



7pm
6 January 2026

FEAST OF THE
EPIPHANY
CATHEDRAL
EUCHARIST



WELCOME

THE EPIPHANY

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 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.

COLLECTION

Your support makes a real difference to the ministry and mission of Guildford Cathedral. If you would like to support this work on a regular basis it's very simple to set up a direct debit via the Parish Giving Scheme. The phone number is 0333 002 1271, and the Cathedral reference code is 170617001. One-off donations can be made using the Gift Aid envelopes or a contactless donation by using the contactless box (by the West Doors of the Cathedral), or our QR code. If you use the contactless box and you are a taxpayer, please complete a green gift aid envelope and write 'contactless donation' on the front; please put the envelope in the cash box at the west end. On behalf of all at Guildford Cathedral, thank you.



PARTICIPATION IN THE SERVICE

We sing the hymns, the Response during the psalm and say together the words in **bold** type. Although posture is suggested please do whatever is most comfortable for you.

THE WHYTE EFFECT

We are grateful to The Whyte Effect, who sing the service for us, directed by Nicholas Yates. The organ is played by Peter Wright.

MASS SETTING

Missa O magnum mysterium *Tomás Luis de Victoria (c.1548-1611)*

PRESIDENT

The president and preacher today is the Reverend Canon Chris Hollingshurst.

Front cover image: the Adoration of the Magi.

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THE GATHERING

Please stand as the organist plays and the choir and clergy enter in procession.

INTROIT

Angelus ad pastores ait:	<i>The angel said to the shepherds:</i>
annuntio vobis	<i>I bring you good</i>
gaudium magnum,	<i>news of great joy,</i>
quia natus est vobis	<i>for today a Saviour</i>
hodie Salvator:	<i>has been born to you:</i>
Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>

Words: Luke 2.10-11

Music: Vittoria Aleotti (c.1575-after 1620)

HYMN



O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness:
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldest reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name.

Words: John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)

Music: CP 89 Was Lebet, melody from Rheinhardt MS (1754)

Double descant: Richard Marlow (1939-2013)

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

THE GREETING

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 be with you
and also with you.

*Sit or
kneel*

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.

cf Titus 2.11-14

Let us confess our sins.

A short period of silence is kept.

**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.

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.

Amen.

Stand

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus
bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter
magnum gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis.
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu
Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus
Dei, Filius Patris: qui tollis
peccata mundi, miserere
nobis; qui tollis peccata
mundi, suscipe deprecationem
nostrum; qui sedes ad
dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus sanctus;
tu solus Dominus;
tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu,
in Gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to people
of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we worship you, we glorify you.
We give thanks to you for your
great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King.
God the Father almighty.
Only Son of the Father, Jesus
Christ. Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father: who takes
away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us; who takes away
the sin of the world, receive our
prayer; who sits at
the right hand of the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For you alone are holy;
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

Grateful for the glory revealed today through God made flesh,
let us pray.

A moment of silent prayer

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.

Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 60. 1-6 read by Lis Martin

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

PSALM 72.10-15

The choir sings the response through once, which the congregation then repeats. All join in the response during the psalm, as indicated.



All na-tions shall fall prostrate be - fore you, O Lord.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute :
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.

All kings shall fall down before him :
all nations shall do him service. Response

For he shall deliver the poor that cry out :
the needy and those who have no helper.

He shall have pity on the weak and poor :
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence :
and dear shall their blood be in his sight. Response



Long may he live :

unto him may be given gold from Sheba;
may prayer be made for him continually :
and may they bless him all the day long. Response

Chant: George Thalben Ball (1896-1987)

SECOND READING Ephesians 3. 1-12 read by Trish Lambert

A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

I, Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal

purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Gospel Acclamation is played by the organist, sung by the choir and then sung by everybody. As the procession passes please turn to face the proclamation of the Gospel.

Al-le-lu ia, Al - le-lu-ia, Al-le - lu - ia.

We saw his star as it rose
and have come to do the Lord homage.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2. 1-12

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

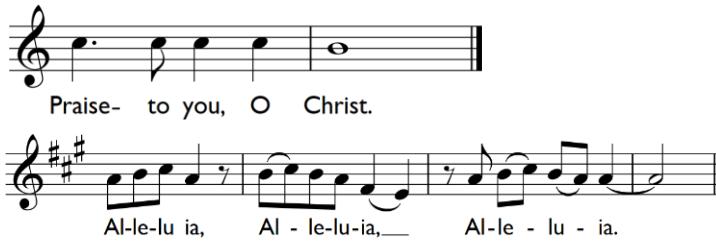
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise- to you, O Christ.

Al-le-lu ia, Al - le-lu-ia, Al-le - lu - ia.

SERMON Canon Chris Hollingshurst

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

HYMN

As we sing the hymn, we call to mind the visit of the magi from the east to the newly-born Jesus. The gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh are offered at the crib.

Music notation for a hymn in 3/8 time, treble clef, key of G major. The lyrics are:

*O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

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 plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
king for ever, ceasing never
over us all to reign:

President Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As gold in the furnace is tried
and purified seven times in the fire,
so purify our hearts and minds
that we may be a royal priesthood
acceptable in the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

The hymn continues



o star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,
west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising, all men raising,
worship him, God most high:

O star of wonder...

President Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As our prayer rises up before you as incense,
so may we be presented before you
with penitent hearts and uplifted hands
to offer ourselves in your priestly service.
Blessed be God for ever.

The hymn continues

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...

President Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As you give medicine to heal our sickness
and the leaves of the tree of life
for the healing of the nations,
so anoint us with your healing power
that we may be the first-fruits of your new creation.
Blessed be God for ever.

The hymn continues

Glorious now behold Him arise,
king and God and sacrifice.
Heaven sings: 'Alleluia';
'Alleluia,' the earth replies:

*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

Words: John Henry Hopkins (1820-1891)

Music: CP 91, *Three Kings of Orient*, John Henry Hopkins

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ.

**We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, is both divine and human.**

God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;
fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.

As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.

**Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;
truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.

For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.

**The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

From the Athanasian Creed

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

President Let us worship the Saviour with joy
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

Deacon The magi came from the east to worship your Son:
Father, grant to Christians everywhere
the spirit of adoration.

Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:
Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds
at the beginning of this year.

Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

The kingdoms of this world have become
the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ:
Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world.

Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:
Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless,
and all who suffer.

Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth:
Father, protect in your love our neighbours,
our families and this community of which we are a part.

Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship
with the shepherds, the angels, the magi,
the Virgin Mary, Joseph
and all the faithful departed.

In your unfailing love for us and for all people,
hear and answer our prayers through your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

THE PEACE

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there shall be no end.

cf Isaiah 9. 6, 7

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN



Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains,
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.



Kings shall bow down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing:
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
his changeless Name of love.

Words: Psalm 72, James Montgomery (1771-1854)

Music: CP 87 Crüger, adapted from Johann Crüger (1598-1662) by William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

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. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President:
The Lord be with you.

All:
And also with you.

President:
Lift up your hearts.

All:
We lift them to the Lord.

President:
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:

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, *Holy, holy, holy Lord,*
Dominus Deus Sabaoth. *God of power and might.*
Pleni sunt caeli *Heaven and earth are*
et terra gloria tua. *full of your glory.*
Hosanna in excelsis. *Hosanna in the highest.*

Benedictus qui venit *Blessed is he who comes*
in nomine Domini *in the name of the Lord.*
Hosanna in excelsis. *Hosanna in the highest.*

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
 we remember his offering of himself
 made once for all upon the cross;
 we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
 we look for the coming of your kingdom,
 and with this bread and this cup
 we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Deacon:



Great is the mys - te ry of faith:

All:



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

Accept through him, our great high priest,
 this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
 and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
 in the presence of your divine majesty,
 renew us by your Spirit,
 inspire us with your love
 and unite us in the body of your Son,
 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
 we worship you, Father almighty,
 in songs of everlasting praise:



Bless-ing and hon-our and glo - ry and pow'r be
 yours for ev - er and ev-er. A - men.

Sit

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Believing the promises of God,
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 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.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

All who are communicants are welcome to receive the bread and wine. There is no obligation to drink from the common cup. However, please do not dip your wafer into the wine. If you would prefer to have a blessing, please keep your hands at your side. Gluten-free bread is available at the left (north) station at the front.

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	<i>Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.</i>
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	<i>Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.</i>
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.	<i>Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.</i>

ANTHEM

Tribus miraculis ornatum diem sanctum colimus: hodie stella Magos duxit ad praesepium: hodie vinum ex aqua factum est ad nuptias: hodie a Joanne Christus baptizari voluit, ut salvaret nos, alleluia.	<i>For these three miracles this great day we celebrate: on this day star-led Magi journeyed to the crib: on this day wine was from water made at that first wedding feast: on this day unto John came Christ who was baptized willingly to save us all, alleluia.</i>
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*Words: Antiphon at Second Vespers of the Feast of the Epiphany.
Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c.1525-1594)*

Stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

A moment of silent prayer

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.

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 SENDING OUT

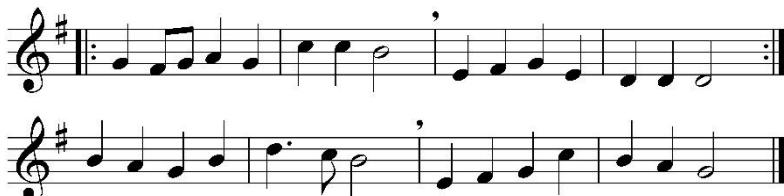
BLESSING

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

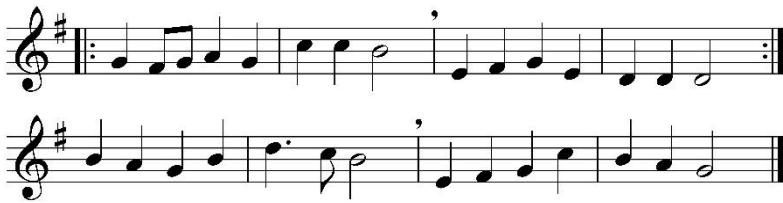
During the hymn the procession moves to the West End of the Cathedral. As the procession passes you, please turn and face west. This movement signals the turn of our attention to Christ in the world as the offering of our lives continues there.



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.

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

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.



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.

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 (1837-1898)

Music: CP 83 Dix, from a chorale by Conrad Kocher (1786-1872) abridged by

William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

DISMISSAL

We have seen his glory,
the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude in B minor (BWV 544) *Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*