

# St Mary's Church, Walkley



**The Church on the Road:**  
*Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God*

*Jesus is the Christ, the Chosen of God,  
the one who will bring healing to the nations.*

## Epiphany Carol Service

### 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022

#### **Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley**

At the moment we are not quite back to our usual way of worship. You will notice that:

- Half the seating is still arranged for people who want to keep physical distance.
- We will be singing whilst wearing face-coverings.

## The Introduction

*We remain seated as the cantor sings.*

*Minister* Three wonders mark this holy day  
as the Church is joined to her heavenly Bridegroom.

*Minister* This day a star leads the wise men to the Christ-child.  
*All* **Alleluia.**

*Minister* This day water is made wine at the wedding feast.  
*All* **Alleluia.**

*Minister* This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ in the waters of baptism.  
*All* **Alleluia. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Minister* Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you,  
*All* **and also with you.**

*Words of welcome may be said.*

*Minister* Grant us, Lord, who behold your glory,  
to drink from the waters of the new creation  
flowing from the river of life at your baptism.  
Give us the wings of the Spirit,  
that we may hasten to meet you at your coming,  
and praise you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## The King of all the World is Revealed to the Magi

*Minister* This day a star leads the magi to the Christ-child.

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

*Minister* The nations will come to your light,  
*All* **and kings to your dawning brightness.**

*Minister* They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
*All* **and proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

*Minister* Your gates will lie open continually,  
*All* **shut neither by day nor by night.**

*Minister* No more will the sun give you daylight,  
*All* **nor moonlight shine upon you.**

*Minister* But the Lord will be your everlasting light,  
*All* **your God will be your splendour.**

*Isaiah 60*

*The gifts are brought to the Nativity as we sit and sing:*

**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.***

**Born a King on Bethlehem plain,  
gold I bring, to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign.**

***O star of wonder, star of night,***

**Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, all are raising,  
worshipping God most high.**

***O star of wonder, star of night,***

**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,***

**Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and sacrifice:  
'Alleluia, Alleluia!'  
earth to heaven replies.**

***O star of wonder, star of night,***

John Henry Hopkins, 1822-1900

*Minister* Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:  
you receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.  
May our prayer be set forth in your sight as incense,  
and the lifting up of our hands be an evening sacrifice.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

**The First Reading:** Matthew 2. 1, 2, 8 – 11

*Minister* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.' 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.

*Minister* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The gifts are placed in the Nativity.*

*Minister* Let us pray.

Eternal God,  
who by the shining of a star  
led the magi to the worship of your Son:  
guide by his light the nations of the earth,  
that the whole world may behold your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit as the cantor sings.*

## The New Creation is Revealed in the Water made Wine

*We stand.*

*Minister* This day water is made wine at the wedding feast.

*Minister* I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,  
coming down out of heaven from God,  
*All* **prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**

*Minister* And I heard a great voice from the throne, saying,  
*All* **'Behold, the dwelling of God is among mortals.**

*Minister* He will dwell with them and they shall be his peoples,  
*All* **and God himself will be with them.**

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

*Minister* To the thirsty I will give water as a gift  
*All* **from the spring of the water of life.'**

*Revelation 21*

*A flagon of wine is brought as we sit and sing:*

Tune: Rhuddlan – Judge Eternal throned in splendour

**Jesus, come! for we invite you,  
Guest and Master, Friend and Lord;  
now, as once at Cana's wedding,  
speak, and let us hear your word:  
lead us through our need or doubting,  
hope be born and joy restored.**

**Jesus, come! transform our pleasures,  
guide us into paths unknown;  
bring your gifts, command your servants,  
let us trust in you alone:  
though your hand may work in secret,  
all shall see what you have done.**

**Jesus, come in new creation,  
heaven brought near in power divine;  
give your unexpected glory  
changing water into wine:  
rouse the faith of your disciples —  
come, our first and greatest Sign!**

**Jesus, come! surprise our dullness,  
make us willing to receive  
more than we can yet imagine,  
all the best you have to give:  
let us find your hidden riches,  
taste your love, believe, and live!**

Christopher M. Idle, b.1979  
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*Minister* 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.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

### **The Second Reading: John 2. 1 - 11**

*Minister* 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.

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

*A flagon of wine is placed on the altar.*

*Minister* Let us pray.

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit as the cantor sings.*

### **The Christ is Revealed in the Waters of Baptism**

*We stand.*

*Minister* This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ in the waters of baptism.

*Minister* I will take you from the nations,  
*All* **and gather you from all the countries.**

*Minister* I will sprinkle clean water upon you,  
*All* **and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness.**

*Minister* A new heart I will give you,  
*All* **and put a new spirit within you.**

*Minister* You shall be my people,  
*All* **and I will be your God.**

*Ezekiel 36*

*The font holds water blessed by the President at this morning's  
Eucharist. Water is drawn from the font.*

*Minister* Blessed are you,  
Lord our God, King of the universe:  
you bring waters out of the stony rock.  
For with you is the well of life,  
and in your light shall we see light.  
*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

## **The Third Reading: Mark 1. 1 – 11**

*Minister* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight" ',

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

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

*We sit and sing:*

*Tune: Aurelia – The Church's one foundation*

**When Jesus came to Jordan  
to be baptized by John,  
he did not come for pardon,  
but as the sinless One.  
He came to share repentance  
with all who mourn their sins,  
to speak the vital sentence  
with which good news begins.**



**He came to share temptation,  
our utmost woe and loss,  
for us and our salvation  
to die upon the cross.  
So when the Dove descended  
on him, the Son of Man,  
the hidden years had ended,  
the age of grace began.**

**Come, Holy Spirit, aid us  
to keep the vows we make;  
this very day invade us,  
and ev'ry bondage break.  
Come, give our lives direction,  
the gift we covet most:  
to share the resurrection  
that leads to Pentecost.**

Fred Pratt Green, 1973  
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*We stand.*

*Minister* Let us pray.

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
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 water drawn from the font is poured out.*

*Minister* God in Christ gives us the water welling up for eternal life.  
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

*All* **Lord, give us this water, and we shall thirst no more.**

*Minister* The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

*Minister* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Minister* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Minister* It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times to give you thanks and praise,  
for today the grace of the Holy Spirit  
in the form of a dove descended upon the waters.

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
accept our sacrifice of praise,  
and by the power of your life-giving Spirit  
may we, with all who have been born anew  
by water and the Spirit,  
be renewed in your image,  
walk by the light of faith,  
and serve you in newness of life.

Through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
we lift our voices of praise:

*All* **blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*We sit as the cantor sings.*

## **The Prayers**

*We sit or kneel.*

*Intercessor* We pray that Christ may be seen in the life of the Church.

You have called us into the family  
of those who are the children of God.  
May our love for our brothers and sisters in Christ  
be strengthened by your grace.

*All* Jesus, Lord of the Church,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

*Intercessor* You have called us to be a temple  
where the Holy Spirit can dwell.  
Give us clean hands and pure hearts  
so that our lives will reflect your holiness.

*All* Jesus, Lord of the Church,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

*Intercessor* You have called us to be a light to the world,  
so that those in darkness come to you.  
May our lives shine as a witness  
to the saving grace you have given for all.

*All* Jesus, Lord of the Church,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

*Intercessor* You have called us to be members of your body,  
so that when one suffers, all suffer together.  
We ask for your comfort and healing power  
to bring hope to those in distress.

*All* Jesus, Lord of the Church,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

*Intercessor* You have called us to be the Bride,  
where you, Lord, are the Bridegroom.  
Prepare us for the wedding feast,  
where we will be united with you for ever.

*All* Jesus, Lord of the Church,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

*Intercessor* Jesus, Lord of the Church,  
you have called us into fellowship with all your saints.  
We unite our prayers with theirs  
and ask for grace to serve you with joy  
where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for all eternity.

*All* **Amen.**

*Minister* 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.

*All* **Amen.**

*The people may be sprinkled with water.*

*Minister* We remember our baptism into Christ Jesus.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*We sit and wearing masks we sing hymn 372.*

## **The Blessing**

*Minister* May God the Father,  
who led the Magi by the shining of a star  
to find the Christ, the Light from light,  
lead us also in our pilgrimage to find the Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*Minister* May God the Son,  
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,  
transform our lives and make glad our hearts.

*All* **Amen.**

*Minister* May God the Holy Spirit,  
who came upon the beloved Son  
at his baptism in the river Jordan,  
pour out his gifts on us  
who have come to the waters of new birth.

*All* **Amen.**

*Minister* And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.

*All* **Amen.**

*Minister* We have come to Christ, the living water.  
Go in the peace of Christ.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*We ask you to make your way out carefully being mindful of those who wish to maintain social distancing.*

## ***Please take this order of service away with you!***

*Beginning with the back rows of pews and chairs, please leave using the church porch and move away as quickly as possible to help others to leave too. If you use the ramp, please use the hall door as usual, and move away as quickly as you can.*

*Please be mindful of those who prefer to keep their distance from others at the moment.*

**More information: [stmaryswalkley.co.uk/opt-in-to-hear-from-st-marys/](https://stmaryswalkley.co.uk/opt-in-to-hear-from-st-marys/)**