



## Epiphany Eucharist

### Sunday 9 January 2022

President and Preacher: The Rector

The Greeting and call to worship

**Choir Motet:** Tres magi de Gentibus

Eastern Monarchs, Sages three,  
Come with gifts in great plenty;  
Worship Christ on bended knee,  
Cum Virgine Maria.

On that dreadful day, the last,  
He forgive our sinful past,  
To his mercy cling we fast,  
Cum Virgine Maria.

On the feast-day of his birth,  
Set on thrones above the earth,  
Angels chant in holy mirth,  
Cum Virgine Maria.

Gold, in honour of the King,  
Incense to the Priest they bring,  
Myrrh, for time of burying,  
Cum Virgine Maria.

His the praise and glory be,  
Laud and honour victorie  
Power supreme, and so sing we,  
Cum Virgine Maria.

Thus to bless the One in Three,  
Let the present company  
Raise the voice of melody,  
Cum Virgine Maria.

*Text: 15<sup>th</sup> Century Latin  
Music: C S Lang*

**(The congregation are asked to join in those passages in bold type)**

Grace and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Opening Hymn: 94 As with gladness men of old**

Prayers of Confession

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins:

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself and cleanse you from all your sins that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria

**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.**

The Collect

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star  
to worship the Christ-child:  
guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 60: 1-6 read by Linda Bunting

*"Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the LORD rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.  
Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
"Lift up your eyes and look about you:  
All assemble and come to you;  
your sons come from afar,  
and your daughters are carried on the hip.  
Then you will look and be radiant,  
your heart will throb and swell with joy;  
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,  
to you the riches of the nations will come.  
Herds of camels will cover your land,  
young camels of Midian and Ephah.*

*And all from Sheba will come,  
bearing gold and incense  
and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.*

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

Reading: Psalm 72: 10-15      read by Linda Bunting

*May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores  
bring tribute to him.  
May the kings of Sheba and Seba  
present him gifts.  
May all kings bow down to him  
and all nations serve him.  
For he will deliver the needy who cry out,  
the afflicted who have no one to help.  
He will take pity on the weak and the needy  
and save the needy from death.  
He will rescue them from oppression and violence,  
for precious is their blood in his sight.  
Long may he live!  
May gold from Sheba be given him.  
May people ever pray for him  
and bless him all day long.*

### **Congregation please stand**

We three kings of Orient are,  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star:

***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

### **Glory to you, O Lord**

*After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked: 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.' When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. Chief priests said – 'In Bethlehem in Judea.' Teachers of the Law said – 'For this is what the prophet has written: But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.' Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said: Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so*

*that I too may go and worship him. After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him.*

Born a king on Bethlehem plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again:  
King for ever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign:

***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

*Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.*

At the offering of Gold – *king placed in the crib*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe: to you be praise and glory for ever! As gold in the furnace is tried and purified seven times in the fire, so purify our hearts and minds that we may be a royal priesthood acceptable in the service of our kingdom. **Blessed be God for ever**

Frankincense to offer have I,  
incense owns a deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, all men raising:  
worship him, God most high:

***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

At the offering of Incense – *king placed in the crib*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe: to you be praise and glory for ever! As our prayer rises up in your presence as incense, so may we be presented before you with penitent hearts and uplifted hands to offer ourselves in your priestly service. **Blessed be God for ever**

Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in a stone-cold tomb:

***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

At the offering of Myrrh – *king placed in the crib*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe: to you be praise and glory for ever! As you give medicine to heal our sickness and the leaves of the tree of life for the healing of the nations, so anoint us with your healing power that we may be the first-fruits of your new creation. **Blessed be God for ever**

**Glorious now behold him arise,  
King, and God, and sacrifice!  
Heaven sing: 'alleluia',  
'Alleluia,' the earth replies.**

***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

*And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.*

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

Sermon      The Rector

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God:

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession      led by Sue Tipping

The Peace

Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.  
The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you

**And also with you**

We offer one another a sign of peace

**Offertory Hymn: 103 O worship the Lord**

Lord, accept your people's gifts,  
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts and voices raised in praise  
of Jesus Christ, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy.....

Therefore with all the angels of heaven

we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name

and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,

through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.....

we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,

this our sacrifice of thanks and praise.....

we worship you, Father almighty,

in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people

**Jesus Christ is holy  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
To the glory of God the Father**

**Choir**      Agnus Dei

**Choir Motet**

Small wonder the star,  
Small wonder the light,  
The angels in chorus,  
The shepherds in fright;  
*But stable and manger for God*  
No small wonder!

Small wonder the kings,  
small wonder they bore  
The gold and the incense,  
the myrrh to adore;  
*But God gives his life on a cross*  
No small wonder!

Small wonder the love,  
small wonder the grace,  
The power, the glory,  
the light of his face;  
*But all to redeem my poor heart*  
No small wonder!

*Words: Paul Wigmore  
Music: Paul Edwards*

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God,  
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:  
may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light  
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,  
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reading: Ephesians 3: 1-12

read by Peter Gibson

*For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I*

*am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.*

**Closing Hymn    96    Brightest and Best**

Closing Prayer and Blessing

May God the Father,  
who led the wise men by the shining of a star  
to find the Christ, the Light from light,  
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. **Amen.**  
May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,  
give us a place with the saints in light  
in the kingdom of his beloved Son. **Amen.**  
May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ  
shine in your hearts and fill your lives  
with his joy and peace. **Amen.**  
And the blessing.....  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
In the name of Christ **Amen**

**Organ Voluntary**            César Franck *Pièce Héroïque*

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