

## HOME WORSHIP FOR 17 JANUARY, THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

### OPENING PRAYER

You are here for us, O God; you give us certainty in an uncertain world. You encourage us to sing new songs: you joyfully set our worship free. Your challenge is as we go on the journey of life; it is your gracious way that leads to fulfilment. There is no end to the love you lavish on us; we know your love is there for us, in time and beyond time.

Our happiness comes through trusting God; God enables us to put life's lessons into practice.

Our peacefulness comes through trusting God: God gives us calm in the midst of life's storms.

Our courage comes from trusting God; with faith in God, we know a confidence that cannot fail.

Our community grows through trusting God; God is present in every welcome and as friendship grows and deepens. Amen.

### KYRIE CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father: Lord have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division: Christ have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with the Father: Lord have mercy.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and against one another, in thought and word and deed. We are truly sorry for our pride, and for our lack of faith, of understanding and of love. We repent of our narrow-mindedness, of our bitterness and our prejudices. Pardon and forgive us, save and renew us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### MEMORY VERSE – try to memorise these verses from today's readings.

*Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down. If someone calls out to you again, say, 'Speak, LORD. I'm listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.*

*The LORD came and stood there. He called out, just as he had done the other times. He said, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel replied, "Speak. I'm listening." (1 Samuel 3: 9-10)*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Heavenly Father, so full of forgiveness and mercy, fill your Church to the brim with such holiness that our understanding of your ways deepens daily, and all our work and worship glorifies your name. Holy God: release us in your praise.

Heavenly Father, so wise and perceptive, take us to the heart of all conflicts, and give us the grace to share in the healing between factions and nations, guided by your spirit. Holy God: release us in your praise.

Heavenly Father, so comforting and kind, help us to notice the needs around us, in our families, friends and colleagues, and respond to them in love. Holy God: release us in your praise.

Heavenly Father, so mindful of our pain, we bring to you our sisters and brother whose joints are stiff and whose bodies cannot move freely; thank you for their courage and example; we pray you will help their spirits to dance and fill their hearts with joy. Holy God: release us in your praise.

Heavenly Father, so faithful in your promises, we thank you for the eternal "Yes" of Christ which echoes through our lives and generations.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you." Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your church, and grant that peace and unity which is according to your will. Amen.

Glory to God, whose power, at work among us, can do infinitely more than all we can ask or conceive; to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.