



# The Holy Communion



Epiphany  
3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

# The Gathering

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

*All* **Amen.**

## **Opening hymn - As with gladness men of old**

sung by St Martin's Voices

- 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 Lord, 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  
him 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 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.**

**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.**

*William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)*

## **The Greeting**

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

**All From the rising of the sun to its setting  
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

The grace of God had 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.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth,

your saving power among the nations:

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,

and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*The president pronounces Absolution.*

Almighty God,

who forgives all who truly repent,

have mercy upon you,

pardon and deliver you from all your sins,

confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,

and keep you in life eternal;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*The Collect is prayed and all respond, boldly*

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **Reading**

*One reading comes before the Gospel. At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh,  
proclaimed among the nations  
and believed in throughout the world.

*All* **Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
*Matthew.*

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*After the sermon silence is kept, for reflection.*

## **The Creed**

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

We believe in one God,

*All* **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;  
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,  
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**

*At the end*

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

## **Hymn – What child is this**

*sung by St Martin's Voices*

- 1 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 the King,  
whom shepherds worship and angels sing:  
haste, haste to bring him praise  
the babe, the son of Mary.**
  
- 2 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 exceeding.  
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.**
  
- 3 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 her lullaby.  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born  
the babe, the son of Mary.**

*William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) and others*

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

Christ is our peace.  
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.  
The old has passed away:  
behold, everything has become new.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### **Preparation of the Table and the Offering**

*During the worship from our homes, you are encouraged to set up direct debits for your giving. Details can be found in our notice sheet. Your giving is very much appreciated and greatly needed. Thank you.*

### **Offertory Prayer**

*All* **Gracious God,  
accept these gifts,  
and with them our lives,  
to be used in your service;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### **Prayers at the Preparation of the Table**

Lord, accept your people's gifts,  
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts and voices raised in praise of Jesus Christ,  
our light and our salvation.

### **The Eucharistic Prayer (B)**

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

Lift up your hearts.  
*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All* **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.**

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
*All* **Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

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 *St Barnabas*  
and 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.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,  
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 the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

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

## Agnus Dei

Lamb of God,  
*All* **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.**

### **Giving of Communion**

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

**All Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The president lifts the priest wafer and says before receiving  
the bread*

The Body of Christ.

**All Amen.**

*The president lifts the wine and says before receiving the wine*

The Blood of Christ.

**All Amen.**

*The Act of Spiritual Communion whilst the president receives  
the Communion on behalf of the people.*

**All My Jesus, I believe that You are present  
in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

*The Post Communion prayer is said, then all say*

*All* **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.**

## Notices

## The Dismissal

### Blessing

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.

*All* **Amen.**

May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness, give us a place with the saints in light in the kingdom of his beloved Son.

*All* **Amen.**

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in your hearts and fill your lives with his joy and peace.

*All* **Amen.**

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

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Dismissal**

We have seen his glory,  
the glory revealed to all nations.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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