



Sunday 24 January 2021, 10am
The Third Sunday of Epiphany

The Eucharist

Presider
Revd Richard Carter

Preacher
Revd Sally Hitchiner

⊕ Common Worship

Thank you for joining us today by worshiping online

Supporting St Martin's

Thank you for your support and joining us at the service today. If you would like to make a donation, please see the following options:

- online at stmartininthefields.myiknowchurch.co.uk/giving,

- by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10
(texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message)



The Gathering

Opening Hymn

Recorded by St Martin's Voices

- 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 addressed
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 addressed,
God in Man made manifest.
- 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 addressed,
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), and Compilers of 'Rejoice and Sing'

Welcome

Silence is kept.

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

I invite you to light a candle of hope.

All **Lord Jesus, light of the world,
shine mercy and peace on your people.**

Confession

Jesus said, 'The time is fulfilled and the Kingdom of God has come near, repent and believe the Good News.'

Silence.

You open heaven to us, but we close it to others.

Lord, have mercy

All **Lord, have mercy**

You place your Spirit upon us, but we deny you in word and thought and deed.

Christ, have mercy

All **Christ, have mercy**

You call us to follow you but we have turned away.

Lord, have mercy

All **Lord, have mercy**

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Collect

Almighty God, whose Son revealed signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Genesis 14. 17-20 *read by Matthew Frost, recorded*

After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!' And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

Hear the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Revelation 19. 6-10 *read by Steven Adams, recorded*

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure'— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

Hear the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn

Recorded by St Martin's Voices

- 1 Christ is our light! the bright and morning star
covering with radiance all from near and far.
Christ be our light, shine on, shine on we pray
into our hearts, into our world today.
- 2 Christ is our love! baptised that we may know
the love of God among us, swooping low.
Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face
and see you in the light of heaven's embrace.
- 3 Christ is our joy! transforming wedding guest!
Through water turned to wine the feast was blessed.
Christ be our joy; your glory let us see,
as your disciples did in Galilee.

Leith Fisher (1941-2009)

Gospel Reading John 2. 1-11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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

Sermon Revd Sally Hitchiner

Anthem Author of life divine *Richard Shephard*
Recorded by St Martin's Voices

Author of life divine,
Who hast a table spread,
Furnished with mystic wine
And everlasting bread,
Preserve the life thyself hast given,
And feed and train us up for heaven.

Our needy souls sustain
With fresh supplies of love,
Till all thy life we gain,
And all thy fullness prove,
And, strengthened by thy perfect grace,
Behold without a veil thy face.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Nicene Creed

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession *led by Jim Sikorski, recorded*

The response to the prayers is:

Lord in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

And, at the end:

Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Those who join us online may wish to write the word 'Peace' or another suitable greeting in the comments bar. As we place bread and wine on the altar during the next hymn, members of the congregation watching from home are invited to write a short phrase in the comments section of the Facebook live stream placing an experience they have had this week on the altar.

You are welcome to donate in the following ways:

- online at stmartininthefields.myiknowchurch.co.uk/giving,

*- by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10
(texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message)*

- by tapping the contactless donation point in the porch on your way out if you are in church today

Offertory Hymn

Recorded by St Martin's Voices

- 1 Bread of heaven on thee we feed,
for thy flesh is meat indeed;
ever may our souls be fed
with this true and living bread;
day by day with strength supplied
through the life of him who died.
- 2 Vine of heaven, thy blood supplies
this blest cup of sacrifice;
tis thy wounds our healing give,
to thy Cross he looked and lived:
thou our life! O let us be
rooted, grafted, built in thee.

Josiah Conder (1798-1855)

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us; nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is with joy we give you thanks and praise, summoning Lord, for you called creation into being; you invited a people to be your own; and in your prophets you called your children time after time to return to your ways and live. In Jesus you embodied your call to the whole world to worship you, to be your friends and to eat at this table with you. Through the Spirit you continue to beckon us to become members of your body and channels of your grace. Even when our sin put your Son on the cross, your mercy turned death into resurrection and shame into glory. And so we enjoy you now and forever, with saints and angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, rejoicing and exalting in the hymn of your unending praise.

Sanctus and Benedictus Bednall

Recorded remotely by the Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Restoring God, at your Son's birth you called together heaven and earth, rich and poor, humans and animals; among your Son's disciples you called together fishermen, tax-collectors, and zealots; in his ministry you summoned soldiers and widows, criminals and Samaritans; at this table now you draw together the food of daily endeavour and the cup of celebration. Send your Holy Spirit among us to make us your diverse but holy people. As your priest Melchizedek brought forth bread and wine, in which Abraham found a blessing, by the power of your Spirit make these gifts of bread and wine be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Wondrous God, you call us to join you at the marriage-supper of the Lamb, and you infuse your servants with the spirit of prophecy through the testimony of Jesus. Renew your church that it may raise up saints for your glory and be holy as you are holy. Bring reconciliation and healing among any who have been hurt or damaged by those who bear your name. Foster humility and repentance where your people have clung to social status or notions of truth that have inhibited rather than increased the triumphs of your grace. Turn the water of your servants' faith into the wine of your Spirit's mercy, until your whole creation gathers around your throne and your children discover you have saved the best till last, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, ever one God.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our first language:

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Make yourself known to us, Lord Christ, in the breaking of the bread.

Giving of Communion

Come to this table you who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been to this sacrament often,
and you who have not been for a long time;
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you have sometimes failed.
Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Those who are participating remotely, and cannot receive Christ in the form of bread and wine, may say:

All Gracious Lord, by the power of your Holy Spirit, shape in us the death and resurrection of your Son, and bring us into mystic sweet communion with you.

Communion Motet Sicut cervus desiderat *Palestrina*
Recorded remotely by the Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum:
Ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.
Sitivit anima mea ad Deum fortem vivum:
Quando veniam et apparebo ante faciem Dei?
Fuerunt mihi lacrimae meae panes die ac nocte,
Dum dicitur mihi quotidie: Ubi est Deus tuus?

As the stag yearns for springs of water:
So my soul yearns for you, God.
My soul thirsts for the mighty God who is ever living:
When shall I come and appear before God?
My tears have been my bread day and night,
While it is said to me each day; Where is your God?

Psalm 41 (42). 1-3.

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

The Dismissal

Notices

Ask the Vicar

Blessing

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom; and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Final Hymn

Recorded by St Martin's Voices

- 1 Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
brothers and sisters, with one voice
tell all the world he is your choice.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 O magnify the Lord, and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 O Christian women, Christian men,
all the world over, seek again
the way disciples followed then.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 Let love's unconquerable might
your scattered companies unite
in service to the Lord of light.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 So shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,
and the whole Church at last be one.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

George K A Bell (1883-1958)

If you have enjoyed this service, perhaps you would be interested in something more.

- If you have enjoyed our community life, you can join us in our building and online from anywhere in the world on Sunday mornings 10am and Wednesday evenings at 6.30pm for our weekly Eucharists.
- If you have enjoyed our choirs and music you can hear them each Thursday at 1pm for our Great Sacred Music event and Choral Morningsong at 8.30am on Fridays from January.
- If you would like to explore the Christian faith for the first time, we have developed a new course called "Being With" with groups starting in January to find out more contact Sian.Conway@smidf.org

At St Martin's we believe in opening our doors to as many people as possible, even when other doors have been closed to them. We offer our services for free but if you would like to contribute the cost of your place then you can donate £10 by texting COLLECTION to 70450. If you would like to join us in our vision then why not also pay for the person who comes through our doors tomorrow too.

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