

ALL SAINTS CHURCH
THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
SUNDAY 3RD JANUARY 2021

GATHERING

Introit Music

The Arrival of the Magi and Presentation of the Gifts

Please stand and turn to face the crib

At the offering of gold

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 your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

At the offering of frankincense

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As our prayer rises up before you 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.

At the offering of myrrh

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.

The gifts and the Magi are censed. The sanctuary party returns to the front of the church.

Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The priest welcomes the congregation and introduces the service. Please remain standing.

Prayers of Penitence

The grace of God has dawned upon the world
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God
through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

**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.**

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. **Amen.**

Gloria (Said by all)

**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.**

Collect

Let us pray:

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
Amen.

Please sit.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading *Isaiah 60:1-6*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought 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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72 (10-15)

All say the Psalm together

- 10. The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents:
the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts.**
- 11. All kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall do him service.**
- 12. For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth:
the needy also and him that hath no helper.**
- 13 He shall be favourable to the simple and needy:
and shall preserve the souls of the poor.**
- 14. He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong:
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**
- 15. He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia:
prayer shall be made ever unto him and daily shall he be praised.**

Second Reading *Ephesians 3:1-12*

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power.

Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations
and believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel Reading *Matthew 2:1-12*

The Lord be with you

And also with you

✠✠✠Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

Sermon Fr Alex Barrow

Creed

Let us declare our faith in God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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.

Intercessions

The following responses are used:

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

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

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Peace

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
Please exchange a sign of peace if you are able

Offertory Music

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
And also with you
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.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the Magi the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.

In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us. In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and offer our joyful hymn of praise:

(Said by all)

**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, 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 your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup 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, 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:

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

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei (Said by all)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

For the time being Holy Communion will be brought to you in your places, in one kind (the Host) only. If you'd like to receive Holy Communion, please stand if you are able; if you'd prefer not to, please remain sitting or kneeling, with your arms crossed over your chest, to indicate your intention to those distributing Holy Communion.

Communion Music

Post-Communion Prayers

In thanksgiving for the gifts of God we pray:

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. **Amen.**

**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.**

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

Notices

Blessing

The Lord be with you
And also with you

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 the Son,
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,
transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit,
who came upon the beloved Son at his baptism in the river Jordan,
pour out his gifts on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

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