

- 4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
vainly with gifts would his favour secure :
richer by far is the heart's adoration,
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.
- 5 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid ;
star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Reginald Heber (1783–1826)

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The Congregation remains standing

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 brought us out of darkness
give us a place with the saints in light
in the kingdom of his Son. **Amen**

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
shine in your hearts, and transform your lives,
to bring his light to others. **Amen**

And the blessing.....

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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St Andrew's, Chesterton Epiphany Procession 06 January 2022

¶ Introduction

Introit

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby, now reclining,
sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Angels are watching, stars are shining
over the place where he is lying:
sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping,
sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Soon will come sorrow with the morning,
soon will come bitter grief and weeping:
sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby, now a-doing:
sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,
then in the grave at last reposing:
sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby! is the baby awaking?
sing lullaby.
Hush, do not stir the infant king.
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,
conquering death, its bondage breaking:
sing lullaby!

Words by Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)
Music Old Basque, arr. Philip Moore (b. 1943)

Processional 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.
- 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.

Choir only

- 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.

All

- 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)

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, 94

¶ The Magi

The congregation remains standing

Responses

Arise, shine; for your light has come;
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

Nations will come to your light,
and kings to your dawning brightness.

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.

from Isaiah 60

Gospel Reading

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 2:1-12

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation sits

Anthem

“When He is King we will give him the King's gifts,
Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown,
Beautiful robes”, said the young girl to Joseph
Fair with her first-born on Bethlehem Down.

Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold,
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

When He is King they will clothe Him in grave-sheets,
Myrrh for embalming, and wood for a crown,
He that lies now in the white arms of Mary
Sleeping so lightly on Bethlehem Down.

**let me be employed for you
or laid aside for you,
exalted for you
or brought low for you;
let me be full,
let me be empty,
let me have all things,
let me have nothing;
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

As we have entered this covenant not for ourselves
alone, but as God's servants and witnesses, let us pray for
the Church and for the world.

Loving God, hear us as we pray for your holy catholic
Church:

make us all one, that the world may believe.

Inspire and lead all who govern and hold authority in the
nations of the world:

establish justice and peace among all people.

Have compassion on all who suffer from any sickness,
grief or trouble:

deliver them from their distress.

We praise you for all your saints who have entered your
eternal glory:

bring us all to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray in silence for our own needs and for those of
others . . .

Silence

May God the creator, the rock of our salvation,
who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit
and forgiven all our sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
keep us faithful to our calling, now and for ever.
Amen.

*The water may be sprinkled over the people, or placed in
vessels by the door for them to make the sign of the cross as
they leave, or poured out over the threshold.*

These words may be used

Remember your baptism into Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

- 1 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid ;
star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.
- 2 Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining ;
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall ;
angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.
- 3 Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
odours of Edom, and offerings divine,
gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine ?

At the altar

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:
for the marriage of the Lamb has come.

Make your Church ready,
and clothe her with the righteous deeds of the saints,
to join the praises of your new creation.

Blessed be God for ever.

- 3 Manifest in making whole
palsied limbs and fainting soul ;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might ;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill :
anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.
- 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,
mirrored in thy holy word ;
may we imitate thee now,
and be pure, as pure art thou ;
that we like to thee may be
at thy great Epiphany ;
and may praise thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

Christopher Wordsworth (1807–1885)

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 104

The Renewal of the Covenant

Beloved in Christ,
let us again claim for ourselves
this covenant which God has made with his people,
and take upon us the yoke of Christ.
This means that we are content
that he appoint us our place and work,
and that he himself be our reward.

Christ has many services to be done:
some are easy, others are difficult;
some bring honour, others bring reproach;
some are suitable to our natural inclinations and material
interests,
others are contrary to both;
in some we may please Christ and please ourselves;
in others we cannot please Christ except by denying our-
selves.
Yet the power to do all these things is given to us in
Christ,
who strengthens us.

Therefore let us make this covenant of God our own.
Let us give ourselves to him,
trusting in his promises and relying on his grace.

Lord God, holy Father,
since you have called us through Christ
to share in this gracious covenant,
we take upon ourselves with joy the yoke of obedience
and, for love of you,
engage ourselves to seek and do your perfect will.
We are no longer our own but yours.

**I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing,
put me to suffering;**

Here He has peace and a short while for dreaming,
Close-huddled oxen to keep Him from cold,
Mary for love, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

Words: Bruce Blunt (1899-1957)
Music: Peter Warlock (1894-1930)

Hymn

The Congregation kneels; the Magi present their gifts.

1. (All)
We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star:
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*
2. (Men only)
Born a king on Bethlehem plain,
Gold I bring to crown him again -
King for ever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign:
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

The first of the Magi brings gold, saying:

Blessed are you, Lord 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.
Blessed be God for ever.

3. (Ladies and children only)
Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh:
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship him, God most high:
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

The second of the Magi offers incense, saying:

Blessed are you, Lord 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,
Blessed be God for ever.

4. (Men only)
Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom:
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb:
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

The third of the Magi makes an offering of myrrh, saying:

Blessed are you, Lord 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.
Blessed be God for ever.

5. (All)

Glorious now, behold him arise,
King, and God, and sacrifice!
Heaven sings alleluya,
Alleluya the earth replies:

*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Words and music by J.H. Hopkins Jr, arr Arthur Somervell.

Collect of the Magi

O God,
who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son
to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

¶ The water and the wine

The congregation stands

Behold, I make all things new:
I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

To the thirsty I will give water without price:
From the fountain of the water of life.

Gospel Reading

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord

Mark 1.1-11

This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation sits

Reflection

Carol

The congregation stands. During this carol, sung by the choir, the water is brought to the font (the congregation turns to face the font).

Here we bring new water from the well so clear
for to worship God with, this happy new year.

*Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;
the seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.*

Sing reign of fair maid, with gold upon her toe,
open you the west door, and turn the old year go.

Sing reign of fair maid, with gold upon her chin,
open you the east door, and let the new year in.

Music by Benjamin Britten (1913-76)

At the font

The water is poured into the font.

Today the sun that never sets has risen
and the world is filled with splendour
by the light of the Lord.

Today the clouds drop down upon all people
the dew of righteousness from on high.
Today the Uncreated of his own will
accepts the laying on of hands from his own creature.

Today the waters of the Jordan
are transformed for healing by the coming of the Lord.
Today the blinding mist of the world is dispersed by the
Epiphany of our God.

Today things above keep feast with things below,
and things below commune with things above.

Blessed be God for ever.

Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.

'Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.'

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

John 2.1-10

This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn

During verses 1 & 2 the wine is brought to the altar

- 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar ;
branch of royal David's stem
in thy birth at Bethlehem :
anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.
- 2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme ;
and at Cana wedding-guest
in thy Godhead manifest ;
manifest in power divine,
changing water into wine :
anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.