

PRAYERS

As the community of the Benefice of Glastonbury with Meare apart and part of the whole, in isolation and in communion, near and far, together we pray . . .

COLLECT

(See Collects and Readings leaflet)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and
the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen**

THE CONCLUSION

**May the star we follow be the steady radiance of
God's mystery which we discern only in part but
can for ever trust. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Material from: Angela Ashwin, Walter Brueggemann, Kate Compston,
Jim Cotter, Kathy Keay, Kate McIlhagga, Ray Simpson, W L Wallace,
Common Worship, The Iona Community, The New Zealand Prayer Book,
The St Hilda Community*



**You can also find copies of the Daily Office
and suggested readings on St John's website
under 'LatestNews'**

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these resources with us.

The Benefice of Glastonbury with Meare

Holding the Silence 2021



Epiphany

**(from Epiphany until the eve of the Presentation
of Christ in the Temple)**

The Daily Office

**Morning @ 8.30am ~ Midday @ 12 noon
Evening @ 5.45pm ~ Night @ 9.00pm**

Epiphany embraces
the nations of the world,
kneeling on a bare floor
before a child.
Epiphany shows
a man kneeling
in the waters of baptism.
Epiphany reveals
the best is kept for last
as water becomes wine
at the wedding feast.

Kate McIlhagga

A candle may be lit at the start of the prayer.

PREPARATION

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

From the rising of the sun to its setting
Your glory is proclaimed in all the world.

Morning:

**Grant that this day and every day,
we may keep our shock of wonder
at each new beauty that comes upon us
as we walk down the paths of life:
and that we may say in our hearts
when horror and ugliness intervene,
Thy will be done. Amen.**

Noon:

Dear God, we bring the offering of ourselves this day, the gift of love in our hearts, the incense of prayer, the myrrh of our suffering, the gold of all that we hold most dear, that you may create through our loyal obedience such wonders as pass our imagining. Amen.

Evening:

As once you changed water into wine, change our drear day into sweet rest in you. Change the drudgery of the old and worn and of all for whom life's sparkle has gone. Amen.

Night:

Jesus, we offer you the gold of our desire to love, even though our hearts are often cold; we offer you the incense of our longing to pray, although our spirits can be lukewarm; we offer you the myrrh of our frustrations and troubles, even when self-pity and bitterness creep in. Receive and make good our gifts out of your great love for us, and grant that we, like the magi, may find some kneeling space at Bethlehem. Amen.

CANTICLE

Arise, shine out, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

Though night stills covers the earth, and darkness the peoples;

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

The nations will come to your light, and kings to your dawning brightness.

Your gates will open continually, shut neither by day nor by night.

The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land, or ruin and devastation within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, and your gates, praise.

No more will the sun give you daylight, nor moonlight shine upon you;

But the Lord will be your everlasting light, your God will be your splendour.

Glory to God, Source of all Being,
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be forever. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO READINGS

How you inhabit this text, how you disclose your hidden self through open and closed syllables . . . we do not know or comprehend. We ask for patience, alertness, discernment, and freedom as we watch your starchiness move from sound to sound. We give thanks that you have come fleshed in text, so powerfully textured are you. We give thanks in the name of Jesus, deeply textured as he was.

READINGS

(See Collects and Readings leaflet)

SILENCE

Morning:

Beckoning God, stir us with a holy discontent over a world which gives its gifts to those who have plenty already, whose talents are obvious, whose power is recognised; and help us both to share our resources with those who have little and to receive with humility the gifts they bring to us.

Rise within us, like a star, and make us restless til we journey forth to seek our rest in you. Amen.

Noon:

Holy God, whose breath is felt in the soft breeze and whose life surges through socket and screen, we seek your strength in the midst of the day. May we, and the peoples of the world work in dignity and walk in the beauty of the day. Amen.

Evening:

As once you changed water into wine, change our drear day into sweet rest in you. Change the drudgery of the old and worn and of all for whom life's sparkle has gone. Amen.

Night:

While we sleep, O God, let not our hearts cease to worship you, let our sleep be permeated by your presence, while creation keeps watch, singing psalms with the angels, and taking up our souls into its paean of praise. Amen.