

St James', Wulfstan Way, Cambridge

The Weekly Sheet

17 January 2021

THE 2nd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY



Today:

9.30 am Children's Activity via Zoom
10.00 am Sunday Service via Zoom

As you know we are currently in Lockdown and are likely to stay in this high level of restriction for a few weeks at least. It is permissible to hold public worship but having consulted with the PCC Standing Committee we feel that it is not advisable to gather in the church building at the current time. The recent spike in Covid cases means that we need to take a decision that is both caring and responsible to ourselves and the wider community. We hope to return to holding services soon but in the meantime, as we welcome the season of Epiphany and a hopeful beginning to a new year, we will continue with online services on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.

This Week:

Individual private prayer and reflection. The church will be open between 10.00 am and 12 noon on Monday and Wednesdays for quiet prayer.

You are very welcome to come in to church but please respect social distancing rules of 2 metres, wear a mask, and use hand sanitiser upon entering and leaving the church. Please do not touch Bibles and other literature.

Morning Prayer will be held via Zoom at 8.45 am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We will be using a recurring link as explained in this week's Weekly Update email. There is no mid-week Eucharist.

Bible reading and Prayer support group, including Compline (Night Prayer) will take place on Wednesday at 8 pm via Zoom.

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 21 January, 7.30 pm

PCC Meeting via Zoom

Collect for today

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

Today's readings are:

1 Samuel 3.1-10 [11-20]; Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18; Revelation 5.1-10; John 1.43-end

1 Samuel 3.1-10 [11-20]

Samuel's Calling and Prophetic Activity

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' [Then the LORD said to Samuel, 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.'

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, 'Samuel, my son.' He said, 'Here I am.' Eli said, 'What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.' So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, 'It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.'

As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18

O Lord, you have searched me / out and / known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you dis/cern my / thoughts from a/far.
You mark out my journeys / and my / resting place
and are ac/quainted with / all my /ways,
for there is not a word / on my / tongue,
but you, O Lord, / know it / alto/gether.
You encompass me behind / and be/fore
and / lay your / hand up/on me.
Such knowledge is too / wonderful / for me,
so high / that I / cannot at/tain it.
For you yourself created my / inmost / parts;
you know me together / in my / mother's / womb.
I thank you, for I am fearfully and / wonderfully / made;
marvellous are your / works, my / soul knows / well.
My frame was not / hidden / from you,
when I was made in secret
and woven in the / depths / of the / earth.
Your eyes beheld my form, as / yet un/finished;
already in your book were / all my / members / written,
as day by day / they were / fashioned
when as / yet / there was / none of them.
How deep are your counsels to / me, O / God!
How / great / is the / sum of them!
If I count them, they are more in number / than the / sand,
and at the end, I am / still / in your / presence.

Revelation 5.1-10

The Scroll and the Lamb

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals; and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?' And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.'

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

'You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;

you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God,
and they will reign on earth.'

John 1.43-end

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

Readings for next Sunday, 24 January (3rd Sunday of Epiphany) are:

Genesis 14.17-20; Psalm 128; Revelation 19.6-10; John 2.1-11

1000000 steps challenge for Arthur Rank Hospice - a message from Eleanor Pippard

I have decided to attempt the Arthur Rank's fundraising challenge to walk a million steps in a hundred days. This works out at an average of 10000 a day. To make it more interesting I have calculated that this is about the equivalent of walking from my house to Inverness, using roads rather than going 'as the crow flies' which would involve a lot of swimming. This means that each week I shall be able to see where I have got to in the country. The walk started on 11 January and finishes on 20 April.

Any sponsorship would be gratefully received to help this excellent charity. The link to my giving page is <https://arhc.enthuse.com/pf/eleanor-pippard-d0c4e>

Food Hub. The Food Hub will continue operating on a Saturday morning between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm here at St James'.

The food remains a basic food package ideally for those who are either struggling to pay for provisions or who cannot get to the shops or book an online delivery.

You can continue to donate to the Food hub and donations should be dropped off at St James' on Friday afternoons between 3.00 pm and 4.30 pm – thank you. Look on the Queen Edith Community Forum website to find more details about the food hub and to see a list of the most needed items and how to donate financially.

Advent Calendar of Giving. Thank you to everyone who has taken part. Now that we are in lockdown again, please do not return your bag at the present time. Please hold on to it and return when restrictions are lifted. Thank you.

Caroline is working from home and has access to the office answering machine and email - so please do contact her as you would normally.

Phone line. The Church of England central team have supported the release of the Daily Hope phone line. Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. Find out more here - <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/daily-hope-phone-line>

Prayer for Friends and Congregation of St James'

Sunday	Dawn and Steven Ridley
Monday	Steve and Emma Rothwell, Isaac and Leo
Tuesday	Ian Rowland
Wednesday	David Sanders
Thursday	Michael and Caroline Sanford and family
Friday	Janet and Robert Scott, Anne and Adam
Saturday	Peggy Shortley

Contacts

Priest-in-charge	Rev'd Steve Rothwell 246419 s.rothwell3@btinternet.com
Curate	Rev'd Anne Strauss stjamescurate@gmail.com
Churchwardens	Pam Butler, 07745 591235 pambutler27@hotmail.com Hatty Harris, 01223 504720 harrishatty458@gmail.com
Pastoral Assistants	Mary Calladine, (01223) 246742 Rosemary Monk, (01223) 246421 rem66@btinternet.com
Director of Music	position vacant
The Music Group	Grae Worster, 846295 mgw1@cam.ac.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Jill Bradley, 07971 013645 happybeadsuk@gmail.com
Church Office:	246419 (Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.15 am - 1.15 pm)
e-mail:	stjameschurchcambridge@yahoo.co.uk
Website:	stjamescambridge.org.uk

Weekly Church Activities – *currently suspended*

Junior Choir Practice	Sundays, 11.15 am – 12 noon
Choir Practice	Mondays 6.30 pm—7.30 pm
Meditation Group	Fridays 1.30 pm—2.00 pm

Community Activities – *currently suspended*

Beavers (6-8 yrs)	16thcambridgebeavers@gmail.com
Cubs (8-11 yrs, QE Schl)	Stephen Harrison, 07548 765421
Scouts (10½ - 14 yrs, QE Schl)	16thcambridgescouts@gmail.com

Our parish magazine **Crosspiece** is available on the website.

If you are ordering goods from **Amazon**, please remember to use the Amazon link on the St James' website fundraising page. It doesn't cost you any more but gives St James a percentage of the price you pay.