

**PARISHES OF TETBURY, BEVERSTON, SHIPTON MOYNE AND LONG
NEWNTON**

**Readings and hymns for Sunday 7th February 2021
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

Old Testament

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
'My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God'?

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Amazing grace!

sung by St Martin's Voices

- 1 Amazing grace! – how sweet the sound –
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found,
 was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
 and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear
 the hour I first believed!

- 3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
 I have already come;
 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
 and grace will lead me home.

- 4 The Lord has promised good to me,
 his word my hope secures;
 he will my shield and portion be
 as long as life endures.

- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years
 bright shining as the sun,
 we've no less days to sing God's praise
 than when we first begun.

*John Newton (1725-1807), William Cowper (1731-1800), John Rees (1828-1900).
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Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

As soon as Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Great is thy faithfulness

sung by St Martin's Voices

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

2 Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
Chorus

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Chorus

Thomas O Chisholm (1866-1960)
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