



Holy Communion

Epiphany
8 January 2023

A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether a regular or a visitor, it is good to have you here.

*We ask that you do **not publish photographs** you take in our church, with children other than your own in them, on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)*

We stand as the bell sounds to mark the beginning of our worship. As we sing our first hymn the altar party and choir process into church.

HYMN

- 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.

The hymn pauses. The president moves to the crib, blesses it and sprinkles it with holy water. The hymn continues.

- 5 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.

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811–1875)

GREETING

Minister In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

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

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

Minister The Lord of glory be with you.

All **The Lord bless you.**

Words of welcome may be said.

CONFESSION

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.

cf Titus 2.11-14

Minister God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

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

All **Christ, have mercy.**

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

All **Lord, have mercy.**

ABSOLUTION

Minister The almighty and merciful Lord
grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

GLORIA

Choir/All Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

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.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

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.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

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.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

COLLECT

The president introduces a period of silent prayer:

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

The Collect is said:

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.

All Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 60.1-6

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.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

SECOND READING Ephesians 3.1-12

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.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

HYMN

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

Chorus 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:

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

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

5 Glorious now behold him arise,
king and God and sacrifice.
Heaven sings: 'Alleluia';
'Alleluia,' the earth replies:

Edward John Hopkins (1818–1901)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2.1-12

All/choir Alleluia!

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

All/choir Alleluia!

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

All 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.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

CREED

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

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

Minister Let us worship the Saviour with joy,
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

This response may be included:

All Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

And at the end:

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

Silence is kept.

PEACE

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

cf Isaiah 9.6,7

All The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,

to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

2 He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

3 He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.

4 Kings shall bow down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing:
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

5 O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
his changeless name of love.

James Montgomery (1771-1854) based on Psalm 72

TABLE PRAYER

Minister Gracious God,
accept the offering of your Church,
the hearts of your people

joined in praise and thanksgiving,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Minister The Lord is here.

All **His spirit is with us.**

Minister Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Minister 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 say our joyful hymn of praise:

All/choir **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Minister We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;

and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died
he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat;
this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

So, Father,
we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Minister Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Silence may be kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister Believing the promises of God,
 as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Minister We break the bread of life,
 and that life is the light of the world.

All God here among us,
 light in the midst of us,
 bring us to light and life.

All/choir Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Minister Christ is the true bread
which has come down from heaven.

All Lord, give us this bread always.

Please wait to be directed forward to receive communion.

ANTHEM F. A. G. Ouseley: From the rising of the sun

HYMN

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:

*Chorus 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)
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.**

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NOTICES

HYMN

- 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 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.
- 4 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.

5 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.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

BLESSING

Minister 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.

All Amen.

Minister 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.

All Amen.

Minister May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
shine in your hearts
and fill our lives with his joy and peace.

All Amen.

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

All Amen.

DISMISSAL

Minister We have seen his glory,
the glory revealed to all the nations.

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

The people and ministers depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY J. S. Bach: Toccata in C major

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them Richard H, Kay G, Jonathan, Kath T, June M, Jenny A, Andrew E, Hilly S, Diana B.

The housebound and those in residential homes: Shirley C.

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please obtain the consent of the person you wish us to pray for. Then tell Pat Thomas whom to pray for and the reason why.

REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

Those whose anniversaries fell on this past week: Glynnis Patrica Bourne, Annie May Cox, Charles Henry Fair, Angela McHugh, John Edward Benbow, Walter Armstrong, Emma Petrikat, Gordon Flex, Helen Rowlatt, Sarah Emma Barron, Mary Barbara Wren, Alan Mitchell, Gladys Kathleen Charlton, Chris Christison, Dorothy Charles, John Harwood, Septimus Orton, Maisie Blenkham, Diana Smith, Evelyn Tear, Gordon Kingham, Lilian Greig, Christine McAndrew, Michael Buck, Ruth McGraw, Brian McGraw, Winifred Ward, Millicent Campbell, Herbert Satterthwaite, Sybil Swindall, Robin Dunhill, Alan Sanders, Doris Ramsay, Christian Smalley.

NOTICES

Benefice magazine deadline 8 January. Please send your articles for the Winter issue to Becky at magazine@allhallowsandallsaintswellingborough.co.uk.

Tea @2 Tuesday 10 January 14:00, St Andrew's Hall.

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DIARY

Mon 9 Jan

Tues 10 Jan

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 9:00-9:30 | Zoom | Morning Prayer |
| 9:30-12:00 | All Hallows' Hall | coffee shop |
| 14:00-15:00 | St Andrew's Hall | Tea @2 |

Wed 11 Jan

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 9:00-9:45 | All Saints | AS School worship |
| 9:30-12:00 | All Hallows' Hall | coffee shop |
| 10:30-12:30 | All Hallows | open to the public |
| 12:15-13:00 | All Hallows | Midweek Eucharist |

Thurs 12 Jan

Aelred of Hexham

| | | |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| 9:00-9:30 | Zoom | Morning Prayer |
| 10:00-10:30 | All Saints | Holy Communion |

Fri 13 Jan

Hilary

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 9:30-12:00 | All Hallows' Hall | coffee shop |
| 18:15-19:15 | All Saints | AS choir practice |
| 19:30-20:30 | All Hallows | AH choir practice |

Sat 14 Jan

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 9:30-12:00 | All Hallows' Hall | coffee shop |
| 10:30-12:30 | All Hallows | open to the public |

Sun 15 Jan

Epiphany 2

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| 9:15-10:30 | All Saints | Eucharist |
| 11:15-12:30 | All Hallows | Eucharist |
| 18:00-19:00 | Zoom | Compline |

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