

The Season of Epiphany

SUNDAY EUCHARIST



St Andrew's Church

@alexparkparish
www.alexandrapark.org



The Sunday Eucharist in Epiphany

Welcome to St Andrew's, the Parish Church of Alexandra Park.

The Eucharist is central to our worship together. Below is an outline of the service which includes the congregation's responses in **bold**. Please participate in as much or as little as you wish. The clergy are always available afterwards to chat or pray with you.

In the Western churches, the Epiphany ('manifestation') became an occasion to celebrate one element in the story of Christ's birth, the visit of the far-travelled magi, understood as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Matthew's account speaks simply of 'wise men from the east'; later tradition fixed their number at three, made them kings and recalled their resonant names - Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. In this perspective, Epiphanytide is an apt season to pray for the worldwide mission of the Church. The feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, appropriately falls in the Epiphany season, as does the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. In the Eastern churches, the Epiphany is, rather, 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:

'Manifest at Jordan's stream,

Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;

and at Cana wedding-guest

in thy Godhead manifest'.

(Christopher Wordsworth)

The arrangement of readings during the Sundays of Epiphany deliberately draw out these aspects.

The season of joyful celebration that begins at Christmas now continues through the successive Sundays of Epiphany, and the festal cycle ends only with the Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas). The child who has been 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 lighten 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 move our attention away from the celebration of Christmas and towards the mysteries of Easter.

Processional Hymn (We stand as the bell is rung. The hymn numbers can be seen on the hymn boards or found on the weekly news sheet in addition to the readings and prayers for the Sunday. The Advent wreath is lit just before the final verse.)

The Greeting (The celebrant welcomes the people and introduces the Eucharist)

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

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you:

And also with you.

Invitation to Confession (We prepare to make our confession)

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.

Prayer of Preparation (We prepare to make our confession)

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
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.

Amen.

Prayers of Penitence (Our act of confession)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

The Kyrie Eleison (sung)

CONGREGATION

Andante

10 Organ

Kyrie

mp

Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer-cy. Christ have

mer-cy, Christ have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer-cy.

mp

mf

JAMES MACMILLAN
(1985, rev. 1996)

The Gloria

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 th’ angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the new born King!”

The Collect (sung) (The prayer of the Church for the day is sung)

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word (We sit for readings from the scriptures)

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Reading (We stand as the gospel acclamation is sung)

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

Here the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

Sermon (Sit)

The Creed (We stand to proclaim the faith of the Church)

**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;
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 (We sit, stand or kneel to pray for the needs of the world, for all in authority, for this community, for the Church and for ourselves)

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

OR

Lord hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

At the end of the prayers:

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

The Peace (We stand to exchange a sign of peace with one another)

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: **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer (sung)

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.**

The prayer continues '...for ever praising you and singing':

Sanctus and Benedictus*

Moderato

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in - the high - est. Bles-sed is he, O bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The prayer continues '...Great is the mystery of faith':

ACCLAMATION 1

Maestoso

[Organ]

Christ has died: Christ is ri - sen: Christ will come a - gain.

At the end of the prayer all respond: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

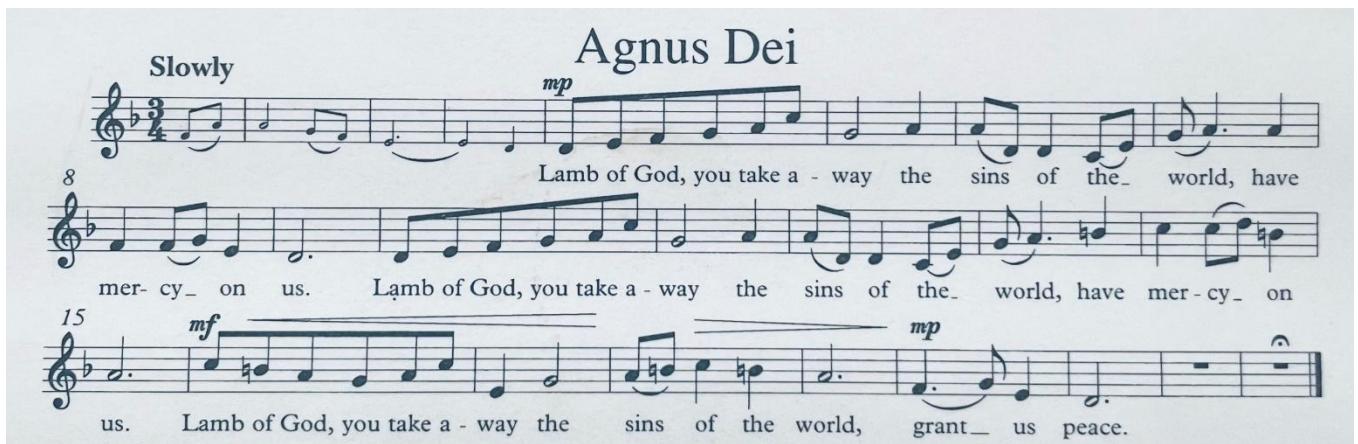
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is 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:

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

The Agnus Dei (sung)



Slowly

Agnus Dei

8 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have
mer- cy_ on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer- cy_ on

15 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant_ us peace.

Giving of Communion

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper:

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

(All who are baptised and ordinarily receive Holy Communion in their own church are welcome to receive here. Alternatively, you are invited to come forward for a blessing)

Communion Hymn

Prayer after Communion *(The celebrant prays the set prayer for the day)*

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.**

Notices *(We sit for the notices some of which are also printed on the weekly news sheet)*

The Blessing and Dismissal (Stand)

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.

Amen.

May God the Son,
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,
transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit,
who came upon the beloved Son
at his baptism in the river Jordan,
pour out his gifts on you
who have come to the waters of new birth.

Amen.

✠ 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: **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn

Refreshments are always served after the service at the back of church.

Please do join us if you can.

Follow us on:



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www.alexandrapark.org



Secure donations to St Andrew's church can be made via the card machine in church or by using the QR code above with an option to Gift Aid.

More information on what your contributions go towards can be found on the display at the back of church.

Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS BOOKLET AWAY WITH YOU.

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The Parish of Alexandra Park

