



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

open doors ... open hearts ... open minds ...



EPIPHANY
3 JANUARY 2021

GATHERING AND PREPARATION

Mass setting: St Thomas Mass (David Thorne)

Acknowledgement of Country

Entrance Hymn: *Earth has many a noble city* (TIS 291)

Earth has many a noble city—
Bethlehem alone excels:
from it came the Lord from heaven,
came to rule his Israel.

Fairer than the sun at morning
was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing,
seen in human form on earth.

Eastern sages at his cradle
make their offerings rich and rare;
see them give in deep devotion
gold and frankincense and myrrh:

sacred gifts of mystic meaning—
frankincense God to disclose,
gold the King of kings proclaiming,
myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.

Jesus, whom the gentiles worshipped
at your glad epiphany,
now to you with God the Father
and the Spirit glory be.

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius 348-c. 413 *tr.* Edward Caswall 1814-78 *alt.*

Sentence of Scripture

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.

— Luke 2.30-32

The president greets the people.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All And also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

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.

Invitation to Confession

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.

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise (Gloria in excelsis)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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

Saving God,
whose Son Jesus was presented in the temple
and was acclaimed the glory of Israel
and the light of the nations:
grant that in him we may be presented to you
and in the world may reflect his glory;
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A Reading from Old Testament

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.

Hear the word of the Lord,

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

- 1 Give the king your judgement, O God:
and your righteousness to the son of a king,
- 2 That he may judge your people rightly:
and the poor of the land with equity.
- 3 Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his
righteousness:
and the hills also with prosperity for his people.

- 4 May he give justice to the poor among the people:
and rescue the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
- 5 May he live while the sun endures:
and while the moon gives light,
throughout all generations.
- 6 May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields:
and as showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall righteousness flourish:
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring tribute:
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall fall down before him:
and all nations do him service.
- 12 He will deliver the needy when they cry:
and the poor that have no helper.
- 13 He will pity the helpless and the needy:
and save the lives of the poor.
- 14 He will redeem them from oppression and violence:
and their blood shall be precious in his sight.

The Gospel

[Matthew 2:1-12]

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

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

All Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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 Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**All We believe in one God,
who made and loves all that is.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was born, lived, died and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,
and brings all things to their true end.**

This is our faith, the faith of the Church:

**All We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us worship the Saviour with joy
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.
The magi came from the east to worship your Son:
Father, grant to Christians everywhere
the spirit of adoration ...
Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:
Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds
at the beginning of this year ...
Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

The kingdoms of this world have become
the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ:
Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world ...
Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:
Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless,
and all who suffer ...
Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth:
Father, protect in your love our neighbours,
our families and this community of which we are a part ...
Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship
with the shepherds, the angels, the magi,
the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph
and all the faithful departed,
and especially those whose names occur at this time:
Doreen May Grebert, Beryl Power, John Vale and Kenneth John
Clements (Fifth Bishop of Grafton).
Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

Together we say the Cathedral Prayer

**Living and eternal Christ,
bless the ministry of this Cathedral
as a place of pilgrimage and prayer.
May our doors always be open to pilgrims,
may our hearts always be open to one another,
and may our minds always be open to new truth.
Draw us deeply into the mystery of your life,
your death, and your resurrection,
now and always. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ is our peace.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.

- 2 Corinthians 5:17

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace in a COVID-safe manner.

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory hymn: *As with gladness men of old* (TIS 314)

**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 your glory see.**

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

As they offered gifts most rare
at your cradle rough and bare:
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, 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 your glory hide;
in the heavenly country bright
need they no created light:
you its light, its joy, its crown,
you its sun which goes not down.
There for ever may we sing
hallelujahs to our King.

William Chatterton Dix 1837-98 alt.

The gifts are brought to the Lord's 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.
Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, ever living God.

We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

You anointed him as Messiah,
the light of the nations,
and revealed him as the hope
of all who thirst for righteousness and peace.

By his death on the cross,
and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

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

**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.'

This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise.

All Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND HOLY COMMUNION

The president breaks the bread.

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:
**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

Agnus dei (Lamb of God)

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

The president elevates the consecrated elements and calls the people of God to the Table of Jesus.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Holy things for holy people.
Broken things for broken people.

All the children of God have a place at God's Table.

Anyone who would normally receive Holy Communion in their own Christian tradition is welcome to receive the Sacrament with us here today.

Those who prefer to receive a personal blessing from the priest rather than Holy Communion are invited to come to the Altar and simply cross their arms in front of them so the clergy know their desire.

Gluten-free wafers are available on request.

Notices

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Final hymn: Hail to the Lord's anointed (TIS 275)

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 let the captive free,
and take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with help and mercy
to those who suffer wrong,
to raise 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.

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.

Kings shall fall 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.

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,
that name to us is love.

James Montgomery 1771-1854 *alt.*

The president says

God of the nations,
we thank you for nourishing us with this holy sacrament.
Guide us by your presence,
that we may bring your light to those who dwell in darkness,
and establish your justice in the earth.

Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.

The Blessing

Christ our Lord,
to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts,
reveal to you his glory
and pour upon you the riches of his grace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

All Glory, thanks and praise to God.

Organ Postlude:

The order of service is adapted from *Common Worship* published by the Church of England and reproduced with permission. Hymns are from *Together in Song* and are reproduced with permission under CCLI Licence No. 1966.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

At the time of preparing this service booklet, around \$1,500 had been donated to the Christmas Bowl appeal via the online giving option (see below), and we are yet to tally the gifts made using the traditional paper envelopes. This is looking like a record year for our support of the Christmas Bowl.

The appeal remains open for one more week.

Please use this QR code to make an online gift to the 2020 Christmas Bowl appeal and have your gift counted as part of the total contribution from Grafton Cathedral.

