

The Parish Church of All Saints', Sanderstead

PARISH EUCHARIST

Sunday 3rd January 2021

The Festival of the Epiphany



*Extending God's Welcome to All.
Committed to Grow – in Discipleship, Service and Numbers*

A happy New Year to all! At this time, we recall that God's purpose was for the salvation of the whole world and not just his own people, the Jews.

This service has been recorded and you are welcome wherever you are. Although we are physically separated, we are one in Christ Jesus our living Lord.

Today we will begin a series of sermons and Bible studies looking at the Psalms. We will begin with the very first in the collection, Psalm 1, which sets the agenda for the entire Psalter. The sermon today is entitled: "The Good Life".

You may be familiar with the poem by Robert Frost called "The Road not Taken", which begins with these words: "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood...sorry I could not travel both..."

*The poem ends like this: "I shall be telling this with a sigh,
somewhere ages and ages hence: Two roads diverged in a wood,
and I — I took the one less travelled by, and that has made all the
difference."*

*Later in the service we will celebrate the Eucharist. You may wish
to light a candle, and if you would like to share in Communion,
prepare a table with bread and wine.*

*If you would like to know more about the Christian faith or All
Saints Church, do get in touch with either Revd Canon Martin
Greenfield or Revd Jeremy Groombridge. Our contact details are on
the website, www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk.*

Hymn - sung by All Saints' choir

A GREAT AND MIGHTY WONDER,
a full and holy cure!
the Virgin bears the Infant
with virgin-honour pure:

*Repeat the hymn again!
'To God on high be glory,
and peace on earth shall reign.'*

The Word becomes incarnate,
and yet remains on high;
and cherubim sing anthems
to shepherds from the sky:

While thus they sing your monarch,
those bright angelic bands,
rejoice, ye vales and mountains,
ye oceans, clap your hands:

Since all he comes to ransom,
by all be he adored,
the infant born in Bethl'em,
the Saviour and the Lord:

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

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe.
**From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord of glory be with you.
The Lord bless you.

Prayers of Penitence

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

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.

May almighty God have mercy upon you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**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 sin 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 for The Epiphany

**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.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Psalm 1

¹ Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, ² but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.

³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which

yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither – whatever they do prospers.

⁴ Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. ⁶ For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Magi Visit the Messiah

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked,

“Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born.

⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ ““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.””

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said,

“Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they

were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Anthem: Christ was born in Bethlehem by John Jones

*[Christ was born in Bethlehem, the Lord of all the earth.
We, as did once the shepherds, hail his birth.
We sing now of three monarchs who travelled from afar,
Guided to baby Jesus by a star.
Their gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh they did bring,
And offered them to the infant King.
God redeemed the world when Christ's birth came to pass.
Therefore, we sing praises, Deo gratias!]*

<i>The Apostles' Creed</i>

**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.**

The Prayers of Intercession

This response may be used:
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

These prayers end with...

Merciful Father
**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour
Jesus Christ. Amen**

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.

Hymn – sung by All Saints’ choir

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar;
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of night,
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 for ever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

O star of wonder,...

Frankincense to offer have I,
Incense owns a Deity nigh,
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worshipping God most high.

O star of wonder,...

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

O star of wonder,...

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice;
'Alleluia, Alleluia!'
Sounds through the earth and skies.

O star of wonder,...

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The table is prepared.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
You bring forth bread from the earth
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
You create the fruit of the vine.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer E)

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.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God,
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:
for at this time we celebrate your glory
made present in our midst.
In the coming of the Magi
the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said,
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, 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.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father,
we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray

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.

The priest breaks the consecrated 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.**

The Invitation

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

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is lord, to the Glory of God the Father.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
Grant us peace.**

Time of Quiet

Prayer after Communion

All praise to you,
almighty God and heavenly king,
who sent your son into the world
to take our nature upon him and to be born of a pure virgin.
Grant that, as we are born again in him,
so he may continually dwell in us
and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven,
now and for ever. **Amen**

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen**

The Blessing

May Christ our Lord,
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 among you and remain with you always.
Amen

Hymn - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kt3Qc04uIOM>

LONGING FOR LIGHT, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Bernadette Farrell (b 1957)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ, Amen

In these difficult times All Saints would greatly appreciate your help to continue our work for God in the community. You can donate via the All Saints Sanderstead website, by clicking on the 'Donate' button. Contact us if you would like to know more about becoming a regular giver.