



A Liturgy of the Word - The Epiphany of our Lord

Date: 3 January 2021



Ven. Moses Thabethe



Rev. Allie Josseph



Rev. Matthew Wright



Rev. Margaret Place



Rev. Alison Thabethe

The full service or the sermon can be viewed on the website.

Processional Hymn

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and His shelter was a stable,
and His cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all
his wondrous childhood
he would honour and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden,
in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
through His own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above;
and He leads His children on
to the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
where like stars his children crowned
all in white shall wait around.



Opening Prayer

O Come, let us Adore Him, Christ the Lord!
The Star in the dark sky heralded His Coming.

Led by the light of the Star, the Wise Ones came to pay homage.
We, too, come to the stable, seeking the infant King.

Come, Arise! Shine! The Light has come.
God's Light of love is shining upon us. AMEN.

Introductory Rite

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Praise the Lord:
Praise God, you servants of the Lord.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
Blessed be God's Name, now and forever.

The Gloria

Tlotlo le be ho Molimo
Ea busang maholimong
Khotso e be teng lefatsheng
Ho batho ba lokileng
Re u boka ka thabo
Re phehella thorisong
Gloria! in excelsis Deo!

Re ntse re u khumamela
Ka tumelo e phelang
A re rosiseng Molimo
Tebohong e sa feleng
U mohloli e moholo
Ea busang maholimong
Gloria! in excelsis Deo!

Jesu mora oa Molimo
U konyana e tlosang
Libe tsa lefatshe lohle
Re batla ho u rata
U re hauhele bohle
Ba llang mona lefatsheng
Gloria! in excelsis Deo!





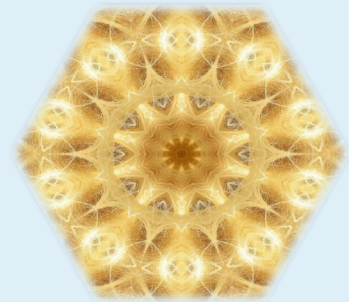
The Collect for Purity

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.**

The Kyrie

Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele	Lord have mercy
Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele	
Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele	
Kriste, Kriste hi tsetselele	Christ have mercy
Kriste, Kriste hi tsetselele	
Kriste, Kriste hi tsetselele	
Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele	Lord have mercy
Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele	
Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele	



The Penitence

*Christ the light of the world has come to dispel
the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us approach God and confess our sins together.*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father
in penitence we confess that we have sinned against you
through our own fault
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your Name.**

The Absolution

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



The Collect

O God, by the leading of a star
you revealed your Son
Jesus Christ to the gentiles:
grant that your church may
be a light to the nations,
so that the whole world
may come to see the
splendour of your glory;
through Jesus Christ, the
Morning Star;
Who live and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever.

Amen

The Word of God

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Open our hearts o Lord

To listen to your words of your Son

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia



The Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

The Sermon

by Rev. Allie Joseph



Carol

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]



Author: John H. Hopkins (1857)

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**



was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of Intercession

For the Church

Loving God, we bring before you the needs of our church. We pray for leaders of the faith everywhere. That they may be guided by the true light, Jesus Christ. At the beginning of this year, we bring before you in particular our local church leadership, our archbishop Thabo, our bishop Steve, the clergy and lay leader of our own parish. Lead us to the vision Christ has for us.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer!**

For our world and its leaders

We pray for those in authority and those charged with the wellbeing of citizens everywhere in the world. Lord let your light shine on our leaders, that they may be guided and directed by your son Jesus Christ. Lead us all into the joyful presence of Christ.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer!**

For families and friends

Lord we bring before you the parish community of St Michael's. Bless us and keep us in your divine love. As we start this new year, will you enlighten the hearts of your people by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. May we be led by St Michael and all the angels to the wonderful presence of your son Jesus. May peace and goodwill reign in our homes and hearts.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer!**

For those in need

As you once said: "The poor you will always have with you." May we never become oblivious to the plight of the poor amongst us Lord. May we always have a caring heart and a generous spirit towards those in need. Bless those who work in our social upliftment portfolios and bless those who enable us to reach out in charity.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer!**

For our children and young people

Lord we bring before you our children and young people, their families, and friends. We pray that you keep them safe. Bless them in whatever way they need blessing. We pray for peace and calm as our children prepare for the new school year. May you guide all those responsible for the education of our children and young people

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer!**



Prayer for peace.

Lord as the wise men followed the star across a great distance, they kept their focus on what they would find at the end of their journey. Grant us the wisdom and peace that sits by your throne as we start this new year. May peace reign in our hearts and may we spread it everywhere we go. Be with those who have lost loved ones and who need to start this year without them, may your healing love lead us all into perfect peace

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer!**

Merciful father, accept these our prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, the prince of peace
Amen.

Blessing of Offering

God of love and joy, God of peace and hope, we are so grateful for these gifts, which bring comfort and courage even in the most challenging times.

Receive our gifts as tokens of our love and loyalty.

Bless them with your grace

so that they will bring love to those who need it so much this year.

Bless our lives, too, so that we shine with your love,

blessing others in the name of Jesus, our friend and Saviour.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

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 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.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us.

As once your son accepted the gifts of the wise men.

We thank you for every blessing you shine on us like the star that

shone over the town of Bethlehem,

leading the wise men to the Christ child.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures

that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.



Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ;
for bringing Him into our lives, for the truth of his Word
and the example of his life,
help us to see our own lives in the light of Christ.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, always and in all
places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen

The Final Blessing

The Lord be with you

And also with you

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 also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

And may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold Him come,
offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.



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Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, rev-o-lution.org.



Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.
Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

Giving

Thank you for your continued financial contribution to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.

E.F.T

St Michael's Church Bank
Standard Bank (051001)
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