

#### AN INTRODUCTION TO THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY

In the Western churches (Roman Catholicism and Protestant traditions), the Epiphany (which means 'showing' or 'manifestation') became an occasion to celebrate one element in the story of Christ's birth, the visit of the far-traveled magi, understood as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles (non-Jews). The Gospel of Matthew simply speaks of 'wise men from the east'; later tradition fixed their number at three, made them kings and gave them the names of Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. From this perspective, Epiphany-tide is an apt season to pray for the worldwide mission of the Church. But in the Eastern churches (Eastern Orthodox), the Epiphany is the celebration of Christ's baptism at the hands of John, when the heavens were opened and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God's beloved Son. The miracle of Cana in Galilee, where Jesus 'first manifested his glory', follows immediately.

The season of joyful celebration that begins at Christmas now continues through the successive Sundays of Epiphany, and the celebratory cycle ends only with the Feast of the Presentation on February 2when the child manifested to the magi at his birth is now recognized by Simeon and Anna when he comes to be presented in the Temple according to the Law of Israel. He is both 'a light to the Gentiles' and 'the glory of God's people Israel'. But the redemption he will bring must be won through suffering; the Incarnation is directed to the Passion; and Simeon's final words—"He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. 35 As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul"-- move our attention away from the celebration of Christmas and toward the mysteries of Easter.

#### THE COVER ART

Laura James, "The Holy Family at Nativity"

## PRELUDE 10:30 only

### **WELCOME**



#### **OPENING ACCLAMATIONS Stand**

Leader Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

People From the rising of the sun to its setting

your name is proclaimed in all the world.

Leader The Lord of glory be with you.

People The Lord bless you.

# THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are

hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our heart by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may

perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

#### GLORIA 8am. Stand.

Leader Arise, shine out, for your light has come;

People the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

Leader The nations will come to your light,

People and rulers to your dawning brightness.

Leader They shall bring gold and frankincense,

People and proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Leader Your gates will lie open continually,

People shut neither by day nor by night.

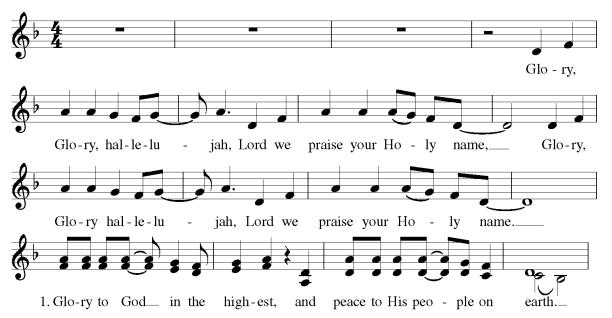
Leader No more will the sun give you daylight,

People **nor moonlight shine upon you.** 

Leader But the Lord will be your everlasting light,

People your God will be your splendor. Amen.

# GLORIA 10:30am LEVAS 243





#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Leader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Leader Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

60.1-6

one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD Seated

## THE FIRST LESSON

Reader A reading from the book of Isaiah.

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.

People Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM OF THE DAY**

# PSALM 72



- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness. ANTIPHON
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people;
  he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. **ANTIPHON**
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him,
  and all the nations do him service. **ANTIPHON**
- For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight. ANTIPHON

#### SECOND READING

Reader

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for
you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few
words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of
Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has
now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles
have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in
Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

# **GOSPEL ANTIPHON**

# JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Before gospel reading, sing verses 1 and 2. After reading, sing verse 3.



### GOSPEL

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

2:1-12

# People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

# GOSPEL ANTIPHON JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Sing verse 3 on previous page.

SERMON Seated Dr. MICHAEL BOOKER

After the sermon, silence is kept for a time.

#### THE NICENE CREED Stand

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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made human.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Presider Let us worship the Savior with joy

and make our prayer to the Eternal One.

Intercessor The magi came from the east to worship your Child: Majesty of the Heavens, grant to

Christians everywhere the spirit of adoration ... Lord of glory,

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh: God of Light, accept the

offering of our hearts and minds as we turn to new ways of being in this new year. Lord of

glory,

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Christ: God, grant an

abundance of peace to your world especially in Ukraine and Israel. Lord of glory,

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death: Father, look in mercy on all who

are poor and powerless, and all who suffer, especially the migrant people on the southern

border of the United States. Lord of glory,

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth: Father, protect in your love

our neighbors, our families and this community of which we are a part. In particular, we

pray for those on our prayer list. Lord of glory,

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor As we celebrate the birth of your child, Jesus, we remember those who have died in his

light. Lord of glory,

People hear our prayer.

Presider All-seeing God, we rejoice in our fellowship

with the shepherds, the angels, the magi, Blessed Mary the God-bearer, Saint Joseph

and all the faithful departed.

In your unfailing love for us and for all people, hear and answer our prayers through your Child,

our Savior Jesus Christ.

People Amen.

### THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Presider The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Savior Jesus Christ, who

sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept for a time.

People Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,

strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People Amen.

## THE PEACE

Presider God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation.

First be reconciled to one another as we offer one another a sign of peace.

We invite you to extend the peace of God to those in the congregation.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### CHALK BLESSING

The Church has a custom of blessing homes on the Feast of the Epiphany and the weeks following. We ask God's blessing on our homes and those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows. A traditional way of doing this is to mark the place we live using chalk blessed during the liturgy for the Feast of Epiphany.

The chalk and the blessing will be distributed as you exit the church and are available in the church office during regular hours.

#### BIRTHDAY BLESSING

Presider Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever

they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes

understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

### GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

We return with thanksgiving the gifts God has given us. This includes bread and wine of the earth and financial offerings from our labor.

REFRAIN: Spirit take us home, take us home by another way,

Take us long way 'round the tyrants and their schemes.

Give us strength to walk, show us dreams of a better day,

And we'll pave the way with justice going home by another way.

The mountains and the hills made low, the rough places made plain

The despots thrown down from their throne till only love remains. **REFRAIN** 

No offerings for billionaires to make them richer still.

Bring all your frankincense and myrrh that the hungry may be filled. **REFRAIN** 

So when the proud boys and the klan ask where the Christ child lies,
Just tell them that you'll let them know next time you're passing by. **REFRAIN** 

## **DOXOLOGY** 10:30am only

As the gifts are brought forward, the congregation stands.

Presider Everything comes from you, O God, 1 Chronicles 29: 14

People and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

The Presider takes the bread and wine. All stand.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

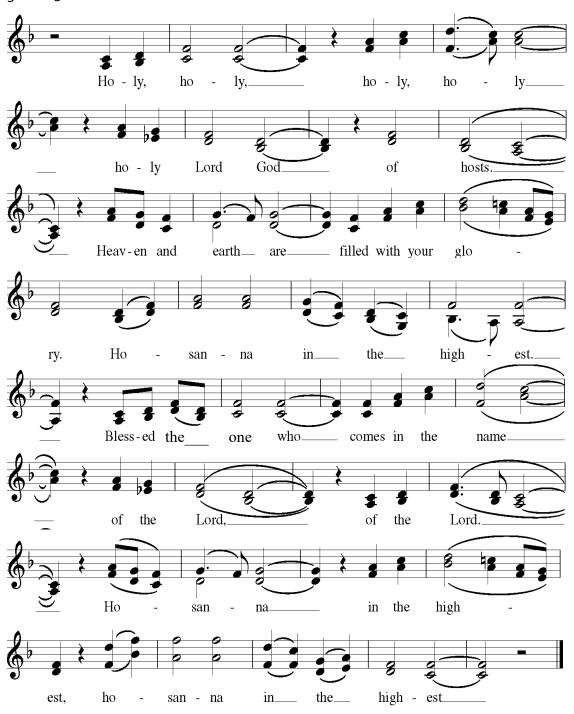
# Say at 8am:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

## Sing at 10:30am:



Presider

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

## Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

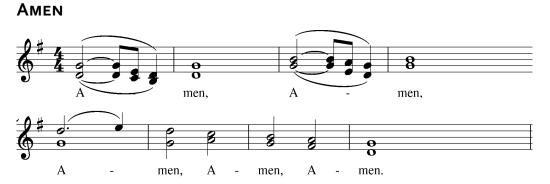
Christ will come again.

Presider

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.



LEVAS 233

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People 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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

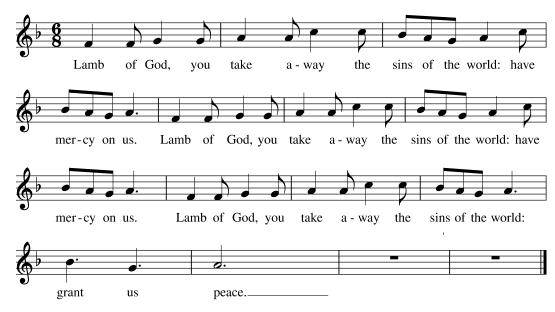
The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

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

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

# FRACTION ANTHEM At 8am, spoken. At 10:30am, sung.





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

This is Christ's table and all are welcome and all are fed. For gluten free wafer, please indicate as you walk forward to receive. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.



6 Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord; that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER** Stand

Silence is kept. Then,

Presider God is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

People Lord God,

the bright splendor 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 Child,

the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

# BLESSING

Presider May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the

Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you

and remain with you forever.

People Amen.



#### DISMISSAL

Presider We have seen his glory,

the glory revealed to all the nations.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.