

*Benefice of Ilminster & Whitelackington*  
*Morning Prayer in Epiphany*



O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Your light springs up for the righteous  
**and all the peoples have seen your glory.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,  
king of the nations,  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
From the rising of the sun to its setting  
your name is proclaimed in all the world.  
As the Sun of Righteousness dawns in our hearts  
anoint our lips with the seal of your Spirit  
that we may witness to your gospel  
and sing your praise in all the earth.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*A Song of Joy*

- 1 O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth;  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Know that the Lord is God;  
it is he that has made us and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and bless his name.
- 4 For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting,  
and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## **The Word of God**

*Psalmody*

*The appointed psalmody is said.*

***If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here.***

*A Song of the New Jerusalem*

**Above you the Holy One arises,  
and above you God's glory appears.**

- 1 Arise, shine out, for your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.
- 2 Though night still covers the earth,  
and darkness the peoples;
- 3 Above you the Holy One arises,  
and above you God's glory appears.
- 4 The nations will come to your light,  
and kings to your dawning brightness.
- 5 Your gates will lie open continually,  
shut neither by day nor by night.
- 6 The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land,  
or ruin and devastation within your borders.
- 7 You will call your walls, Salvation,  
and your gates, Praise.
- 8 No more will the sun give you daylight,  
nor moonlight shine upon you;
- 9 But the Lord will be your everlasting light,  
your God will be your splendour.
- 10 For you shall be called the city of God,  
the dwelling of the Holy One of Israel.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Above you the Holy One arises,  
and above you God's glory appears.**

### ***Scripture Reading***

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
**let the whole earth tremble before him.**  
Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is King.  
**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**  
Tell out his salvation from day to day.  
**Let the whole earth tremble before him.**  
Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.  
**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness  
let the whole earth tremble before him.**

*Gospel Canticle - The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)*

**This is the Christ, the Chosen of God,  
the one who will bring healing to the nations.**

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.
- <sup>2</sup> He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.
- <sup>3</sup> Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,
- <sup>4</sup> To show mercy to our ancestors,  
and to remember his holy covenant.
- <sup>5</sup> This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- <sup>6</sup> Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

<sup>7</sup> And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

<sup>8</sup> To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

<sup>9</sup> In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

<sup>10</sup> To shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Luke 1.68-79*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**This is the Christ, the Chosen of God,  
the one who will bring healing to the nations.**

### **Prayers**

*Intercessions are offered*

*The Collect of the day or the following is said*

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

Believing the promises of God,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

### **The Conclusion**

May Christ, who sends us to the nations,  
give us the power of his Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**