

# Home Prayers

January 16, 2022 • Second Sunday after the Epiphany

(adapted from the *Book of Alternative Services*, pages 685-679)

*If you are praying with one or more others, the service can be divided between the plain and bold text.  
If you are praying by yourself, you can say all of the prayers aloud or silently.*

*During the season of Epiphany, the Christmas candle can remain lit.*

## The Preparation

Arise, shine, for our light has come.  
**And the glory of the Lord has dawned upon us.**

*A hymn may be sung.*

1. Jesus, come! For we invite you,  
Guest and Master, Friend and Lord;  
now, as once at Cana's wedding,  
speak, and let us hear your word:  
lead us through our need or doubting,  
hope be born and joy restored.
2. Jesus, come! Transform our pleasures,  
guide us into paths unknown;  
bring your gifts, command your servants,  
let us trust in you alone:  
though your hand may work in secret,  
all shall see what you have done.
3. Jesus, come in new creation,  
heaven brought near in power divine;  
give your unexpected glory  
changing water into wine:  
rouse the faith of your disciples —  
come, our first and greatest Sign!
4. Jesus, come! Surprise our dullness,  
make us willing to receive  
more than we can yet imagine,  
all the best you have to give:  
let us find your hidden riches,  
taste your love, believe, and live!

*Words: Christopher M. Idle (1938-)  
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*The collect of the day may be said.*

O God of steadfast love,  
at the wedding in Cana  
your Son Jesus turned water into wine,  
delighting all who were there.  
Transform our hearts by your Spirit,  
so that we may show forth the light of your love  
as one body in Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **Reading**

*John 2:1-11 is the gospel appointed for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany:*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

*Following the reading you may contemplate in silence, or discuss the scripture passage with others, or read a related work of literature.*

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Intercessions

*Prayers may be offered for the church, those in authority, the world, those in need, and the departed.*

Loving God, we bring to you in prayer those whose resources are running out: the poor and the hungry, those tiring in the struggle for justice, countries burdened by heavy debts. Show us what we should do to help. Call us, change us, use us.

Your kingdom come:  
**your will be done.**

Loving God, we bring to you in prayer those who feel their resources for living running low: the ill and the infirm, the sorrowful and despairing, the stressed and the exhausted. Show us what we should do to help. Call us, change us, use us.

Your kingdom come:  
**your will be done.**

Loving God, we come to you in prayer to ask for the resources we need to live the life to which you have called us: for faith and courage, for wisdom and love, for the gifts of the Holy Spirit which will equip us to fulfil our individual callings from you. Show us what we should do to help. Call us, change us, use us.

Your kingdom come:  
**your will be done.**

*Here other intercessions can be offered.*

*This concluding prayer can then be said:*

**O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go forward with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Conclusion**

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.**