



*Solemn Evensong for
The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Wednesday, January 6, 2021
6:00 p.m.*

About the Service

Welcome to Holy Apostles for this online liturgy to celebrate the Epiphany. The twelve-day Christmas season comes to a close with this feast, also known as ‘The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.’

Solemn Evensong is a service of Evening Prayer, as found in our Prayer Book, but with certain ‘solemn ceremonial’ elements—much of the service is sung by the choir, additional clergy and servers are involved, and incense is offered. Evensong is one of the acknowledged treasures of our Anglican tradition, and we are happy to be able to offer this service in observance of today’s feast.

From the Evensong bulletin of St. Paul’s Cathedral, London: “Evensong is part of the worship which is offered to God by Christian people every hour of the day and night, in every part of the world. When you come to Evensong, it is as if you were dropping in on a conversation already in progress—a conversation between God and his people which began long before you were born and which will continue long after your death. So, do not be surprised or disturbed if there are some things which you do not understand straight away. For a brief moment, you step into the continual stream of worship which is being offered today and which will be offered to the end of time. You are one with those who worship here on earth and in heaven.”

Organ Prelude

Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen

Johannes Brahms

Introit

Psalm 141:1-2

Antiphon



Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as in - cense, the lift - ing up



of my hands as the even - ing sac - ri - fice.

*Cantor: O LORD, I call to you; come to me quickly; *
hear my voice when I cry to you. [Antiphon]*

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand

Officiant
O God, make speed to save us.

People
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

Except during Lent, may be added:
Al - le - lu - ia.

The following hymn is sung

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

S 61

O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Then follows

The Psalm Appointed

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14 *Deus, iudicium*

The kings of Tar - shish and of the isles shall pay tri - bute: the kings of
A - ra - bi - a and Sa - ba shall of - fer gifts.

- ¹ Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
² That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
³ That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
⁴ He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
⁶ He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁰ The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
¹¹ All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
¹² For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
¹³ He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
¹⁴ He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

At the end of the Psalms is sung

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lessons

The people sit

One or two lessons, as appointed, are read.

The First Lesson

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah (60:1-6)

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

*After the first reading, the following Canticle is sung by the choir.
During the singing of the Canticle, the Officiant may cense the Altar.*

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*
Luke 1:46-55

S 185



My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second Lesson

A Reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew (2:1-12)

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

After the second reading, the following Canticle is sung by the choir.

The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis*

S 196

Luke 2:29-32

Antiphon

Mine eyes have seen thy sal - va - tion, which thou
hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all peo - ple.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Sermon

The Rev. Clay Calhoun

The Epiphany Proclamation 2021

The Epiphany Proclamation may here be given by the Deacon.

While a day like Christmas is fixed in our minds and on the calendars on December 25th, many of the important feasts of the Church year move, based upon the date of Easter, which changes each year, according to the Sunday after the "Paschal Full Moon," and can fall between March 22 and April 25.

In earlier times before calendars were common, most people did not know the dates for the upcoming Liturgical year. On Epiphany, the upcoming dates were "proclaimed" in this way.

Dear brothers and sisters,
the glory of the Lord has shone upon us,
and shall ever be manifest among us,
until the day of his return.
Through the rhythms of times and seasons
let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.
Let us recall the year's culmination,
the Easter Triduum of the Lord:
his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial, and his rising
celebrated between the evening of the First of April
and the evening of the Third of April,
Easter Sunday being on the Fourth day of April.
Each Easter -- as on each Sunday --
the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed
by which Christ has for ever conquered sin and death.
From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.
Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent,
will occur on the Seventeenth day of February.
The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on
Thursday, the Thirteenth day of May.
Pentecost, joyful conclusion of the season of Easter,
will be celebrated on the Twenty-third day of May.
And, this year the First Sunday of Advent will be
on the Twenty-eighth day of November, 2021.
Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the passover of Christ
in the feasts of the holy Mother of God,
in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints,
and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.
To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Lord of time and history,
be endless praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The People stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Then follows these Suffrages

Cantor or Officiant

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

People

R. And grant us thy salva-tion.


V. Endue thy ministers with right-eous-ness;


R. And make thy chosen people joy-ful.


V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;


R. For only in thee can we live in safe-ty.


V. Lord, keep this nation un-der thy care;


R. And guide us in the way of jus-tice and truth.


V. Let thy way be known up-on earth;


R. Thy saving health among all na-tions.


V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot-ten;


R. Nor the hope of the poor be ta-ken a-way.


V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;


R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spi-rit.

The Officiant then says one or more of the following Collects

The Collect of the Day

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know thee now by faith, to thy presence, where we may behold thy glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Here may be sung a hymn or anthem by the choir

The Office Hymn

When Christ's appearing was made known

Hymn 132

The Intercessions

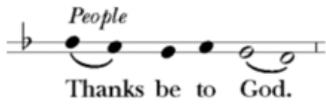
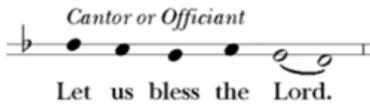
The Officiant offers prayers for the Church and for the world.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People together say

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all people.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Then may be sung



The Officiant may then conclude with the Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen. *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Organ Postlude

Es ist ein Ros'

Gottfried Müller



THIS EVENING'S MINISTERS

Priest-Officiant: The Rev. Clay Calhoun
Deacon-Reader: The Rev. Gerri Endicott
Acolyte-Thurifer: Miss Juliah Calhoun
Organist-Choir Master: Mr. Jim Walsmith
Cantor: Mr. Tom Carpenter

Church of the Holy Apostles The Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee

The Right Reverend Phoebe A. Roaf, Bishop of West Tennessee
The Rev. Clay Calhoun, Associate Priest
The Rev. Gerri Endicott, Deacon
Mr. Tom Carpenter, Director of Adult Formation
Mrs. Cynthia McCarty, Director of Youth Ministry
Mrs. Holly McDaniel, Director of Finance and Operations
Mrs. Tiffany Siegel, Director of Membership and Communications
Ms. Flora Sims, Hospitality
Mr. Jim Walsmith, Organist-Choirmaster

2020 Vestry and Officers

Diana Kelly, Senior Warden;
Jim Shaheen, Junior Warden; Julie Pierami, Clerk;
Clark Madison, Treasurer
Margaret Yancey, Assistant Treasurer
Donna Abney, Bonnie Barnes, Bob Bennett, Jeff Dlabach,
Carey Mayfield, Guy See, Michael Shelton
Mike Marshall, Parish Chancellor, *ex-officio*;
Amelia Robert, Youth Representative, *ex-officio*

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OUR MISSION:

*To provide a welcoming community in which all can, with open hearts and open minds,
receive God's grace through worship, fellowship, learning and outreach to others.*