

## 28 January 2024 – Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

**Hymn: 676 Immortal, invisible, God only wise**

The Collect

Let us pray

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, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**First Reading** *Deuteronomy 18.15-20*

Moses spoke to the people; he said: <sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak - that prophet shall die.'

For the gift of the word.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn: 634 Firmly I believe and truly**

**Second Reading** *Revelation 12.1-5a*

<sup>1</sup>A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. <sup>2</sup>She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth. <sup>3</sup>Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. <sup>4</sup>His tail swept down a

third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, so that he might devour her child as soon as it was born. <sup>5</sup>And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron.

For the gift of the word.

**Thanks be to God.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 1.21-28

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>The disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching – with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Hymn: 104 Songs of thankfulness and praise**

**Hymn: 639 Give thanks with a grateful heart**

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray

Generous Lord,

in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love:

help us so to live out our days

that we may be signs of your wonders in the world;

through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Amen.**

**Hymn: 563 Jesus Christ is waiting**