



Welcome to St Andrew's, Aberdeen
We unite in prayer at the Sacrament of the Altar
at this time of uncertainty and challenge,
in communion with the faithful in Aberdeen and beyond.
You are most welcome as you join in Worship Online from the
Upper Room.

EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 10 January 2021, 3.00 pm

Celebrant: Fr Isaac Poobalan
Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Cromar

Before the Service shall be played: Improvisation

Order of Service

Introit Hymn

The Race that long in darkness pines

1 The race that long in darkness pined
Have seen a glorious light;
The people dwell in day, who dwelt
In death's surrounding night.

2 To hail thy rise, thou better Sun,
The gathering nations come,
Joyous as when the reapers bear
The harvest-treasures home.

3 To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is given;
Him shall the tribes of earth obey,
Him all the hosts of heaven.

4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
For evermore adored;
The Wonderful, the Counsellor,
The great and mighty Lord.

5 His power increasing still shall spread;
His reign no end shall know:
Justice shall guard his throne above,
And peace abound below.

The Bidding Prayer

In the name of Christ, who called us out of darkness into his own marvellous light, to be a kingdom of priests to our God, we welcome you.

As we rejoice in the word made flesh, who comes among us to reveal God's glory, so we pray that his kingly reign may be acknowledged throughout the world.

And so we pray for the unity and mission of Christ's Church, for the ministers of the gospel of Christ, and for all for whom we bear witness. We pray for this world, which is already Christ's, that we may have reverence for the natural order and respect for every person, made in the image and likeness of God. And we pray for those who stand in need, for the lonely, the fearful, and the anxious, for the sick and the bereaved, and for all who have no one to pray for them.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us: Our Father,

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that 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.

May God the Father take us and use us in his service; may he open our eyes to see his glory, and equip us to bless his people, now and at all times. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Isaiah 60 – The Gentiles shall come to the light.

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side. Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee. The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the Lord. All the flocks of Keddar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee, they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I will glorify

the house of my glory. Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows: Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the Lord thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee. And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee: for in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favour have I had mercy on thee. Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.

Reader: For the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn *The First Nowell*

All 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 winters night that was so deep:
 Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell
 Born is the King of Israel!

All They look-ed 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, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell
 Born is the King of Israel!

Choir 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:

All *Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell*
 Born is the King of Israel!

All 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, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell
 Born is the King of Israel!

Choir Then entered in those wise men three,
 Full reverently upon their knee,
 And offered there in his presence
 Their gold and myrrh and frankincense:
All *Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell*
 Born is the King of Israel!

All 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, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell
 Born is the King of Israel!

English Traditional
Arranged: David Willcocks

Second Lesson

Isaiah 49 – A light to the Gentiles

Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted. But Zion said, the Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palm of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee. Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together, and come to thee. As I live, saith the Lord, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them on thee, as a bride doeth. For thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of thy destruction, shall even now be too narrow by

reason of the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away. The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other, shall say again in thine ears. The place is too strait for me: give place to me that I may dwell. Then shalt thou say in thine heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold I was left alone; these, where had they been? Thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Organ meditation:

Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie - Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Third Lesson

St Matthew 2 – The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they

were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Reader: For the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Three Kings of Orient

Choir 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 Night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

[Gaspard]

Choir Born a king on Bethlehem plain,
Gold I bring to crown him again,
King for ever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign.

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

[Melchior]

Choir Frankincense to offer have I,
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising all men raising,
Worship him, God on high.

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

[Balthazar]

Choir Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,

All Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
O Star of Wonder, Star of Night
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Choir [*Gaspard, Melchior, Balthazar*]
Glorious now behold him arise,
King, and God, and sacrifice.
Heaven sings: 'Alleluia';
'Alleluia' the earth replies.

All O Star of Wonder, Star of Night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Words and Music: John Henry Hopkins

Arranged: Martin Neary

Fourth Lesson

St Matthew 2 – Herod slays the little children.

And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

Reader: For the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: Unto us is born a Son

This carol is a loose translation of the Latin song *Puer Nobis Nascitur*. This song was used in the medieval liturgy and was found in the 14th century German manuscript, the *Moosburg Gradual*, in a 15th century Trier manuscript and in the 16th century Finnish collection *Piae Cantiones*. The English translation used here was made by Percy Dearmer for the 1928 *The Oxford Book of Carols*. Another commonly used translations is by G. R. Woodward.

Unto us is born a Son

- All Unto us is born a Son,
King of quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal.
- All Christ from heaven descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Becradled in a manger.
- All This did Herod sore affray,
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer.
- Choir Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story;
And O that Mary's gentle child
Might lead us up to glory.
- All O and A, and A and O,
Cum sanctibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino.

Music: *Piae Cantiones* 1582; Arr.: David Willcocks
Words: translated by George R Woodward

Fifth Lesson

1 John 4 – The duty of loving one another

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know

that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Reader: For the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Carol: *In the bleak mid-winter*

In the bleak mid-winter, Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone.
Snow had fallen snow on snow, Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold Him, Nor earth sustain
Heav'n and earth shall flee away, When He comes to reign.
In the bleak mid-winter, A stable place suffic'd, The Lord
God Almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim, Worship night and day,
A breast full of milk, And a manger full of hay.
Enough for Him, whom angels, Fall down
before, The ox and ass and camel, Which adore.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb
If I were a wise man, I would do my part
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

*Music: Harold Darke
Words: Christina Rossetti*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with thy spirit.**

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant, that we, which know thee now by faith, may after this life have the fruition of thy glorious Godhead; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Christ the Son of God, 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 of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

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 God, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
To that lowly manger-bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
At thy manger 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 heavenly King.

Holy Jesu, 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 for ever may we sing
Alleluyas to our King.

*Music: from C Kocher
Words: W Chatterton Dix*

Organ voluntary: *Fantaisie de l'Épiphanie* - Charles
Tournemire (1870-1939)

