

Emerging

Not as in the old days I pray,
God. My life is not what it was.
Yours, too, accepts the presence of
the machine? Once I would have asked
healing. I go now to be doctored,
to drink sinlessly of the blood
of my brother, to lend my flesh
as manuscripts of the great poem
of the scalpel. I would have knelt
long, wrestling with you, wearing
you down. Hear my prayers, Lord, hear
my prayer. As though you were deaf, myriads
of mortals have kept up their shrill
cry, explaining their silence by their unfitness.

It begins to appear
this is not what prayer is about.
It is the annihilation of difference,
the consciousness of myself in you,
of you in me; the emerging
from the adolescence of nature
into the adult geometry
of the mind. I begin to recognise
you anew, God of form and number.
There are questions we are the solution
to, others whose echoes we must expand
to contain. Circular as our way
is, it leads not back to that snake-haunted
garden, but onward to the tall city
of glass that is the laboratory of the spirit.

*R.S. Thomas from his collection **Laboratories of the Spirit**, 1975*

If you have any notices you would like included in this weekly sheet,
please email the Chaplain at YpresPadre@outlook.com
or Tel: +32 (0)493 306920 - Rev'd Andrew McMullon

A Gathering Prayer

Almighty God,
we recognise that all authority
in heaven and on earth belongs to you.
We pray that you draw near to us today,
to impart your truth and show us your way. **Amen.**

Prayer for Others

God of our impressionable world,
we pray for the leaders of the nations,
that they would be wise, just and compassionate
as they exercise their authority.
We remember especially those in power in Russia -
and those protesting at the imprisonment of Alexei Navalny.
We remember the governments of the European Union, in the UK,
in the United States, and throughout the world
praying for all leaders as they discern the way forward
amid the difficult social and economic challenges of the pandemic.
May your truth be known,
and your love be shared in Jesus' name. *(Repeat for other prayers)*

We pray, in a moment of silence,
for all those on our hearts
and for all those who have no one to name them in prayer.
May your truth be known,
and your love be shared in Jesus' name. Amen

A sending out prayer

Almighty God, be with us this week.
Meet with us each morning,
and in every situation throughout the day, whoever we are with,
help us to draw on your strength and wisdom,
that we may be faithful and true
in following the example and pattern
given to us by Jesus. **Amen.**

During the present lockdown, there are no Sunday services and St George's Church remains closed.

You are invited to join the Chaplain for worship on Zoom this **Sunday at 10.30am**: link attached to this email - or ask

YpresPadre@outlook.com

Epiphany 4 Prayers

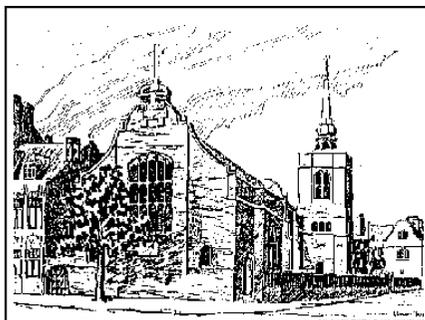
God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**



Please feel free to pass a copy of this onto others or send by email.

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St George's Memorial Church Leper

January 31st 2021

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18.15-20; 1 Corinthians 8.1-13; Mark 1.21-28

Copy and paste readings into the online Oremus Bible here:

<https://bible.oremus.org/>

Words and deeds - with authority!

Mark's fast moving and dramatic gospel continues with Jesus' healing of a man with an 'unclean spirit.' From the 'get-go' Jesus is clearly different from other teachers and make a real difference in people's lives. Jesus' authoritative teaching and his striking deeds show that he is the 'Holy One of God', and his reputation starts to spread.

What marks out someone's words as authoritative? What is it about Jesus' words and actions that reveal this quality?



'Sharing God's Peace for all Nations through the Gospel.'