



## St Oswald's Church: Worship and News Sheet

**17th January 2021**

**Epiphany 2**



### **Introduction**

Hopefully you will now be aware that we have suspended the holding of regular services in church. We have made this decision in the light of the very high rate of Covid-19 infections and we of course have a duty to protect people. The church will still be open on Mondays and Thursdays from 10am to 3pm for private prayer. There is a list further below of resources that can help you at this time.

This Sunday we have a service of **'Worship for All'** at **10.30am using Zoom**. Please do join us and feel free to invite others, particularly families who might not have participated before. The Link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9928421903> and will be open from 10.15am. We will hear the story of God calling Samuel. During the service we will spend a short time in smaller groups (breakout rooms). Before the service, please think of a time where you have felt close to God or where you have felt God speaking to you – maybe a particular place, or through a prayer, reading or piece of music – and, if you would like to, share this with the others in the small group.

All our readings today are all about God knowing us, calling us and commissioning us. Do read them, find out again about unlikely characters such as Samuel and Nathaniel and their encounters with God, and be encouraged!

Next week is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Further information will follow...!

## Opening prayer

Almighty God, you speak to us in so many ways.  
Help us, in our worship today, to hear your voice and know it is you.  
Speak to us in the silence, through Scripture and by the Spirit.  
Speak through others and through your creation, through images, experiences, music and encounters.  
Speak in ways that we can understand.  
So, speak, Lord – and help us to listen.  
Amen.

## Song: Will you come and follow me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o469PRLdbHU>

## Readings for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January

Readings: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10  
Psalm 139: 1-18  
Revelation 5: 1-10  
John 1: 43-end

## Song based on Psalm 139: O God you search me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCV01Wf2vhE>

## Reflection

<https://dioceseofyork.org.uk/news-events/news/sunday-reflection-with-the-canon-precentor-of-york-minster/>

## Song: Purify my heart.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VG3NaUZSnFI>



## **Prayers** (from rootsontheweb)

Come, let us worship the Lord who made us,  
who knows our every thought before it is formed.  
See the one from whom nothing is hidden – hear him speak.  
Come, let us worship and listen.

**Amen.**

Here I am, Lord.  
Speak, for your servant is listening.  
Act, for your servant is waiting.  
This week, I want to be attentive to you;  
I am listening, watching, waiting for you.  
Come, Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Come and see,  
and join in praying for the people of the world waiting to hear good news.

Loving God, we pray for the states of America to be united in the days and weeks ahead.  
We pray for an end to violence, for wisdom and protection for President-elect Joe Biden and all  
who will take office in a few days' time. We pray for those threatening to disrupt the inauguration,  
and for the police force and those entrusted with keeping the law and peace.

**Lord, hear our prayer and draw us all closer to you.**

We pray for those around the world at the mercy of extreme weather conditions.  
We pray for the people of Japan, of Indonesia, especially those rescue workers who died trying to  
save others, for those bereaved in the plane crash, for those in our own country without power and  
heat. We pray for those tackling the climate change challenges of our time and for our own  
response in our day to day lives.

**Lord, hear our prayer and draw us all closer to you.**

We pray for all who are pushed to their limits at work and at home, for Intensive Care Staff, for all  
in the emergency services, for GP's, teachers and school staff, for parents and students, for all  
whose mental health is at breaking point. We pray for our Government and all whose decisions  
affect millions of lives. And we pray for one another as we respond to the restrictions locally and  
nationally.

**Lord, hear our prayer and draw us all closer to you.**

We pray for those whose businesses are closed, whose shops are locked up, whose rooms have no  
guests, for those whose money is running out, for those on the brink of despair.

**Lord, hear our prayer and draw us all closer to you.**

We pray for your church, entrusted with the good news of Jesus, and charged with serving all those  
in need. We pray for hospital chaplains, for those ministering to the bereaved, and for one another  
as we seek to share our faith and our hope in Jesus Christ.

**Lord, hear our prayer and draw us all closer to you. Amen.**

## Collect

Eternal Lord,  
our beginning and our end:  
bring us with the whole creation  
to your glory, hidden through past ages  
and made known  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.



## Hymn – In Christ Alone

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWiFYJMGas0>

## Sending out prayer

Lord, what we have learned this day – help us remember.  
Teach us to recognise your voice.  
Teach us how to see you in our lives and encounters.  
Help us to give others space so that they may hear you too.  
Amen.

Thank you for your ongoing financial support for St Oswald's and the diocese.  
Don't forget there is a new on-line giving page available at:  
<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/fdc4c603-bdcf-4c89-94bc-c3507cdc8968>

## Resources for Lockdown

The service from **St Mary's Thirsk** is streaming live at **10.15am** on Sunday.  
To join, follow this link:  
<https://www.thirskparishes.org/live> or  
<https://www.facebook.com/ThirskParishes/live/>

There is usually a Church of England service, which one can listen to, linked from our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StOswaldSowerby>

## Daily Prayer

Join in prayers throughout the day using this site. It can be downloaded as an App too.... Want to see the words as well as hear? Then you can - the sound will continue.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Or Celtic Prayer with the Northumbria Community...

<https://www.northumbriacommunity.org/offices/how-to-use-daily-office/>

RSCM daily hymn and 'Sunday Self-service' for each week.

<https://www.rscm.org.uk/our-resources/hftd/>



## Phone Line

**Daily Hope** offers hymns, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a (**free**) telephone line. The line is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** Please pass this number on to anyone you know, especially those who do not have access to a computer and would like to listen to favourite hymns and prayers.

Our **church website** and the **Facebook page** are regularly updated with links to messages from our Archbishops and to other worship and prayer opportunities.

## Birthdays and Celebrations

This week we wish a very Happy Birthday to:

Dominic and Rohan Jackson who are 4 on 17 January  
Libby and Grace Simpson who are 13 on 22 January



May God bless you on your birthdays and in the year ahead.

If you have a birthday or a special anniversary in January please let Helen Irving know  
([helen@helenirving.co.uk](mailto:helen@helenirving.co.uk) or 01845 524308)