



Bread for the World

An Informal Eucharist

Wednesday 04 January 2023

Introit The First Mercy Warlock

Welcome and Opening Prayers Revd Dr Sam Wells

Creator God,
Come to us, in the difference of every life gathered
Come to us in song
Come to us in word
Come to us in stillness and silence
Come to us in our care for one another
Come to us in bread and wine
Come to us in flesh and blood
Reach out across time
Be present in all time.

All **Amen**

All **Come Jesus, be our guest,
Stay with us for day is ending.
With friend, with stranger,
With young and old,
With the lost and found
Be among us tonight
Our guest our host
The one who says all – all are welcome here.**

Opening Hymn

- 1 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.**
- 2 As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
thee whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy-seat.**

continued...

3 As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle 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.

4 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.

5 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.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Prayers of Forgiveness

God longs to be with us. But we often live in alienation from God, ourselves, one another and God's creation. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

Because the world is beautiful but beauty is easily destroyed, we need you.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Because we often abandon you and turn away and walk past and are afraid and countless times betray you but you love us to the end and win a victory over all hatred, we need you.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Because we have your message to proclaim, because we have your kingdom to build, because there are so many in need of your love, because we have your life to live.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

And Jesus said "Your sins are forgiven"

In the name of the Father who created you and waits to welcome you home, in the name of the Son who searches for you, in the name of the Spirit who brings the healing of forgiveness and calls you to do the same, you have been set free.

All **Amen.**

Words on the Edge Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east 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[d] my people Israel.’ ”

Then Herod secretly called for the magi 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 in the east, 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.

Reflection Revd Dr Sam Wells Epiphany

Anthem The Kings Cornelius

Prayers

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Concern

Prayer of Hope

Each prayer ends with 'We pray to you'

Prayer Chant Take, o take me as I am

gently

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;

5
set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

Sharing of the Peace

God of eternal peace, who offers the gift of peace and whose children are the peacemakers; pour your peace into our hearts, that conflict and anger may cease. Peace is the gift of the Risen Christ.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of that peace

Gathering Hymn

- 1 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!
- 2 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.
- 3 Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.
- 4 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.
- 5 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!

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Together we pray:

All **Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free, and fill each one of us with your love from on high. Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast at your table with all your saints.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray in our first language the prayer our Saviour taught us:

All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Look, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven, is broken for the life of the world. The gifts of God for the people of God.

All **Jesus Bread of Life, Bread which is broken, Bread for the world.**

Communion Anthem We three kings arr. Rutter

All **Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Word for us to speak, You are the Truth for us to tell; You are the Light for us to light in the darkness, You are the Bread of Life for us to share.**

Notices

Thanksgiving Hymn

- 1** How brightly gleams the morning star!
What sudden radiance from afar
delights us with its shining?
God's glory breaks upon the night,
and fills our darkened souls with light,
who long for truth were pining!
Your word, Jesus, truly feeds us,
rightly leads us, life bestowing.
Praise such mercy overflowing!
- 2** By you alone can we be blessed—
then deep be on our hearts impressed
the love that you have borne us;
so make us ready to fulfil
with fervent zeal your holy will,
though many vex or scorn us.
Saviour, let us gladly hear you,
duly fear you, long to know you!
All we are and have, we owe you.
- 3** All praise to him who comes to save,
who conquered death and spurned the grave!
Our adoration rises
to him, the Lamb who once was slain,
the Friend whom none shall trust in vain,
whose mercy yet surprises.
Sing, you heavens, tell the story
of his glory, till his praises
flood with light earth's darkest places!

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, Johann Schlegel (1721–1793), translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878), adapted Michael Perry (Word and Music)(1942–1996)

Blessing

Go simply, lightly, gently
Go with obedience

Go with love
And the blessing of Almighty God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.

All **Amen**

Blessing Anthem Gaelic blessing Rutter

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