

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

31 December 2017

HYMNS

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below What child is this

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beauty of holiness

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light

SENTENCE

They saw the child with Mary his
mother; and they knelt down and
worshipped him.

What child is this by William Chatterton
Dix (1837-1898) from Hymns Old & New

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 guard and angels sing:
come, greet the infant Lord,
the babe, the Son of Mary!

2. Why lies he in such mean estate,
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

Arise to greet the Lord of light by Michael Forster (b. 1946), from Hymns Old & New

1. Arise to greet the Lord of light,
you people of his choice.
In uncreated glory bright,
he bursts upon our inward sight,
and bids the heart rejoice,
and bids the heart rejoice!

Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the Son of Mary!

3. So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
come rich and poor, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the Virgin sings her lullaby:
joy, joy for Christ is born,
the babe, the Son of Mary!

2. Towards his light shall kings be drawn
this majesty to see;
and in the brightness of the dawn
shall see the world in hope reborn,
in justice full and free,
in justice full and free.



3. The holy light in Judah's skies
calls sages from afar.
The hope of kings they recognise
which, in the virgin mother's eyes,
outshines the guiding star,
outshines the guiding star.

4. This majesty for long concealed
from longing human sight,
in Jesus Christ is now revealed,
and God's eternal promise sealed
in love's unending light,
in love's unending light.

COLLECT

Eternal God, who by a star led Magi to the worship of your Son: guide the nations of the earth by your light, that the whole world may see your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

A reading from the prophet 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. *Isaiah 60.1-6*

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

We say the verses from Psalm 72 alternately:

Give the king your judgements, O God, and your righteousness to the son of a king.

Then shall he judge your people righteously and your poor with justice.

May the mountains bring forth peace, and the little hills righteousness for the people.

May he defend the poor among the people, deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, like the showers that water the earth.

In his time shall righteousness flourish, and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

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.

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.

Psalm 72. 1-7, 10-14

A reading from Paul's letter to the Christians in Ephesus:

This is the reason that 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.

Ephesians 3. 1-12

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage. **Alleluia!**

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

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.

Matthew 2.1-12

This is the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

PRAYERS

Anglican Church: Diocese of Zululand, Southern Africa (*Bp Monument Makhanya*); Religious Orders serving within the Anglican Church of Australia; Sparklit (*Michael Collie, National Director*); St Stephen's Greythorn (*Rodney Morris*).

For the Parish: Give thanks for the different churches on the Surf Coast: the congregations of St Aidan's, Transfiguration, and St Luke's, for the Uniting Church, Salvation Army, Baptists, Catholics, and Elevate (*Pentecostal Church*); and pray that we may recognise and affirm that we are all sisters and brothers together in the one Church, the body of Christ.

For the sick & in need: Keiran, Gail Lubie, Sally Newson, Joan, Michael, Lachie Richardson, Megan Evans, John Bell, Hannah (*Pauline Reeve's granddaughter serving in Middle East*), Ron Donohue, Will, Kane Harvey, Deirdre Baker, Russ, Yvonne, Eileen Gleimius (*Phillippa's mother*), and those in need of our prayers.

Community of the sick: Heather Weiss, Therese Cummins, Don, Alec Baker, Fiona Tunley, Jenny Stewart, Chris Erving.
This community are those who need ongoing prayers for strength, courage, and peace of heart, mind and soul as they journey onwards.

Year's Mind

3rd Betty Goette (2012)

Birthdays & Wedding anniversaries

4th Brian & Libby Fuller

5th Lynda Cooper