



THE CHURCH
OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

The Order for Solemn Evensong for Epiphany

January 7, 2024 5:00 PM

Prelude

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

All stand as the Officiant and other Ministers enter

Introit

The Blessed Birth

Walford Davies (1869-1941)

That so thy blessed birth, O Christ,
Might thro' the world be spread about,
The star appeared in the East,
Whereby the Gentiles found Thee out;
And offered Thee
Myrrh, Incense, Gold,
Thy threefold office to unfold.

Tears that from true repentance drop,
Instead of Myrrh, present will we:
For Incense we will offer up
Our prayers and praises unto Thee;
And bring for Gold each pious deed,
Which doth from saving faith proceed.

And as those wise men never went
To visit Herod any more,
So, finding Thee, we will repent
Our courses followed heretofore;
And that we homeward may retire,
The way be Thee will enquire. Amen.

Opening Sentence

I will give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth. Isaiah 49:6b

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;

And there is no health in us.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord;

and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Officiant alone stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution ✠ and remission of all your sins,
true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

All stand

The Invitatory

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Choir As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

All are then seated as the Choir sings the Psalm appointed for the day

The Psalmody

Psalm

114

Anglican Chant

Samuel Wesley (1766-1837)

When Israel came out of Egypt
and the house of Jacob from among the strange people,

Judah was his sanctuary
and Israel his dominion.

The sea saw that, and fled
Jordan was driven back.

The mountains skipped like rams
and the little hills like young sheep.

What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest
and thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?

Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams
and ye little hills, like young sheep?

Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord
at the presence of the God of Jacob;

Who turned the hard rock into a standing water
and the flint-stone into a springing well.

Then the Gloria Patri is sung

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, and hearken, you peoples from afar.
The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”
But I said, “I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my right is with the Lord, and my recompense with my God.”

And now the Lord says, who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—
he says:

“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the preserved of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the servant of rulers:
“Kings shall see and arise;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

All stand for the singing of the Office Hymn and Magnificat

Hymn

Morning Star

James Proctor Harding (1850-1911)

1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,
3 Shall we then yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple o - bla - tion,
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,

1 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;
2 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
3 o - dors of E - dom, and of - ferings di - vine,
4 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure,
5 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;

1 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,
2 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
3 gems of the moun - tain, and pearls of the o - cean,
4 rich - er by far is the heart's a - dor - a - tion,
5 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,

1 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
2 Ma - ker and Mon - arch and Sa - vior of all.
3 myrrh from the for - est, and gold from the mine?
4 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
5 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Magnificat

Plainsong Setting

Luke 1: 46-55

arr. S. William Aitken (b. 1944)

✠ My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

All are seated following the singing of the Magnificat

The Second Lesson

Matthew 12:14-21

But the Pharisees went out and took counsel against him, how to destroy him.

Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. And many followed him, and he healed them all, and ordered them not to make him known. This was to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah:

“Behold, my servant whom I have chosen,
my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased.
I will put my Spirit upon him,
and he shall proclaim justice to the Gentiles.
He will not wrangle or cry aloud,
nor will any one hear his voice in the streets;
he will not break a bruised reed
or quench a smoldering wick,
till he brings justice to victory;
and in his name will the Gentiles hope.”

Following the Lesson, all stand

Nunc Dimittis

Plainsong Setting

Luke 2: 29-32
arr. S. William Aitken

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

Sung on a monotone by the Officiant and People together

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, ✠
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The Officiant and Choir sing the following

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

The People kneel

Officiant Lord have mercy upon us.

Choir Christ have mercy upon us.

Officiant Lord have mercy upon us.

Then the short form of the Lord's Prayer is sung by the Choir

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. Amen.

Then follow these Suffrages, sung by the Officiant and Choir

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant O Lord, save the State.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The following Collects are sung; the Choir sings "Amen."

The Collect of the Day

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only begotten Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know thee now by faith, to thy presence, where we may behold thy glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

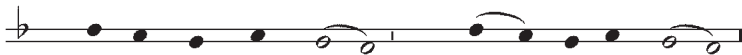
A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Benedicamus Domino

Officiant

People



Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Grace

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *People* Amen.

Then the Congregation is seated

Greeting

Anthem

The Three Kings

Dayne Newberry, *Soloist*

Three kings from Persian lands afar
To Jordan follow the pointing star:
And this the quest of the travellers three,
Where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King:
Gold, incense, myrrh their offering.

*How brightly beams the morning star!
With grace and truth from heav'n afar
Our Jesse tree now bloweth.*

The star shines out with a steadfast ray,
The kings to Bethlehem make their way,
And there in worship they bend the knee,
As Mary's child in her lap they see;
Their royal gifts they show to the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

*Of Jacob's stem and David's line,
For thee, my Bridegroom, King divine,
My soul with love o'erfloweth.*

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem
The kings are travelling, travel with them!
The star of mercy, the star of grace,
Shall lead thy heart to its resting place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;
Offer thy heart to the infant King.

*Thy word, Jesu, Inly feeds us,
Rightly leads us, Life bestowing.
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.*

Words: Henry Newell Bate (1828-1917)

Music: Peter Cornelius (1824-1874)

arr. Ivor Atkins (1869-1953)

All kneel while the Officiant offers prayers from the High Altar

Closing Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

The Officiant then offers prayers for mission and for the world

The Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing ✠ of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *People* Amen.

All stand and join in the singing of the Hymn

Hymn

Dix

Conrad Kocher (1786-1872)
arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man - ger - bed;
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger rude and bare;
4 Ho - ly Je - sus! ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heaven - ly coun - try bright, need they no cre - a - ted light;

1 as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
2 there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heaven and earth a - dore;
3 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
4 and, when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
5 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:

1 so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.
2 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek the mer - cy - seat.
3 all our cost - lest trea - sures bring, Christ! to thee, our heaven - ly King.
4 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
5 there for ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King.

Postlude

Dawning is the Glorious Day

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

The Office of Evensong is sung at the close of each day in cathedrals, collegiate chapels, monastic communities, and parish churches throughout the Anglican Communion. Derived from the ancient offices of Vespers and Compline, it is a service of rare beauty offered through the singing of psalms and canticles, the reading of scripture, and prayer. This liturgy of sung prayer has been offered daily throughout the Christian era and it enables us to join with all those who have gone before, those today who offer their evening prayers, and those who will continue their sung praise, petitions, and thanksgivings in times to come.

The worshipper offers praise through association with the choir and sits awash in sung prayer as it resonates throughout this sacred space. Natural time is suspended as word and music combine to capture the holy rhythms of the spheres and the worshipper is transported beyond chronological time to a place where creation and eternity coalesce into one.



The use of incense in the liturgical rites of the Church has its origins in antiquity. Deeply imbued with mystic symbolism, the practice of offering incense dates from the Old Testament in the time of the Second Temple. It is symbolic of the prayers of the faithful rising to heaven: “Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice” (Psalm 141: 2). On this All Saint’s Sunday, we look also to the book of The Revelation to St. John the Divine (8: 3-4): “And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censor; and he was given much incense to mingle with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar before the throne; and the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers of the saints from the hand of the angel before God.” Christian worship is fully sensory and, through the offering of incense at this Solemn Office of Evensong, we offer an additional dimension to our worship with our entire being.

Holy Eucharist will be offered in St. Mary’s Chapel immediately following this service

All are invited into the Great Hall following the service for a reception



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The Rev. Andrew John Archie	<i>Rector</i>
The Rev. Peter James Speropulos	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
The Rev. Thomas Roy Albinson	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem	<i>Priest Associate; Theologian in Residence</i>
The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey	<i>Priest Associate</i>
Mr. S. William Aitken	<i>Interim Organist and Choral Director</i>

