

ORDER OF SERVICE
23 January 2022
Epiphany 3

GATHER			
Call to Worship			Rev Allan Smith
Hymn/Song	Let all creation dance	TIS 187	
Prayer of Invocation			Rev Allan Smith
Praise Time (10min)	All heaven declares The Splendour of the King (How great is our God)	SCE 8/CCLI 120556 SCE (4) 2073/CCLI 4348399	
Welcome & Visitors candles, Celebrations, Green Cards			Rev Allan Smith
Prayer: Adoration, Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness			Rev Allan Smith
Passing the Peace			Rev Allan Smith
Children's Story			Emily/Selena
Song	Let the Weak say I am Strong	SCE 862/CCLI 2582803	
HEAR THE WORD			
Bible Readings	Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4: 14-21		
Message	<i>The Word of God – Then and Now</i>		Rev Allan Smith
Song (Optional)	Beauty for brokenness (God of the poor)	SCE 37/TIS 690/CCLI 1236690	
RESPOND			
Affirmation of Faith	Nicene Creed		
Offering Dedication			Rev Allan Smith
Notices & Concerns of the Church			Rev Allan Smith
Prayers of the People			Rev Allan Smith
Communion Song	Here is Bread	SCE 163/CCLI 983717	
Communion	Rev Allan Smith & Elders		
Song (after Communion)	Men of Faith (Shout to the North)	SCE 354/CCLI 1562261	
BLESS			
Mission/Benediction			Rev Allan Smith
Benediction/Going Out Song	Men of Faith (Shout to the North)	SCE 354/CCLI 1562261	

Preaching	Rev Allan Smith
Worship Introduction	Rev Allan Smith
Notices of the Church & Prayers of the People	Rev Allan Smith
Bible Reader	
Song Selector	Allan Smith
Piano	Selena Anderson
Backup Singers	
Additional Music	
Sound System	Nathan Rippingale
Data Operator	Harry Rippingale
Power Point Producer	Nathan Rippingale
Offering Collectors	NA
Communion Bread	NA

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 19)*

Come into this sacred space to worship God

whose teaching is perfect;

whose directions are sure.

Come into this holy place to worship God

whose standards are right;

whose commandment is clear;

whose judgements are true.

Come with holy fear —

to be given life, and made wise,

to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide.

Come — let us worship God.

Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts

be acceptable to you,

Source of life,

Word of life,

Breath of life. Amen.

Let us worship God.

SONG [Let all creation dance](#) TIS 187

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Lord God - as we gather today we ask that you would develop in us an immeasurable urge towards you, an affection that is unbounded, a longing that is unrestrained, and a fervour that throws discretion to the winds. Grant to us the same Spirit that was upon Jesus, the Spirit of mercy and of compassion, the Spirit of truth and of justice, the Spirit of power and of love. Lead us at this time by your most Holy Word - put it in our hearts and upon our lips - let it give light to our minds and shine through all that we do - to your everlasting praise and glory - both now and forevermore. Amen.

SONG [All heaven declares](#) SCE 8/CCLI 120556

[The Splendour of the King](#) (How great is our God) SCE (4) 2073/CCLI 4348399

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Spirit of the living God, we praise and adore you for empowering us to claim membership of the body of Christ, a gift received through the fullness of your grace. Empower us anew, we pray, with tongues of fire and hearts of love to proclaim the reconciling word among people. Remind us that we are all members of the one body and if one member suffers, we all suffer.

May we, as the body of Christ in this place, be the best evidence of your love by declaring and witnessing to this as the year of the Lord's favour for all people. We give thanks that all of us are Christ's body, and rejoice in each one being a part of it. Accept our adoration and praise for these great gifts, we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Author of Life, we confess that we have tried to write our lives our own way. We dream of earthly success and comforts and have forgotten those who struggle and are suffering. We have forgotten to seek the lost and least, and we put ourselves first as if we were the main characters.

Forgive us for not seeking your intention in our lives, to love you by loving our neighbors as ourselves. Remind us to seek a greater story than ourselves. In the name of Christ, who changes everything always, we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

For there is nothing we can do, no place where we can go, where we will be separated from our God who loves us. Know that you are forgiven and loved, and that the promise of new life begins now. Go and live this Good News.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SONG [Let the Weak say I am Strong](#)

SCE 862/CCLI 2582803

BIBLE READINGS

[Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10](#)

[1 Corinthians 12:12-31a](#)

[Luke 4:14-21](#)

SERMON [*The word of God, then and now*](#)

SONG [Beauty for brokenness](#) (God of the poor)

SCE 37/TIS 690/CCLI 1236690

OFFERING

Gracious, eternal, mysterious God, we bring our gifts with hopeful and faithful spirits. Bless the offering of these gifts and our lives that new hope and new possibilities are made real in the lives of those whom we serve in following Jesus. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Strong and joyful God, you call us together from many places and send us out to live as you have taught us. As you were present with the Chosen People, uniting them to rebuild their nation, we ask your presence with us in America as we work together to provide justice and mercy for all your children. Uphold faith-filled leaders in all nations and bring unjust rulers to find merciful solutions to their nations' problems. (Nehemiah 8:1-10)

Lord God, our rock and our redeemer, we come to you asking for strength to resist temptation. Your ordinances offer us guidance and great reward. Keep us mindful of our shortcomings so that we might deal graciously with those who also struggle with temptation. Help us to rebuild broken relationships and to move forward in your love. (Psalm 19)

Marvelous Creator, though we are divided among many churches we are already one body in your sight. Yet we continue to divide ourselves along lines of tradition, pride and purpose. We ask your forgiveness and we beg for strength to witness together in love so that the world may know of your salvation, accomplished through your son, Jesus the Christ. Bring us together in witness through serving others in your name. (1 Cor 12:12-31a)

Healing and releasing God, in your son you embodied hope for all. You offered good news of release, recovery and an end to oppression. Some of your children still struggle in these conditions.

This morning, we pray especially for...

Our eyes are fixed on you, Lord, to fulfill your promise of wholeness. (Luke 4:14-21)

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG [Here is Bread](#) SCE 163/CCLI 983717

SONG [Men of Faith \(Shout to the North\)](#) SCE 354/CCLI 1562261

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Go now, and live as one body in Christ.
Be at peace, and care for one another;
Suffer with one another and rejoice with one another.
Give your attention to the Word of God
and proclaim the good news of freedom to all.

And may the grace...

HOLY COMMUNION: Epiphany 3 Year C

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,
for you have baptised us into one body,
and anointed us to proclaim your reign in all the earth.

The earth and sky, which you created,
proclaim your genius from one day to the next.
The Law you gave through Moses
stands forever to revive the soul and guide the simple.

You sent your Word among us
in the human body of your child, Jesus Christ.
Anointed with your Holy Spirit,
he came with good news for the poor,
and a message of release for the captives,
sight for the blinded,
and freedom for the oppressed.

He was killed by the proud and powerful,
but you raised him to new life
and made us all members of his body
so that with all our gifts working as one,
we might fulfil your mission in all the world.

And so we praise you...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION