



The Feast of Epiphany



Sunday 7th January 2024, 10am

St Mary's Kidlington

www.kidhp.org.uk



KidlingtonAnglicanChurches

In this and all our services the indications to sit / stand are invitations not instructions. Please adopt whatever posture most suits you.

The Gathering

Please remain seated for the Processional Hymn:

*All: We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.*

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

*Solo: Born a King on Bethlehem plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.*

All: O star...

*Solo: Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship him, God most high.*

All: O star...

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

All: O star...

*All: Glorious now behold Him arise;
King and God and sacrifice;
Heaven sings Alleluia,
'Alleluia!' the earth replies.*

All: O star...

The Greeting:

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

And also with you

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

Amen.

Welcome:

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.
Let us confess our sins.

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.

Absolution:

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand

The Gloria:

Cantor: 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 sins 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

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.

Amen.

Please sit

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6

The Ingathering of the Dispersed

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.

Gradual Hymn:

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 God, may we
evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly cradle-bed,
there to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek Thy mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
at that cradle rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed lives at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds Thy glory hide.

In that heav'nly country bright
need they no created light;
Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun which goes not down;
there for ever may we sing
alleluias to our King.

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Alleluia.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

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, 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^[c] 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 Sermon: Mrs Meghann Hewett LLM

Chorister Motet: *Thou who wast rich beyond all splendour*

The 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.**

Please sit or kneel

Prayers of Intercession:

The Liturgy of the Sacrament:

The Peace:

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.

Offertory Hymn:

During the hymn a collection will be taken for the mission and ministry of the church and the credit card reader is an option if you aren't carrying any cash. Thankyou for your support by standing order or weekly collection.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the Name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.

J.S.B. Monsell (1811-75)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

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.

Amen.

Please stand

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

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.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so
he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks, for by the leading of a star
you have revealed your only Son to the world,
that in following him we are led from darkness
into his marvellous light.

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

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of St Mary the Virgin, St John the Baptist and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Believing the promises of God, 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.
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.**

Breaking of the Bread:

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Giving of Communion:

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Choir Anthem: The Three Kings – Cornelius

Prayer after Communion:

**Lord God,
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise
have been drawn by your light
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Blessing:

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

Recessional Hymn:

The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they
lay; In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell
Born is the king of Israel.*

They lookèd up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. *Nowell,...*

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. *Nowell, ...*

This star drew nigh to the north-west;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay: *Nowell, ...*

Then entered in those wise men three
Full reverently upon their knee;
And offered there in his presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. *Nowell,...*

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought. *Nowell,...*

The Dismissal:

We have seen his glory,
the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary: Epilogue on "Dix" – Harris

Prayer Ministry Team

If you would like someone to pray personally and simply with you, for yourself or a loved one, please go to the Lady Chapel after the service.

Two members of the Prayer Ministry Team will be ready to listen and pray (name-badges on blue lanyards).

If someone is already being prayed with, please wait outside the Lady Chapel on the seating provided and you will be attended to as soon as possible.

You are also welcome to ask other members of the Prayer Ministry Team (names below) to pray with you.

Please note: The usual rules of confidentiality apply.

If you, or someone you know, has been impacted by abuse or has concerns, please speak to the Safeguarding officer for our Parish. Yo Davies: 07865664451 safeguarding@kidhp.org.uk or the Diocesan safeguarding team : 01865 208295.
Safeguardingreferrals@oxford.Anglican.org

The Season of Epiphany: January 6th - Feb 2nd

The Feast of the Epiphany, which always falls on 6 January, marks the beginning of a season which recognizes Jesus to be the Son of God. The word 'epiphany' means 'manifestation' or 'appearance', and the Feast of the Epiphany marks the recognition of the newborn Jesus by the world. The gospel readings for each of the other Sunday in Epiphany demonstrate who Jesus is in some fundamental way. At the Baptism of Christ, a voice from heaven declares Jesus to be God's beloved Son. At the wedding in Cana Jesus performs his first miracle and shows himself to be the one who transforms our poverty (water) into his riches (wine). Finally, on 2 February, the season of Epiphany ends with the Feast of the Presentation. Jesus is brought to the Temple by his parents according to the law of Israel. There, he is recognized by Simeon, who declares him to be 'a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of God's people Israel.' The traditional service for this feast includes a procession of candles, and so it is often known as Candlemas.

The crib tradiionally remains in church (and in our houses) until the Candlemas - we havent forgotten to take it down!

It is a rich season and offers us the chance each new year to ask ourselves the questions that Jesus asked his disciples:

"Who do people say I am?"

"And you, who do you say I am?"

This Epiphany, who is Jesus for you? Teacher, Master, Saviour, Light of the World, Healer, Friend, Cosmic Son of God, Redeemer, Holy One, Source of all Hope.....



Felicity: 07821 542182
Parish Office: 01865 375611

felicityscroggie@gmail.com
office@kidhp.org.uk

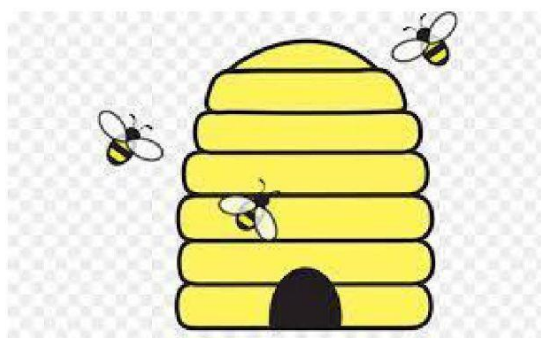
Tea Talk at St John's Church

The Broadway, Kidlington, OX5 1DD

Sunday 28th January at 3pm

“The Magic of the Hive”

given by Andy Pedley



Andy has been keeping bees since 1991. He'll be explaining why bees are magical creatures, producing honey, but also vitally important for pollination on which so many of our crops depend. Andy will explain the life cycle of the honey bee, their role in the environment, the challenges that they face, and what we can do to help them and their relatives, solitary bees and bumble bees.



Tea will be served after the talk. Donations in aid of Church Funds

The next Tea Talk is by David Meara on February 11th at 3pm