

The Anglican Church of Freiburg
 Liturgy for the 23rd of January 2022
 The Third Sunday of Epiphany
 11:30 am Eucharist



Personal preparation before the service begins.

Please take time to remember where you are,
 and why you are here.
 Give thanks and become still
 in the presence of God

The Prelude

The Opening Words

O God, you are my God, I seek you,
 my soul thirsts for you;
 my flesh faints for you,
 as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
 Because your steadfast love is better than life,
 my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Psalm 64:1-4

Opening Hymn: ACF 22 Come Let Us Return

(Men) Come, let us return to the Lord,
(Women) come, let us return to the Lord;
(All) Come let us return to the Lord,
 let us return to the Lord.

1. As surely as the sun rises,
 He will appear, He will appear;

He will come to us like winter rains,
like the spring rains that water the earth.

(Men) Come, let us return to the Lord,
(Women) come, let us return to the Lord;
(All) Come let us return to the Lord,
let us return to the Lord.

Though He tore us, He will heal us.
Though He tore us, He will heal us.
Let us return to the Lord.

2. Come let us press on to know Him,
walk in His ways, walk in His ways;
That we may live in His presence
all of our days, all of our days.

(Men) Come, let us return to the Lord,
(Women) come, let us return to the Lord;
(All) Come let us return to the Lord,
let us return to the Lord.

Seek Him, find Him, know Him, love Him.
Seek Him, find Him, know Him, love Him.
Let us return to the Lord.

(Men) Come, let us return to the Lord,
(Women) come, let us return to the Lord;
(All) Come let us return to the Lord,
Come let us return to the Lord.
Let us return to the Lord.
Let us return to the Lord.
Let us return to the Lord.

The Praise and Thanksgiving

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:15-16

Gloria in Excelsis (sung)

**All Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
as we gather at the Lord's table
we must recall the promises and warnings
given to us in the Scriptures.
Let us therefore examine ourselves and repent of our
sins.
Let us give thanks to God
for his redemption of the world through his Son Jesus
Christ,
and as we remember Christ's death for us,

and receive this pledge of his love,
let us resolve to serve him in holiness and
righteousness
all the days of our life.

Invitation to Confession

You then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins,
and are in love and charity with your neighbours,
and intend to lead a new life,
following the commandments of God,
and walking from this day forward in his holy ways:
draw near with faith,
and take this holy sacrament to your comfort;
and make your humble confession to almighty God.

Prayer of Confession

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our
neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
 who in his great mercy
 has promised forgiveness of sins
 to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith
 turn to him:
 have mercy on you,
 pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
 confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
 and bring you to everlasting life,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 All **Amen.**

Collect

God of all mercy,
 your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
 release to the captives,
 and freedom to the oppressed:
 anoint us with your Holy Spirit
 and set all your people free
 to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Canticle/Psalm

Psalm 19

Refrain: **The commandment of the Lord is pure
 and gives light to the eyes.**

- 1 The heavens are telling the glory of God ♦
 and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- 2 **One day pours out its song to another ♦
 and one night unfolds knowledge to another.**
- 3 They have neither speech nor language ♦
 and their voices are not heard,
- 4 **Yet their sound has gone out into all lands ♦
 and their words to the ends of the world.**
- 5 In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun, ♦
 that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber
 and rejoices as a champion to run his course.

**6 It goes forth from the end of the heavens
and runs to the very end again, ♦
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

**Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure
and gives light to the eyes.**

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; ♦
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the simple.

**8 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice
the heart; ♦
the commandment of the Lord is pure
and gives light to the eyes.**

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for
ever; ♦

the judgements of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

**10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, ♦
sweeter also than honey,
dripping from the honeycomb.**

11 By them also is your servant taught ♦
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**12 Who can tell how often they offend ♦
O cleanse me from my secret faults!**

13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins
lest they get dominion over me; ♦

so shall I be undefiled,
and innocent of great offence.

**14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation
of my heart**

be acceptable in your sight, ♦

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

**Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure
and gives light to the eyes.**

Christ, the sun of righteousness,
rise in our hearts this day,
enfold us in the brightness of your love
and bear us at the last to heaven's horizon;
for your love's sake.

The reading is taken from Nehemiah 8:1-10

Let us prepare ourselves for the word of God
Our hearts and our minds are open

... all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: SoF 145, vv. 1, 2 Hark The Glad Sound

1. Hark, the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
 the Saviour promised long:
 let ev'ry heart prepare a throne,
 and ev'ry voice a song.

2. He comes, the pris'ners to release
 in Satan's bondage held;
 the gates of brass before Him burst,
 the iron fetters yield.

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The gospel reading is taken from Luke 4:14-21

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
 Luke
Glory to you, O Lord

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He

unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
 because he has anointed me
 to bring good news to the poor.
 He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
 and recovery of sight to the blind,
 to let the oppressed go free,
 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
**All maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is,
 seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
**All God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,**
 begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father.

All Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.

All For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;

**All he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and
the dead,**

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

All the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

**All With the Father and the Son he is worshipped
and glorified.**

He has spoken through the prophets.

**All We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic
Church.**

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.

**All We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Intercessions (by Christine)

May the Spirit of the Lord Be Upon Us
(Praying Luke 4:14-21)

Christ,
Driven from your home,
For daring to speak radical truth,
Dare to speak to us today.
Come as the Spirit of the Lord.
Breathe upon us anew,
As the Spirit anointed you
To proclaim good news to the poor.
To proclaim freedom for the prisoners
And recovery of sight for the blind,
To set the oppressed free,
To proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.
Surely we who follow you
should pray for such things.

We pray for the poor.
 In a world with sufficient resources
 for all to have what they need,
 The wealth divide continues to increase,
 The extremes stretch the extremities
 And we are caught in the socioeconomic web
 of wanting more.

Help us understand enough,
 So that we might settle with less
 and be agents of good news for the poor,
 As we share more equitably
 and work to change the system of inequity.
 Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for prisoners,
 Those who are imprisoned
 as a result of their behaviour or crimes,
 But also those imprisoned by situation, circumstance,
 habit or addiction
 Those imprisoned by their thinking,
 mental health or mindsets.
 May we take up your challenge
 to adjust our worldview
 And find compassion enough
 to reach out in sympathy and empathy
 Working for the good of all,
 Advocating for change
 And walking with those
 as they struggle for freedom.
 Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the blind,
 Not so much those who are visually inhibited,
 But those who can't see the world as you see it,
 We, who can't see beyond our wants
 to the needs of others
 We, who can't envisage the potential for good within
 ourselves or others
 We, who are yet to fully glimpse your vision
 for a communion of common good
 which might lead to a better world for all.

Open our eyes and heal our blindness,
So that we might not blindly head as humanity into a
future of disaster.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the oppressed,
Those stifled or diminished in their humanity,
By systems, powers, cultures or people
Those who's rights are downtrodden and abused
Those caught in structures of society, institutions or
politics,
Which limit their practical options for freedom and
release,
And those like us who are entrapped
in ways of thinking and living
which knowingly and unknowingly
result in the oppression of others.

May we who seek to follow you and your way,
Not reject your radical message,
May we not limit your work
or impede your progress,
Nor be overwhelmed with the scope of the effort,
But welcome you amongst us,
And invite you again to lead us onwards,
Always towards better things.
Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

May the Spirit be upon us,
That we might proclaim the favour of God,
Your preference for justice, equity and equality,
Established in your love and grace.
This we hope and pray.

Merciful Father,
Accept these Prayers for the sake of your son,
Our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

(Source: Jon Humphries, [Prayers that Unite](#))

Prayer After Intercessions

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom,
 you know our needs before we ask,
 and our ignorance in asking:
 have compassion on our weakness,
 and give us those things
 which for our unworthiness we dare not,
 and for our blindness we cannot ask,
 for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hymn: SoF 145, vv. 3, 4 Hark The Glad Sound

3. He comes, the broken heart to bind,
 the bleeding soul to cure,
 and with the treasures of His grace
 to bless the humble poor.

4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
 Thy welcome shall proclaim;
 and heav'n's eternal arches ring
 with Thy belovèd name.

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The Eucharist

Lift up your hearts.
 All **We lift them to the Lord.**
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,
 it is our duty and our joy,
 at all times and in all places
 to give you thanks and praise,
 holy Father, heavenly King,
 almighty and eternal God.
 From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,

for Christ has risen from the tomb
 and scattered the darkness of death
 with light that will not fade.
 This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered
 people,
 unfolds for us your word,
 and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.
 And though the night will overtake this day
 you summon us to live in endless light,
 the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.
 Therefore with angels and archangels,
 and with all the company of heaven,
 we proclaim your great and glorious name,
 for ever praising you:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Humble Access

Most merciful Lord,
 your love compels us to come in.
 Our hands were unclean,
 our hearts were unprepared;
 we were not fit
 even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
 But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
 and share your bread with sinners.
 So cleanse and feed us
 with the precious body and blood of your Son,
 that he may live in us and we in him;
 and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
 may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.

The Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
 who, in your tender mercy,

gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once
offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and
satisfaction for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to
continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he
comes again.
Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that we receiving these gifts of your creation,
this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy
institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way, after supper, he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them,
saying:
Drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new
covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.
All **Amen.**

**Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has
taught us**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Agnus Dei (sung)

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy upon us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy upon us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us your peace.**

The Sharing

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which was given for you,
preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.
Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for
you,
and feed on him in your heart by faith with
thanksgiving.
The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which was shed for you,
preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.
Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed
for you, and be thankful.

During the distribution of Communion

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust, in God I trust.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and never
be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst.

Jesus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hunger.

Jesus Christ, Risen Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Words and music: Jacques Berthier
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Prayer After Communion

Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Closing Hymn: ACF 132 The Summons

1. Will you come and follow Me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let My love be shown,
will you let My name be known,
will you let My life be grown
in you and you in Me?

3. Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free,

and never be the same?
 Will you kiss the leper clean
 and do such as this unseen,
 and admit to what I mean
 in you, and you in Me?

5. Lord, Your summons echoes true
 when You but call my name.
 Let me turn and follow You,
 and never be the same.
 In Your company I'll go
 where Your love and footsteps show.
 Thus I'll move and live and grow
 in You, and You in me.

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Benediction

Now to him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. And May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Announcements

(see below)

Blessing

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was
 and who is to come,

Let us Go Out in Peace and Be Led Forth in Joy
 The Grace, Peace and Love of the Triune God be with
 You

Amen

Postlude

Coming up this
week....

Wed
9 pm

Evening Prayer
on zoom

Thu
8 pm

Women's Prayer Group
on zoom

Sun
11:30 am

Morning Worship
led by Rev'd Vinod Victor
in person & on zoom

Visit anglican-church-freiburg.de/worship
for more information & the zoom link

As we leave....



Giving to the ACF
donation basket at the back

Explore giving options at anglican-church-freiburg.de/donate
Thank you!

Would you like to take home
or pass on the
printout of this morning's service?

Find all Homilies & service sheets at
anglican-church-freiburg.de/archive



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