The Priory Church
Christchurch

Congregational Eucharist
with hymns

Sunday 2nd January 2022
EPIPHANY
Welcome to this Eucharist on the first Sunday of 2022: a happy New Year to you all.

Today we are keeping the Feast of the Epiphany, when by tradition the Church celebrates the arrival of the Wise Men to see the infant Jesus, to whom they presented gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

We depend on the generosity of everyone who comes to the Priory to help us preserve the building for future generations as a place of welcome, worship and mission. If you would like to give by cash, and are a taxpayer, please use one of our yellow Gift Aid envelopes and be sure to fill in your name and address and sign the declaration. For those who do not carry cash, there will be contactless machines near the exit which enable you to give by using your bank card. The current default setting is for a gift of £5. Alternatively, the QR Code is given below. However you choose to give, your donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.

Please ensure that all mobile ‘phones are switched off.

Photography, sound and video recordings are not permitted at our services.

- Wearing a face-covering is now mandatory for places of worship, except for those who are exempt.
- The full seating has now been returned to the Priory. Those who wish to continue to sit in a pod, with screens in place, should please sit in the South side of the Nave.

Thank you for helping us keep one another safe.
The Gathering

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

1 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.

2 As with joyful steps they sped, to that lowly manger-bed, there to bend the knee before thee whom heaven and earth adore; so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy-seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare at that 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.

4 Holy Jesus, 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.

5 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 alleluias to our King.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-98) Tune: Dix

THE GREETING

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

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

The Revd Richard Partridge, presiding at this service, welcomes the congregation.
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.**

*President*  May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour, forgive us our sins, and make us holy to serve him in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All*  **Amen.**

THE COLLECT

*President*  Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**
The Liturgy of the Word

THE FIRST READING 1 Samuel 2. 18–20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, ‘May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord’; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

After the reading

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

THE SECOND READING Colossians 3. 12–17

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

After the reading

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God
Please stand

GRADUAL HYMN

What child is this, who, laid to rest
   On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
   While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ is King,
   Whom shepherds and worship and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him praise
   The Babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
   Where ox and ass are feeding?
Come, have no fear, God’s son is here,
   His love all loves excelling:
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
   The cross be borne for me, for you:
Hail, hail, the Saviour comes,
   The Babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
   All tongues and peoples own him,
The King of kings salvation brings,
   Let every heart enthrone him:
Raise, raise your song on high
   While Mary sings a lullaby,
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
   The Babe, the son of Mary.

Words: W. Chatterton Dix (1837-98)  Tune: Greensleeves

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

All    Alleluia.
The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
All Glory to you, O Lord.

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day’s journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, ‘Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.’ He said to them, ‘Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?’ But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON The Revd James Robertson
Please stand

THE CREED

All 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;
his 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.
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

President In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

In the intercessions these responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy, or Lord, hear us,

All hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.

After the final petition

Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

THE PEACE

President Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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 wheresoever 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 rev’rently 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 heav’nly Lord, that hath made heaven and earth of naught, and with his blood mankind hath brought:

Nowell ...

Words: Traditional
Tune: The First Nowell, Harmony by John Stainer (1840-1901)

THE OFFERTORY PRAYERS

President Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All Blessed be God for ever.
Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

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.

In the waters of baptism

Jesus was revealed as the Christ,

the Saviour sent to redeem us.

In the water made wine

the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.

Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

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:
All  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.

President  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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All  Dying, you destroyed our death,  
    Rising, you restored our life:  
    Lord Jesus, come in glory.

President  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 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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

All

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

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.
THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All  Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Communicant members of all Christian Churches are welcome to receive
Communion at this service. Please wait in your seat until directed by
one of the sidesmen. Thank you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

President  Lord God,
the bright splendour 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 Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All then say

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 Dismissal

HYMN

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
    Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
    Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.
Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining,
    Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall:
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
    Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
    Odours of Edom and offerings divine?
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
    Myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
    Vainly with gifts would his favour secure;
Richer by far is the heart’s adoration,
    Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
    Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
    Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)  
Tune: Epiphany,  
J. F. Thrupp (1827-67)

THE BLESSING

President  The Lord be with you,
All  and also with you.

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

All  Thanks be to God.
Please leave the Priory via the West Door or the North Porch.

- Please do not congregate close to any of the exits, as this causes a blockage.
- There will be a collection plate to receive offerings not made previously.
- Please use the hand sanitizer as you leave.

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