

The Parish Church of All Saints  
Kingston upon Thames



Epiphany  
Carol Service

6th January 2002

# Liturgy of Proclamation

## **Music before the Service:**

Chorale preludes: 'How brightly shines the morning star',  
    'The star proclaims the King is here' – Flor Peeters  
Nativité (from Symphonie-Passion) – Marcel Dupré  
Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern – Dietrich Buxtehude  
Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Epiphanie – Maurice Duruflé

*The Choir assembles at the East End of the Church in darkness. Please sit.*

**Reading** The Cultivation of Christmas Trees (T S Eliot), *read by Jan Revere*

O magnum mysterium  
et admirabile sacramentum  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum  
jacentem in presepio.  
Beata Virgo cujus viscera  
meruerunt portare  
Dominum Christum.

*O great wonder,  
and miraculous sacrament:  
that the animals see the Lord born  
lying in a manger.  
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb  
was worthy to bear  
the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*(Music: Morten Lauridsen)*

*Stand*

## *Responsory*

Arise, shine, for your light has come:  
the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**All** **Arise, shine, for your light has come:  
the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

The Lord will arise upon you: and his glory will be seen over you.  
**The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Nations shall come to your light:  
and kings to your dawning brightness.  
**The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Your gates will always be open, shut neither by day nor by night.  
**The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

The Lord will be your everlasting light: your God will be your glory.  
**The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
**Arise, shine, for your light has come:**  
**the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

**All**

**Of the Father's heart begotten,  
Ere the world from chaos rose,  
He is Alpha: from that Fountain  
All that is and hath been flows;  
He is Omega, of all things  
Yet to come the mystic close,  
Evermore and evermore.**

**By his word was all created;  
He commanded and 'twas done;  
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
Universe of three in one,  
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
All that breathes beneath the sun,  
Evermore and evermore.**

**He assumed this mortal body,  
Frail and feeble, doomed to die,  
That the race from dust created  
Might not perish utterly,  
Which the dreadful Law had sentenced  
In the depths of hell to lie,  
Evermore and evermore.**

**O how blest that wondrous birthday,  
When the Maid the curse retrieved,  
Brought to birth mankind's salvation,  
By the Holy Ghost conceived;  
And the Babe, the world's redeemer,  
In her loving arms received,  
Evermore and evermore.**

**This is he, whom seer and sybil  
Sang in ages long gone by;  
This is he of old revealed  
In the page of prophecy;  
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;  
Let the world his praises cry!  
Evermore and evermore.**

**Sing, ye heights of heav'n, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
Let your joyous anthems ring,  
Ev'ry tongue his name confessing,  
Countless voices answering,  
Evermore and evermore.**

**Reading** St Matthew 2:1-6, *The Wise Men seek the Christ child*

*Stand*

*Responsory*

This day a star leads the wise men to the manger.  
Arise, shine; for your light has come  
All **And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Nations shall come to your light  
**And kings to the brightness of your rising.**

They shall bring gold and frankincense  
**And proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

Your gates will lie open continually  
**Shut neither by day nor by night.**

No more will the sun give you daylight  
**Nor moonlight shine upon you.**

But the Lord will be your everlasting light  
**Your God will be your splendour.**

**All**            **Unto us is born a Son,  
King of quires supernal:  
See on earth his life begun,  
Of lords the Lord eternal.**

Choir          Christ, from Heaven descending low,  
Comes on Earth a stranger;  
Ox and ass their owner know,  
Becradled in the manger.

**All**            **This did Herod sore affray,  
And grievously bewilder,  
So he gave the word to slay,  
And slew the little childer.**

Choir          Of his love and mercy mild  
This the Christmas story;  
And O that Mary's gentle Child  
Might lead us up to glory.

**All**            **O and A, and A and O,  
Cum cantibus in choro,  
Let our merry organ go,  
Benedicamus Domino.**

*Remain standing*

## *Bidding Prayer*

In the name of Christ,  
who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light,  
to be a kingdom of priests to our God, we welcome you.  
Grace to you and peace.

As we rejoice in the Word made flesh,  
who comes among us to reveal God's glory,  
so we pray that his kingly reign may be acknowledged  
throughout the world.

And so we pray for the unity and mission of Christ's Church,  
for the ministers of the gospel of Christ,  
and for all for whom we bear witness.

We pray for this world, which is already Christ's,  
that we may have reverence for the natural order  
and respect for every person, made in the image and likeness of God.

And we pray for those who stand in need,  
for the lonely, the fearful, the anxious, for the sick and the bereaved,  
and all who have no one to pray for them.

May God our Father take us and use us in his service;  
may he open our eyes to see his glory,  
and equip us to bless his people, now and at all times.  
**Amen.**

And so we say together the prayer Jesus himself 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.**

Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.  
Dévotes gens, crions à Dieu merci!  
Chantons Noël pour le roi nouvelet.  
*Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.*

L'ange disait 'Pasteurs, partez d'ici,  
L'âme en repos et le coeur réjoui;  
En Bethléem trouverez l'agnelet.'

En Bethléem étant tous réunis,  
Trouvent l'enfant, Joseph, Marie aussi.  
La crèche était au lieu d'un bercelet.

Bientôt les rois par l'étoile éclaircis  
De l'Orient dont ils étaient sortis,  
A Bethléem vinrent un matin.

Voici, mon Dieu, mon sauveur Jésus Christ,  
Par qui sera le prodige accompli  
De nous sauver par son sang vermeillet!

*Let us sing here a new Christmas song  
Devout people, let us give thanks to God!  
Let us sing a Christmas song for the new king*

*The angel said 'Shepherds, leave this place,  
with peaceful souls and joyful hearts;  
in Bethlehem you will find the little lamb.'*

*When they had arrived in Bethlehem,  
they found the child with Joseph and Mary.  
A manger, instead of a cradle.*

*Soon the kings, by the shining star  
in the East, from whence they had come,  
arrived in Bethlehem one morning*

*Here is my Lord, my saviour Jesus Christ,  
Through whom the prophecy has been fulfilled  
to save us through his crimson blood.*

*(traditional French carol, arr. Stephen Jackson)*

# Liturgy of Reflection

**Reading** Matthew 2: 7-12, *The Wise Men present their gifts*

Small wonder the star, small wonder the light,  
the angels in chorus, the shepherds in fright;  
but stable and manger for God no small wonder!

Small wonder the kings, small wonder they bore  
the gold and the incense, the myrrh to adore;  
but God gives his life on a cross - no small wonder!

Small wonder the love, small wonder the grace,  
the power, the glory, the light of his face;  
but all to redeem my poor heart - no small wonder!

*(Words: Paul Wignore, Music: Paul Edwards)*

**All**      **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.**

**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.**

**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.**

In the bleak midwinter  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone:  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter,  
Long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him  
Nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
When he comes to reign:  
In the bleak midwinter  
A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty,  
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels  
May have gathered there,  
Cherubim and Seraphim  
Thronged the air:  
But only his mother  
In her maiden bliss  
Worshipped the Beloved  
With a kiss.

What can I give him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man  
I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him  
Give my heart.

*(Words: Christina Rossetti, Music: Bob Chilcott)*

**Reading** Luke 2: 22-33,  
*Jesus is Presented in the Temple and acclaimed the light of the world*

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
Thy Father's purpose thou hast fulfilled;  
Thou camest from heaven to mortal ken,  
Equal to be with us poor men,  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
With joy thou hast the whole world filled;  
Thou camest here from heaven's domain,  
To bring men comfort in their pain,  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
In thee Love's beauties are all distilled;  
Then light in us thy love's bright flame,  
That we may give thee back the same,  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
Help us to do as thou hast willed.  
Lo, all we have belongs to thee!  
Ah, keep us in our fealty!  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

*(Words: German carol, 17th century. Music: Johann Sebastian Bach)*

**Reading** Journey of the Magi (T S Eliot), *read by Jan Revere*

Deep midwinter, the dark centre of the year,  
Wake, O earth, awake,  
Out on the hills a star appears,  
Here lies the way for pilgrim kings,  
Three magi on an ancient path,  
Black hours begin their journeyings.

Their star has risen in our hearts,  
Empty thrones, abandoned fears,  
Out on the hills their journey starts,  
In dazzling darkness God appears.

*(Words and Music: Judith Bingham)*

*Homily*

# Liturgy of Adoration

## *Adoration and Presentation of Gifts*

*The gifts will be brought to the altar. Stand until the Silence, for which we sit or kneel.*

**All**      **O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him  
Born the King of Angels:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

**Lo! star-led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child  
Bring our hearts' oblations:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

**Child, for us sinners  
Poor and in the manger,  
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
Who would not love thee,  
Loving us so dearly?  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

**Sing, choirs of Angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
'Glory to God  
In the Highest'  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born on Christmas morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

Three Kings from Persian lands afar  
To Jordan follow the pointing star:  
And this the quest of the travellers three,  
Where the new-born King of the Jews may be.  
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;  
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.  
*How brightly shines the morning star!  
With grace and truth from heaven afar  
Our Jesse tree now bloweth.*

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;  
The kings to Bethlehem make their way,  
And there in worship they bend the knee,  
As Mary's child in her lap they see;  
Their royal gifts they show to the King;  
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.  
*Of Jacob's stem and David's line,  
For thee, my Bridegroom, King divine,  
My soul with love o'erfloweth.*

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem  
The Kings are travelling, travel with them!  
The star of mercy, the star of grace,  
Shall lead thy heart to its resting place.  
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;  
Offer thy heart to the infant King.  
*Thy word, Jesu, Inly feeds us,  
Rightly leads us, Life bestowing  
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing*

*(Words: Peter Cornelius, trans. H N Bate; Music: Peter Cornelius, arr. Ivor Atkins)*

*Stand*

*Presentation of the gifts*

*At the offering of gold:*

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.

**All Blessed be God for ever!**

*At the offering of the incense:*

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

**All Blessed be God for ever!**

*At the offering of the myrrh:*

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.

**All Blessed be God for ever!**

*Sit or kneel in silence*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask thee to stay  
Close by me for ever, and watch me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

*(Music: William J Kirkpatrick, arr. David Hill)*

**Reading** The Song of Simeon (T S Eliot), *read by Jan Revere*

*Please stand and remain standing for the remainder of the service*

### *Responsory*

Let us adore the living God:  
He was born of the Virgin  
**Revealed in his glory,**

Worshipped by angels,  
**Proclaimed among the nations,**

Believed in throughout the world,  
**Exalted to the highest heavens.**

Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,  
**Now and for ever. Amen.**

On Christmas night all Christians sing,  
To hear the news the angels bring,  
News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,  
Since our redeemer made us glad,  
When from our sin he set us free,  
All for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before his grace,  
Then life and health come in its place;  
Angels and men with joy may sing,  
All for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night:  
'Glory to God and peace to men,  
Now and for evermore. Amen.'

*(Sussex carol, traditional, arr. Philip Ledger)*

### *Collect for the Epiphany*

Eternal God, who by the shining of a star led the wise men to the worship of your Son: guide by his light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may behold your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

### *The 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 in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.  
**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.  
**Amen.**

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

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

*Exit Procession*

**All**        **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 the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'  
*Hark! the herald-angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
*Hark! the herald-angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
*Hark! the herald-angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

***Music after the Service:***

Méditation No.6 'Dans le Verbe était la Vie et la Vie était la Lumière'  
from *Méditations sur le Mystère de la Sainte-Trinité* – Olivier Messiaen