



EPIPHANY ALL TOGETHER SERVICE 2 JANUARY 2022

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.
**From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

CAROL

- 1 The first Nowell the angel did say
was to Bethlehem's shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep:
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*
- 2 Then wise men from a country far
looked up and saw a guiding star;
they travelled on by night and day
to reach the place where Jesus lay:
- 3 At Bethlehem they entered in,
on bended knee they worshipped him;
they offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense:

4 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord ;
for Christ has our salvation wrought
 and with his blood our life has bought :

Cornish carol, possibly 18th century *adapted by* Michael Perry (1942–1996) Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 86 Words: © in this version, The Jubilate Group. Administered by The Jubilate Group, www.jubilate.co.uk Used by permission..

WE SAY SORRY

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 of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness
to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call
to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Saviour
was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks
to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The wise men followed the star
to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

WE SAY THE PRAYER FOR TODAY

**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.**

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING – *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
² 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.
³ Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴ 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.
5 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.
6 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

CAROL

During the hymn the 'Wise People' present their gifts.

1. 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.*
2. 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,....
3. 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,...

4. 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, star of night...

5. Glorious now, behold him arise,
King, and God, and sacrifice!
Heaven sings alleluya,
Alleluya the earth replies:

O star of wonder, star of night,

Words and music by J.H. Hopkins Jr , arr Arthur Somervell

Gospel Reading – Matthew 2:1-12

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, ² 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.' ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ "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."

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.' ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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.

TALK

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who
gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?
I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

PRAYERS

WE SHARE THE 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.

CAROL

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 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.

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811–1875) Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern* Electronic Words Edition, number 103

We remain standing

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

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.**

THE 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.

The Eucharistic prayer continues until:

... we proclaim your great and glorious name
For ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until:

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

The Eucharistic Prayer ends with **Amen.**

We sit or kneel and keep a moment's silence

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

GIVING OF 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.

The minister receives communion. Please remain in your place and the minister will distribute communion, in the form of bread only. You are welcome to receive communion if you do so in your own church. If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your hands folded in front of you and bow your head.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

**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

FINAL CAROL

- 1 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.
- 2 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.

3 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.

William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898) Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 94

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 ...

DISMISSAL

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

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