



# **EPIPHANY SUNDAY**

## **CHORAL EUCHARIST**

**7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024, 11<sup>AM</sup>**

**ST BRIDE'S  
CHURCH**

## Opening Sentence

*Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying:  
'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?'*

## Hymn

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.**

**Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness:  
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,  
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,  
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:  
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,  
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.**

**These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,  
he will accept for the name that is dear;  
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.**

Tune: Was lebet, from *Rheinhardt MS* 1754  
Words: J S B Monsell 1811–75

*The minister greets the people*

Minister    The Lord be with you,  
**All            and also with you.**

**Welcome**

**Prayer of Preparation**

**All            Almighty God,  
                 to whom all hearts are open,  
                 all desires known,  
                 and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
                 cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
                 by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
                 that we may perfectly love you,  
                 and worthily magnify your holy name;  
                 through Christ our Lord.  
                 Amen.**

**Prayer of Penitence**

Minister    *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.*

**All            Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
                 we have sinned against you  
                 and against our neighbour  
                 in thought and word and deed,  
                 through negligence, through weakness,  
                 through our own deliberate fault.  
                 We are truly sorry  
                 and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

Minister    Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
                 have mercy upon you,  
                 pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
                 confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
                 and keep you in life eternal;  
                 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All                Amen.**

## **Gloria**

*Missa brevis* – Lennox Berkeley

### Choir

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,  
et in terra pax  
hominibus bonae voluntatis.  
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,  
adoramus te, glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi  
propter magnam gloriam tuam.*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace,  
good will to all people.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you.  
We give thanks to you  
for your great glory.

*Domine Deus, Rex caelestis  
Deus Pater omnipotens.  
Domine Fili unigenite,  
Jesu Christe,  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,  
Filius Patris.*

Lord God, heavenly King,  
God, the Father Almighty.  
Lord, only-begotten Son,  
Jesus Christ,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father.

*Qui tollis  
peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis:  
qui tollis*

You who take away  
the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us:  
you who take away

*peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram:  
qui sedes  
ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.*

the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer:  
you who are seated  
at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

*Quoniam tu solus sanctus,  
tu solus Dominus,  
tu solus altissimus,  
Jesu Christe,  
cum Sancto Spiritu,  
in gloria Dei Patris.  
Amen.*

For you alone are holy,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are most high,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## **Collect**

Minister    *O God,  
who by the leading of a star  
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:  
mercifully grant that we,  
who know you now by faith,  
may at last behold your glory face to face;  
through 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.*

All            **Amen.**

## **First Reading**

### **Isaiah 60: 1-6**

read by Michelle Blond

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes round about, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far, and your daughters

shall be carried in the arms. Then you shall see and be radiant, your heart shall thrill and rejoice; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All**                    **Thanks be to God.**

### **Canticle**

*Jubilate in F* – John Ireland

Choir                *O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands :  
serve the Lord with gladness,  
and come before his presence with a song.*

*Be ye sure that the Lord he is God :  
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,  
and into his courts with praise :  
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.*

*For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting :  
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.*

### **Second Reading**

**Ephesians 3: 1-12**

read by Robin Turner

I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles - assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace

that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; that is, how the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose which he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and confidence of access through our faith in him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn**

**Thou who wast rich beyond all splendour,  
all for love's sake becamest poor;  
thrones for a manger didst surrender,  
sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.  
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendour,  
all for love's sake becamest poor.**

**Thou who art God beyond all praising,  
all for love's sake becamest man;  
stooping so low, but sinners raising  
heavenwards by thine eternal plan.  
Thou who art God beyond all praising,  
all for love's sake becamest man.**



**Thou who art love beyond all telling,  
Saviour and King, we worship thee.  
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,  
make us what thou wouldst have us be.  
Thou who art love, beyond all telling,  
Saviour and King, we worship thee.**

Tune: Fragrance, French trad  
Arrangement: C H Kitson 1874-1944  
Words: F Houghton 1894-1972

## **Gospel Reading**

Reader            Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
                         according to Matthew.

**All [Sung]        Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Matthew 2: 1-12**

read by The Revd Dr Jeff Lake

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him. When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, in Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:

‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.’

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him. When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was.



When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All [Sung] Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

The Revd Canon Dr Alison Joyce, *Rector of St Bride's*

### **Creed**

**All            We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

led by The Revd Jeff Lake

*These responses may be used*

**All** Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

**All** Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Minister *Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government  
and of peace there shall be no end.*

**All** The peace of the Lord be always with you,  
**and also with you.**

## Preparation of the Table

### Offertory Hymn

**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.*

**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 ...*

**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 ...*

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

*O star of wonder ...*

**Glorious now, behold him arise,  
king and God, and sacrifice.  
Heaven sings: '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.*

Tune and Words: Three Kings of Orient by J H Hopkins 1820-91

Minister Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

Minister Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become our spiritual drink.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

Minister The Lord be with you,  
**All [Sung] and also with you.**

Minister Lift up your hearts.  
**All [Sung] We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All [Sung] It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Minister Let us pray.

Minister It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

*And now we give you thanks because,  
in the incarnation of the Word,  
a new light has dawned upon the world,  
that all the nations may be brought out of darkness  
to see the radiance of your glory.*

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing:

## **Sanctus and Benedictus**

*Missa brevis* – Lennox Berkeley

Choir

*Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth,  
pleni sunt caeli et terra  
gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth  
are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.*

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

## Prayer of Consecration

Minister    Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
                 through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
                 and as we follow his example  
                 and obey his command,  
                 grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
                 these gifts of bread and wine  
                 may be to us his body and his blood;  
                 Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
                 took bread and gave you thanks;  
                 he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
                 Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
                 do this in remembrance of me.

                 In the same way, after supper he took the cup  
                 and gave you thanks;  
                 he gave it to them, saying:  
                 Drink this, all of you;  
                 this is my blood of the new covenant,  
                 which is shed for you and for many  
                 for the forgiveness of sins.  
                 Do this, as often as you drink it,  
                 in remembrance of me.

                 Therefore, heavenly Father,  
                 we remember his offering of himself  
                 made once for all upon the cross;  
                 we proclaim his mighty resurrection  
                 and glorious ascension;  
                 we look for the coming of his kingdom,  
                 and with this bread and this cup  
                 we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Minister    Great is the mystery of faith:  
**All**           **Christ has died:**  
                 **Christ is risen:**  
                 **Christ will come again.**

Minister    Accept through him, our great high priest,  
              this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
              and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
              in the presence of your divine majesty,  
              renew us by your Spirit,  
              inspire us with your love,  
              and unite us in the body of your Son,  
              Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise.

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

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Minister    Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has  
              taught us:

**All            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.**



## **Breaking of the Bread**

Minister We break this bread to share in the body of Christ:  
**All            Though we are many, we are one body,  
                 because we all share in one bread.**

## **Giving of Communion**

*The minister says this invitation to communion*

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*This prayer is said before the distribution*

**All            We do not presume  
                 to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
                 trusting in our own righteousness,  
                 but in your manifold and great mercies.  
                 We are not worthy so much as to  
                 gather up the crumbs under your table.  
                 But you are the same Lord  
                 whose nature is always to have mercy.  
                 Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
                 so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ  
                 and to drink his blood,  
                 that our sinful bodies  
                 may be made clean by his body  
                 and our souls washed  
                 through his most precious blood,  
                 and that we may evermore dwell in him,  
                 and he in us.  
                 Amen.**

*The minister and people receive communion.*

## **Anthem**

*The three kings – Peter Cornelius*

Soloist      *Three Kings from Persian lands afar  
to Jordan follow the pointing star:  
And this the quest of the travellers three,  
where the new-born King of the Jews may be.  
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;  
gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.*

Choir        *How brightly shines the morning star!  
With grace and truth from heaven afar  
our Jesse tree now bloweth.*

Soloist      *The star shines out with a steadfast ray;  
the kings to Bethlehem make their way,  
and there in worship they bend the knee,  
as Mary's child in her lap they see;  
their royal gifts they show to the King;  
gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.*

Choir        *Of Jacob's stem and David's line,  
for thee my Bridegroom, King divine,  
my soul with love o'erfloweth.*

Soloist      *Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem  
the Kings are travelling, travel with them!  
The star of mercy, the star of grace,  
shall lead thy heart to its resting place.  
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;  
offer thy heart to the infant King.*

Choir        *Thy word, Jesu, inly feeds us,  
rightly leads us, life bestowing.  
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.*

Text: P Cornelius 1824-74, translated H N Bate 1871-1941

## **Prayers after Communion**

*The minister leads the post communion prayer for the day*

Minister    Let us pray.

*Silence is kept*

Minister    *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.*

**All            Amen.**

**All            Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

## **Notices**

## **Hymn**

**As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold,  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore be led to thee.**

**As with joyful steps they sped,  
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
thee whom heaven and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy-seat.**

**As they offered gifts most rare  
at thy cradle rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.**

**Holy Jesus, every day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.**

**In the heavenly country bright  
need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
thou its sun which goes not down;  
there for ever may we sing  
alleluias to our King.**

Tune: Dix from a chorale by C Kocher 1786-1872  
Words: W C Dix 1837-98

## **Blessing**

Minister *Christ the Son of God  
perfect in you the image of his glory  
and gladden your hearts  
with the good news of his kingdom;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you now and always.*

**All Amen.**

## Dismissal

Minister    Go in the peace of Christ.

Choir        *Thanks be to God.*

## Organ Voluntary

*Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern BuxWV 223*

– Dietrich Buxtehude

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