unwell or grieving.
May we bring fresh hope to the forgotten and vulnerable,
and may we - both practically and prayerfully - share our faith
in your Son Jesus in whose name we entrust these prayers to you.
Lord, use our prayers in Jesus' name to strengthen them. Amen.

A sending out prayer

Lord, help us to be open to your prompting
as we seek to discover what you would have us be and do.
Remind us again and again that you have promised
to be our guide and companion on our journey.
Help us to look forward with renewed commitment,
and bless our thinking and speaking and doing
- for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

If you have any notices you would like included in this weekly sheet,
please email the Chaplain at YpresPadre@outlook.com
or Tel: +32 (0)493 306920 - Rev'd Andrew McMullon

During the present lockdown, there are no Sunday services and St George's Church remains closed.

You are invited to join the Chaplain for worship on Zoom this **Sunday at 10.30am**: link attached to this email - or ask

YpresPadre@outlook.com

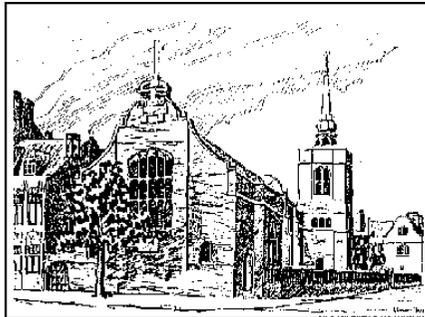
Epiphany Prayers

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.**

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please feel free to pass
a copy of this onto others
or send by email.*

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St George's Memorial Church Leper

**January 10th 2021
Baptism of the Lord**

Genesis 1.1-5; Acts 19.1-7; Mark 1.4-11

Copy and paste readings into the online Oremus Bible [here](#):

A New World!

Jesus' baptism at the start of his public ministry marked a new beginning for God's people with the inbreaking of the Holy Spirit and the inauguration of the Kingdom of God. John recognises both his own unworthiness and what Jesus will be able to achieve by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Our own new beginning comes through the forgiveness God offers us that is symbolised in our baptism. Yet that is not merely a once in a lifetime event, but daily chances offered to us by God to open our lives to his Spirit and look for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Any year, any day and every day can bring a new start in Jesus.



'Sharing God's Peace for all Nations through the Gospel.'