



## St Edburgha's Church

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Epiphany

*During the distribution of Communion you are welcome to take time to pray and light a candle in the Gilby Chapel.*

**Hymns 91. 83. 85. 89.**

### **The Collect**

**Almighty God,**

**in the birth of your Son**

**you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word,  
and shown us the fullness of your love:**

**help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love**

**that we may know the fullness of his joy;**

**who is alive and reigns with you,**

**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and for ever. All Amen.**

### **First Reading: 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. 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.

## **Second Reading: Ephesians 1.3-14**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people to the praise of his glory.

## **The Gospel Reading: *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.

### **Worship songs during Communion**

Light, scattering the darkness,  
Shines on Christmas night;  
Wise men begin their journey,  
Following the light.

#### *Refrain*

Star, twinkling in the heavens,  
Beckon humankind:  
'Seek the Lord and you will find  
The light of the world.'

Light, piercing through the darkness  
Deep within us all,  
Shine clearly on our pathway;  
Guide us lest we fall.

#### *Refrain*

Christ, light of every nation,  
Teach the world your ways;  
Truth, justice, love and mercy  
Make our songs of praise.

#### *Refrain*

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**The stars danced, the angels sang**  
the night God came to earth.  
The whole vault of heaven rang  
to celebrate his birth.

*We will dance, we will sing,  
we will praise our heav'nly King at his birth!*

Mary, his mother smiled  
to see her babe new born.  
Shepherds came hurrying,  
left their flocks forlorn.  
*We will dance, we will sing ...*

Wise men who saw his star,  
knew their Lord was here,  
came with their offerings,  
incense, gold and myrrh.  
*We will dance, we will sing ...*

We too will give to him  
gifts of love and praise.  
Dance for him, sing for him,  
rejoice in him always.  
*We will dance, we will sing ...*

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## **Weekly Notices.**

**Service next Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 10.30am Holy Communion**

**We remember those in need of our prayers:**

Jackie, Christine, Liz, Andrew, Glenys.



**Foodbank needs:** Tins of tomatoes, fruit, rich puddings, fish and meat. Jars of jam. Cartons of long-life milk. Any donation is greatly appreciated.

**XPM for January: Birmingham City Mission**

**Safeguarding.** If you have any concerns about a vulnerable child, young person or an adult, please contact Julie Bridges (children) 07814 023913 Sylvia Roberts (adults) 07771 655 789

**General enquiries:** The Parish Office, Church Hall, Church Road, B33 8PD email [stedburghaoffice@btconnect.com](mailto:stedburghaoffice@btconnect.com) 783 4736 The Parish Office is normally open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9 – 12.

**Electronic Order of Service.** You can access today's service sheet on your phone/tablet on the following link <https://stedburghasyardley.com/sunday-service-by-using-this-qr-code> or the following link: <https://stedburghasyardley.com/sunday-service> we can reduce the number of printed copies required, which helps to reduce our carbon footprint



**Please join us for coffee after the service**