

3rd January, 2021

Joint Benefice

Sunday before Epiphany

Service Sheet

**Welcome to our 09:30 All Age Service
with Reader, Kate Brookbank**

*assisted by Sarah and Donna
A recording will be available on YouTube*

Our Diocese Together - January

The December issue of "Our Diocese Together" is now [available to download](#) from the Diocese of Derby website or to view online [here](#).

"Inbetween" Deanery Newsletter

Our Deanery Newsletter is available to download from here:

<https://derby.anglican.org/en/about-us/deaneries/north-east-derbyshire-deanery/north-east-derbyshire-parishes.html>

Order of Service for Sunday 3rd January 2021

The Sunday before Epiphany

***The following Carol will be played as the All-Age Team
process towards the altar.***

As with Gladness Men of Old

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 by Thee!

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!

As they offered gifts most rare
At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,

Welcome and Theme

Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, 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 Thy glory hide.

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 forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King!

Introduction to Hymn: Brightest and Best

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.
Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all!

Say, shall we yield Him, in costly devotion,
Odours of Edom and offerings divine?
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would His favour secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

The service leader greets us:

The grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you:

All: and also with you.

The Three Kings look and search for the new born king.

All: Help us to find Jesus in our hearts.

Help us to use our eyes to look for the signs of Jesus.

Help us to use our ears to hear his good news and our minds to be open to his word.

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.

Saying Sorry to God

**All: We are sorry that sometimes we are blinkered and therefore do not see or follow the signs. We are sorry that sometimes we are pre-occupied and do not listen. We are sorry that sometimes we do our own thing and do not follow Jesus teaching. Help us to look, hear and listen and to follow your teaching as disciples of Christ.
Amen.**

The Absolution and the Collect

Collect: 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.

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.

At the end of the reading, the reader will say either:

For the gift of his holy word, or This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Introduction to Hymn: We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder Star.

Refrain

*O, star of wonder, star of might,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to the perfect light.*

Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain;
Gold we bring to crown Him again;
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign. *Refrain*

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him, God on High. *Refrain*

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Refrain*

Glorious now behold Him arise,
King and God and sacrifice,
Heaven sings, "Hallelujah!"
Hallelujah!" Earth replies. *Refrain*

The Gospel - Matthew 2: 1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, '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.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They 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. ⁸Then 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.' ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And 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 Christ

All: Thanks be to God

The Talk

Affirmation of Faith

We affirm our faith together as a community, uniting ourselves to all Christians, in the past, present and future:

We believe in God the Father,

All: from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named

We believe in God the Son,

All: who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

All: who inspires us with power from on high

We believe in one God;

All: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, we pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us:

**All: 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**

The Peace

May we continue to seek and find Jesus in our hearts. Help us to grow in his love and respond to his grace and mercy.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

All: and also with you.

Introduction to Hymn:- Hills of the North rejoice

Hills of the North rejoice;
River and mountain spring,
Hark to the advent voice;
Valley and lowland, sing;
Though absent long, your Lord is nigh;
He judgment brings and victory.

Isles of the southern seas,
Deep in your coral caves
Pent be each warring breeze,
Lulled be your restless waves:
He comes to reign with boundless sway,
And makes your wastes His great
highway.

Lands of the East, awake,
Soon shall your sons be free;
The sleep of ages break,

And rise to liberty.
On your far hills, long cold and grey,
Has dawned the everlasting day.

Shores of the utmost West,
Ye that have waited long,
Unvisited, un-blest,
Break forth to swelling song;
High raise the note, that Jesus died,
Yet lives and reigns, the Crucified.

Shout, while ye journey home;
Songs be in every mouth;
Lo, from the North we come,
From East, and West, and South.
City of God, the bond are free,
We come to live and reign in thee!

Dismissal

**All: Lord, surround us with your love as we go from this act of worship.
Let lips that have sung your praise always speak the truth, and ears that
have heard your word always listen to your will.
Give us the grace to work for the coming of your kingdom here on earth, for
the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Words of Encouragement

As the wise men were led by the light of a star, so may we be led by the light of the gospel and throughout our lives pass on the light of Christ to others.

The Grace

All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ

All: Thanks be to God

Janet's Reflection for the Sunday before Epiphany

I have just heard, on tv, a testimony from a London nurse about the dire conditions in hospitals due to the rampaging virus infection. This was all the more moving because it was given by someone on the frontline (at the 'coalface' if you will): someone who knows exactly from first-hand what she is talking about concerning the real situation 'on the ground'.

We recognise honesty, truth and integrity when we meet it – or we should! The words of some simply ring true to our ears and this hangs on whether the words of those we hear rests on experience rather than knowing *of* something. At the end of the day, we can only really know a situation from the inside, not as an onlooker.

I think that this business of words 'ringing true' applies to the passage from the opening of John's Gospel for today. To our modern ears, the notion of the Word (logos in Greek) might sound strange but we can grasp that the writer of this Gospel was unshakably convinced that the Jesus he wrote about embodied the creative Spirit of all that exists. It is our privilege, each one of us, to be part of that life – in the Gospel writer's words, 'to become children of God' – i.e. if we accept. The Gospel writer knew how, and to what extent, Jesus Christ had affected the lives of people – including himself. He knew from first-hand, just as the NHS nurse knows the virus catastrophe first-hand. It is due to this that we can trust his words.

Amen

A prayer for NHS Staff and Carers

Heavenly Father, whose loving care extends over all things and over all time, hear our prayer for those who have dedicated their lives to the service and care of others especially those of the NHS, caring professions and emergency services who, by tending those infected with the COVID virus have themselves fallen prone to the disease and died. Receive our sorrow, penitence and gratitude; comfort those who mourn; strengthen, guide and protect those who continue to care for those who are sick and in need,



as we commend the departed to your loving and eternal care;
we make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Bishop Libby 's Updates

The Dean of Derby Writes



As I write this, I am sitting in my office overlooking Derby Cathedral's Tudor tower and watching snowflakes descend on to the street outside. Looking closely, some of them enlarge significantly and appear in three dimensions. They then dissolve and become Christmas trees and other seasonal artifacts.



This is the cathedral's winter light show projected on to the tower's west facade. The irony is that only yesterday I was reading a BBC news report suggesting snowy UK winters could become a thing of the past, following Met Office research just released. By the end of the century, it is predicted that there will be no lying winter snow, except on the highest of ground.

Can we imagine a winter without any snow at all? If carbon emissions continue to increase across the planet then global heating will continue, and then the loss of snow on all but a few mountains will be part of our reality.

Here at the cathedral, we have been awarded the Bronze Eco-Church award thanks to the work of our Justice and Peace and the Integrity of Creation group's efforts. We hope to progress towards the Silver award during the coming year. In the back of all our minds should be the Church of England's commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030. We have a decade to plan and implement actions to achieve this. Becoming recognised as Eco-Church is an important step towards the final goal.

As we enter a new year, with all the uncertainties of what the future holds in terms of meeting together for worship, the availability of vaccines, about how communities will operate and how we may or may not be able to travel, I hope that in 2021 our environmental concern will deepen and become more integrated into our lives as individuals, families, communities, and church.

One place that we might start is with our experience of responding to Covid-19 during 2020. Many communities have re-discovered a deep sense of what it is to support our neighbours. Jesus said that alongside loving God, loving our neighbour was one of the two greatest commandments which summed up all the others.

Pope Francis has recently reflected that we need to bring our attitude to the environment into relationship with loving our neighbours. To love the environment is to love our neighbour. To neglect the environment, to treat it as simply there to be exploited for the use of human beings, is not to love our neighbour. Loving God, loving our neighbour as ourselves is to love, care for and tend the creation. Human beings are part of the deeply interconnected set of relationships which constitute the ecology of creation.

Let us pray for God's grace in 2021 that we may have the wisdom to discern the implications of seeing ourselves and all humanity as bound up within God's creation. Let's allow ourselves in this new year to discern the deep connections God has built into our environment!

Peter

Services Live and Recordings

A Recording of today's service will be available on YouTube.

The previous live service recordings here:

26th July https://youtu.be/_c_mUoqB4qA, 2nd August <https://youtu.be/bVYNWxQa1Ys>,
9th August with Bishop Libby <https://youtu.be/UYZNkREIQm4>,
16th August <https://youtu.be/zFJdtswW0Vo>, 23rd August <https://youtu.be/3Fwvr6SgnhY>,
30th Aug. <https://youtu.be/QkLjupMz6Qq> 6th Sept. <https://youtu.be/LQfcHwsqXN0>
13th Sept. <https://youtu.be/6GvFOIEm3-4> 27th Sept. <https://youtu.be/b68PPA9VELA>,
4th Oct.: <https://youtu.be/YJdMqvsAMOM> 18th Oct: <https://youtu.be/jIT7FcfbgYY>
25th Oct. <https://youtu.be/J2mItfOYyMI> 1st Nov. <https://youtu.be/FCeikJf-UnQ>
29th Nov.: <https://youtu.be/KdcfkN3Ze5k> 6th Dec. <https://youtu.be/SRfgoxu9Rak>
13th Dec. <https://youtu.be/6E5N64RB-78>, 20th Dec. https://youtu.be/_xXeTYtCov4

Archdeacon Carol's services and reflections from previous weeks can be viewed here: <https://www.facebook.com/ArchChesterfield> - You don't need a Facebook account to view them.

Rev'd. Janet's and Kate's (home) recorded Services:

26th April - <https://youtu.be/KQTUVYOkFQg> 3rd May - https://youtu.be/1P_NmRB8IpI
17th May - https://youtu.be/RgYQ8uoj_E0 24th May - <https://youtu.be/jcs8Vcfakio>
7th June - <https://youtu.be/4ABhUXuDf8I>, 14th June - <https://youtu.be/rQ3488skRoQ>
21st June - <https://youtu.be/dZyRLm95Qaq>, 5th July <https://youtu.be/-JOqnHIBEvM>
12th July <https://youtu.be/ICcTh5eZzMA> 19th July https://youtu.be/o_vknM84B2g
20th Sept. <https://youtu.be/7Qv1Q13uXO4> 11th Oct.: <https://youtu.be/yXbOn0LrNzw>
15th Nov.: <https://youtu.be/P1yIK8an16k> 22nd Nov. <https://youtu.be/NkEn9A1r5no>
and 2nd April Compline service - <https://youtu.be/lJmg2bSaJvI>

And Remembrance Sunday 8th Nov. 2020 with Rev'd Adrian Murray-Leslie:

<https://youtu.be/8ubzO331R6U>

Other local services - The Crooked Spire's service(s) available here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDrGU56c59qfgQeHsWOoy1g>

Newbold's service(s) available on their YouTube channel here:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWT9vXrDSQZnnNVHLF4ITYA?view_as=subscriber

Diocese of Derby – Links to Online Services in the Diocese:

https://derby.anglican.org/en/news/events-and-training/parish-events/derbyshire-church-events.html?fbclid=IwAR2Y88YQLe4xABvKt5_R8T8Y-Wr0I5zh41-JWIhmGw5ZzeOsdDE3JyDnN1KA

'Tis the season' Epiphany Gatherings on Zoom

7.30pm on Thursdays 21st and 28th January

You're invited to join Rev'd. Sarah virtually and settle down in your favourite armchair with a mug of hot chocolate (or something stronger) as together we share our favourite seasonal poems, carols, music or readings.

You're also welcome if you would prefer to just listen in!

Booking will be needed please as places will be limited for each group-

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