



Feast of Epiphany 3rd January 2021

Opening Responses

As gold is purified in fire, purify us that we may be royal priests to you.

All We offer ourselves to you as gold.

As the rising incense speaks of your Presence, may our hearts always rise to you in adoration.

All We offer ourselves to you as incense.

As myrrh spreads the fragrance of perfume, may our beautiful deeds be fragrant to you.

All We offer ourselves to you as myrrh.

Opening prayer

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;

let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. **All: Amen.**

Confession

As we come to the Lord at the start of this New Year, let us seek his grace to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

All Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and in the year ahead restore us to the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Absolution

Hymn

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all-gracious King" –
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel-sounds
The blessed angels sing
3. But with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring; –
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!
4. For lo! the days are hastening on
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever circling years
Shall come the age of gold;
When Peace shall over all the earth,
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song,
Which now the angels sing.

The Word of God

Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

At end of reading:

This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Drama

Mel, Cass & Bez, follow a 'Star'
(The Knott family)

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

**All: We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Hymn

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 light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I 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, voices raising,
worshipping 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:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.

[Refrain]

Prayers

Blessing our Homes

20 + C + M + B + 21

Intercessions

The response to: 'Lord of Glory'
Is; 'Hear Our Prayer'

The 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.

All: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven...

Notices

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 ...

Dismissal

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with
you, wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the
wilderness,
protect you through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors.

Amen.