Sung Eucharist

Eucharist of the Epiphany

3rd January 2021

10.30am

Nave
Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

The setting of the Service on this occasion is
Little Organ Mass – Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

We are grateful to Lees Court Music who are singing the services for us today.

Cover Image: The Magi follow the Star
North Quire Aisle, Canterbury Cathedral

Please ask the priest if you require a gluten-free communion wafer

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The Gathering

Before the Service begins the Dean offers a welcome

The President says

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

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and also with you.

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.

The President introduces

Prayers 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.

So let us confess our sins.

All sit to say

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

The President says

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive you your sins and make you holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Stand as the choir sings

Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus pater omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe; Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis; qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram; qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu: in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

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

Let us pray.

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

Old Testament 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.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Remain seated as the choir sings Psalm 72.10-15

The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents:
the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts.
All kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall do him service.
For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth:
the needy also, and him that hath no helper.
He shall be favourable to the simple and needy:
and shall preserve the souls of the poor.
He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong:
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.
He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia:
prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised.
Stand as the Gospeller says

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

The Gospel 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, 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.

The organist plays a Gospel fanfare

Once the Sermon has been introduced please sit

Sermon The Reverend A P Dodd, Vice Dean

Following the Sermon please stand
The Nicene Creed

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.

Kneel or sit for

Prayers of Intercession

One of these responses is used

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

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

The Motet

Among earth’s multitude of lights
A new star shines.
It lights the journey of the wise
Who travel with deep searching eyes
From eastern shrines.

Among earth’s languages and words
A new child sleeps.
Amid the ceaseless noise of life,
Of strident power and angry strife,
He silence keeps.

Among earth’s landscapes of despair
A new hope springs,
Which to the weary human form,
New made, as at Creation’s dawn,
God’s image brings.


The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Stand

The President says

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.

The Offertory

Please sit

During the Offertory the organist plays an improvisation

Please note that no collection will be passed round. A card machine and baskets are provided for a retiring collection after the service

Please stand when the thurifer turns to cense the people

The President takes the bread and wine and praises God for his gifts

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.

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 President praises God for his mighty acts

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:

The choir sings

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
The President recalls the Last Supper

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, 
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, 
and as we follow his example and obey his command, 
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit 
these gifts of bread and wine 
may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, 
we remember his offering of himself 
made once for all upon the cross; 
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; 
we look for the coming of your kingdom, 
and with this bread and this cup 
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

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

Accept through him, our great high priest, 
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, 
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts 
in the presence of your divine majesty, 
renew us by your Spirit, 
inspire us with your love 
and unite us in the body of your Son, 
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, and with him, and in him, 
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, 
we worship you, Father almighty, 
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*The President says*

As we join our prayers with the Church Universal, so we say, 
each in our own language, the prayer that Jesus taught us.

**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.

*Notre Père...*  
*Vater Unser...*  
*Onze Vader...*  
*Padre Nuestro...*  
*Ojcze Nasz...*  
*Baba Yetu...*  
*E to matou Matua...*  
*Ein Tad...*

**Remain standing for**

**Breaking of the Bread**

*The President breaks the consecrated bread, saying*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,**  
because we all share in one bread.

*The President says*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,**  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The Body and Blood of Christ. **Amen.**
The Distribution of Communion

Please remain seated in your place. Communion will be brought to you by a priest. Please remain seated as you receive Communion.

Please hold out your open hands and the sacrament will be gently dropped into them by the priest in silence. This is the only way you are allowed to receive communion at present, you should not make any contact with the priest’s fingers.

Please ask the priest if you would prefer a blessing or a gluten-free host.

At this time of infectious disease, Communion is distributed in one kind only. The Church of England, together with the whole Catholic Church, teaches that, in receiving in one kind, the entirety of the Sacrament of our Lord’s Body and Blood is received.

We keep a prayerful silence together during Communion as we prepare to receive the sacrament and to pray afterwards.

During Communion, the choir may sing the Benedictus and/or Agnus Dei

Benedictus qui venit
In nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.  
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

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.

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:

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

Words: J H Hopkins (1820-1891)  Tune: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT CP 91
Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept

Stand as the President says

Let us pray.

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.

All then say

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.

The President says

May God the Father, who led the wise men by the shining of a star to find 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.

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.
Organ Voluntary

All remain standing as the clergy depart

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