



13th February, 2022 Epiphany 6

WHAT IS IT TO BE BLESSED?

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 1, 'The Voice')*

God's blessings follow you *and await you at every turn*:

when you don't follow the advice of those who delight in wicked schemes,

When you avoid sin's highway,

when judgment and sarcasm beckon you, but you refuse.

² For you, the Eternal's Word is your happiness.

It is your focus—from dusk to dawn.

³ You are like a tree,

planted by *flowing, cool* streams of water *that never run dry*.

Your fruit ripens in its time;

your leaves never fade or curl *in the summer sun*.

No matter what you do, you prosper.

PRAYER FOR FIRST PEOPLES

Many people have gone before

who have honoured God

by caring for the Land,

in the ways they have lived

and in the stories they have shared.

We give thanks

for the nations and people,

who have held as sacred

the duty of protecting the Land

and living in harmony with it.

May God honour and bless them

– now and to eternity. *(2017 A. Koh-Butler)*

SONG

Come Holy Spirit. Fall afresh on me

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/670998557/fe5d525158>



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us draw near in faith and seek God's mercy; let us pray.

God our Holy Friend, we know that we are greatly loved, and invited by Christ into a holy and holistic way of life.

But in the world around us, and within our own being, there is displayed a plethora of fractured relationships, hopes, promises and creeds.

The dislocations of sin have turned what was meant to be paradise into a jungle where the survival of the strongest, greediest, most arrogant and ruthless, becomes the law by which most people live.

Great physician of souls and healer of communities, have mercy upon your fractured world, and upon each of us, as we come seeking the sanity of forgiveness and renovation. By the searching grace of Christ Jesus, expose and heal us all.

-----Silent prayer-----

ASSURANCE

My Friends, believe the Gospel. Allow it to embrace you, fill you, and release you.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be healed and liberated.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(take this time to pray for each other, the community and world)

SONG

Great is Thy Faithfulness

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/668485433/180359aead>

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, your love for us is revealed in the gifts of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. You call us to make these gifts evident in our lives. Receive and bless this offering as a symbol of our thanksgiving and as a sign of our commitment to be prophetic witnesses of your love and mercy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

READINGS

Luke 6: 17-26

Jeremiah 17: 5-10

REFLECTION

What is it to be Blessed?

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/673820771/9bd8086546>



SILENT REFLECTION

- What would it mean to think of yourself as 'rich'?
- What do you tend to be talking of when you speak of "blessings" or "being blessed"?

SONG

Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/660819494/05757456a9>

BLESSING

Go out from this church in peace.

Be humbly assertive, compassionately tough, prayerfully active,
and if others should scorn your faith,
go on your way rejoicing that you share the fortune of Jesus.

Amen!


The unwearying fellowship of the Creator, Redeemer and Counsellor,
will be with you now and always.

Amen!

SONG

May the Good Lord Bless and Keep you.

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/666375222/a4e1c4350d>



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Adapted from Bruce Prewer, Epiphany 6C