# twelvebaskets

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## **EPIPHANY 5C**

9th February 2025

A short act of worship and daily devotions

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#### **Opening Prayers**

Holy Lord, be with me this day, in my singing, praying and meditating. And as I meet with you, and in all that I do, bless and encourage me this day.

When all around is noisy and busy, help me in this moment to be still with you.

Silence

When my mind is chaotic and full of wondering, help me in this moment to be sure of you.

Silence

When my soul is troubled, help me in this moment to be calmed by you.

Silence

If you feel able speak these words aloud:

Still, calm and sure I come to worship you. Amen.

#### Opening hymn/song:

24 STF - Come, now is the time to worship - YouTube

You may now wish to say the Lord's Prayer in a version or translation with which you are familiar

Reading: Luke 5:1-11 – Click for reading

#### Responding to the reading

Today's gospel reading continues our journey through the first part of Luke's gospel. In today's reading we encounter the compelling scene of Jesus calling his first disciples at the Sea of Galilee.

The story begins with Jesus stepping into Simon Peter's boat, asking him to put out a little from the shore. Jesus then teaches the crowds from this floating pulpit. After speaking, He instructs Simon to head out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch. Simon's response is hesitant but obedient; despite their previous failed attempts, he trusts in Jesus' command. Is this a helpful or challenging reminder for you today? Are you in the midst of a time when it feels like you are in 'deep waters' or finding it difficult to trust in God? What might it look like for you to step out in faith today?

When the nets are cast, they become so full of fish that they begin to break. This miracle is not just a sign of Jesus' power but a metaphor for the abundance of God's grace. Can you think of a time when you've experienced something of God's, generous response – the divine's ability to go above and beyond.

Simon Peter's reaction to the miraculous catch is a mixture of awe and fear; he falls at Jesus' knees, overwhelmed by his own unworthiness. Jesus' reply, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will fish for people' shifts Peter's perspective from his limitations to his potential. It is a change of mindset, brought about by grace. In our journey of discipleship, fear and a sense of inadequacy can often hold us back. Reflect on how Jesus' invitation to move

beyond fear has played out in your own journey. How has God's grace transformed your fears into a calling?

Finally, the passage concludes with the fishermen pulling their boats up on shore, leaving everything, and following Jesus. This radical act of abandonment for the sake of the Gospel is a powerful testament to the transformative impact of encountering Jesus. As you consider your own path of discipleship, think about what you are called to leave behind in order to follow Jesus more fully. What nets or boats – whether they be comfort zones, previous identities, or material concerns – might you need to abandon to fully embrace the life God is calling you to lead?

- What was the first step of faith you remember taking? Or the most recent?
- What will be the next step?
- What do you need to pray about to help you make this step?

#### Hymn:

239 STF – Sent by the Lord am I – YouTube

#### **Blessing**

Sent by the Lord am I, My hands are ready now, And out into your world I go, O God.

My prayer is that I can see, notice and remember that you are with me, and that I am transformed by God's Spirit within me, to hear the call and respond simply: 'here I am, send me'.

Amen.

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### **Prayers and Prayer Pointers**

This week, we have a slightly different approach to our prayer prompts. You are invited, each day this week, to place a new sticky note (or similar) in key places around your home as prayer prompts. For example:

- On your bathroom mirror: "Thank you, God, for creating me in Your image."
- On your refrigerator: "Lord, provide for those in need."
- On your phone: "Help me use technology for connection, not distraction."

These little reminders can integrate prayer into your daily routines in a natural and meaningful way.

Each day, choose a different room, or a different part of your life (e.g. you might like to put at least one in your car, or on your desk at work, or similar) and create a specific prayer that you think you need to hear.

Each time this week that you come to the sticky note, use it as a prompt for prayer, and if your prayer needs are changing, then feel free to change or add to your sticky notes – they are for you!

If you find this idea unhelpful, then you might simply wish to spend 5 minutes in silent, undisturbed prayer each day. Don't try to say anything, or have any particularly brilliant ideas, simply hold the stillness.