

# The Churches of the Parish of Berkswich

*in the Church of England Diocese of Lichfield*

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021

*The Epiphany*

## Live-streamed Eucharist



### The gathering

#### The greeting

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

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 of glory be with you.

**The Lord bless you.**

#### The Act of Penitence

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.

*Silence is kept.*

God be gracious to us and bless us,  
and make your face shine upon us:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth,  
your saving power among the nations:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your  
salvation, and reveal your justice in the  
sight of the nations:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

#### Words of forgiveness

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

**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 for the day

Grateful for the glory revealed today through God  
made flesh, let us pray.

*Silence is kept*

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.**

## The liturgy of the word

### **First reading**    **Isaiah 60:1-6** **A reading from 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.**

### **Gospel reading**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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

2:1-12

**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.**

### **Presentation of the Gifts**

*As the figures are placed in the crib, the following is said*

*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 incense*

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.**

### **Affirmation of faith**

**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.**

*If possible, kneel (or bow your head) at the following three lines as we honour the Incarnation – God stooping to earth to become human.*

**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**

Today the wise men knelt before our Saviour. Let us also kneel to worship him with great joy, and to make our prayer to his heavenly Father.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

*at the end*

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

### *The liturgy of the sacrament*

### **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.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### **Offertory Prayer**

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 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.**

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 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit ✠, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; 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. ✠

Praise to you Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Thomas, St Chad, all the

saints may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. ✠ **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Believing the promises of God, 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**

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying*

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.**

## **An act of Spiritual Communion**

*Those at home, as they look on to the consecrated elements - the Body and Blood of Our Lord present in the Bread and Wine, are invited to say these words*

**In union, dear Father, with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though I am exiled from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Life I pray that you will unite me with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us. Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.**

*Those in church are invited to receive communion in one kind only.*

*When you remove your mask, please ensure you wash your hands before and after receiving. Please do not say Amen when the host is given to you.*

## 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. **Amen.**

## The dismissal

### The Epiphany Proclamation

#### Acclamation and Dismissal Gospel

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is proclaimed in all the world.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

When the time had fully come you sent the Sun of Righteousness. In him the fullness of your glory dwells.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Simeon took the child Jesus in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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 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 our lives with his joy and peace.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

We have seen his glory, the glory revealed to all the nations. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

Copyright acknowledgment (where not already indicated above):  
Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2000

Some material included in this service is copyright © Stephen Shakespeare 2008

CCLI Streaming licence: 1169112 Copyright licence: 202876