

Good news for the wise



Epiphany Holy Communion
Matthew 2: 1 – 12
9th January 2022



Bowthorpe
Church

Welcome and notices



Call to worship

‘Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of
your dawn...to you the riches of
the nations will come’ (Isaiah 60:3, 5)



The splendour of the King (How great is our God)



**How great is our God,
Sing with me:
How great is our God,
And all will see
how great,
How great is our God.**



**The splendour of
the King
Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice,
All the earth rejoice**



**He wraps himself in light
And darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at his voice
Trembles at his voice**



**How great is our God,
Sing with me:
How great is our God,
And all will see
how great,
How great is our God.**



**And age to age
he stands,
And time is in his hands;
Beginning and the end,
Beginning and the end.**



**The God head,
three in one,
Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb,
The Lion and the Lamb.**



**How great is our God,
Sing with me:
How great is our God,
And all will see
how great,
How great is our God. (x2)**



**Name above all names,
Worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing:
How great is our God (x2)**



**How great is our God, Sing
with me:**

**How great is our God,
And all will see
how great,**

How great is our God. (x2)



There's no lack in all You've
given (My soul is well)



**There's no lack in all
You've given
I am richer than a king
In the gift of Christ
our portion
My soul is well**



**There's no promise I am
missing**

**All I need has been supplied
You're the strong and firm
foundation**

My soul is well

My soul is well



**Praise the Lord oh my
soul cry out
Praise the Lord
oh my soul**



**Praise the Lord oh my
soul cry out
For in You my soul
is well**



**Though the struggles
have been many
And the flesh inside
me weak
Lord, Your grace and
truth have taught me
My soul is well**



**Though I've wandered in
confusion**

**I have seen enough to know
Where I tread Your goodness
follows**

My soul is well

My soul is well



**Praise the Lord oh my
soul cry out
Praise the Lord
oh my soul**



**Praise the Lord oh my
soul cry out
For in You my soul
is well**



**To the praise of all Your
glory and Your grace (x 2)**

**In the wonder of Your
goodness I will sing,
‘Great is the Lord’**



**Praise the Lord oh my
soul cry out
Praise the Lord
oh my soul**



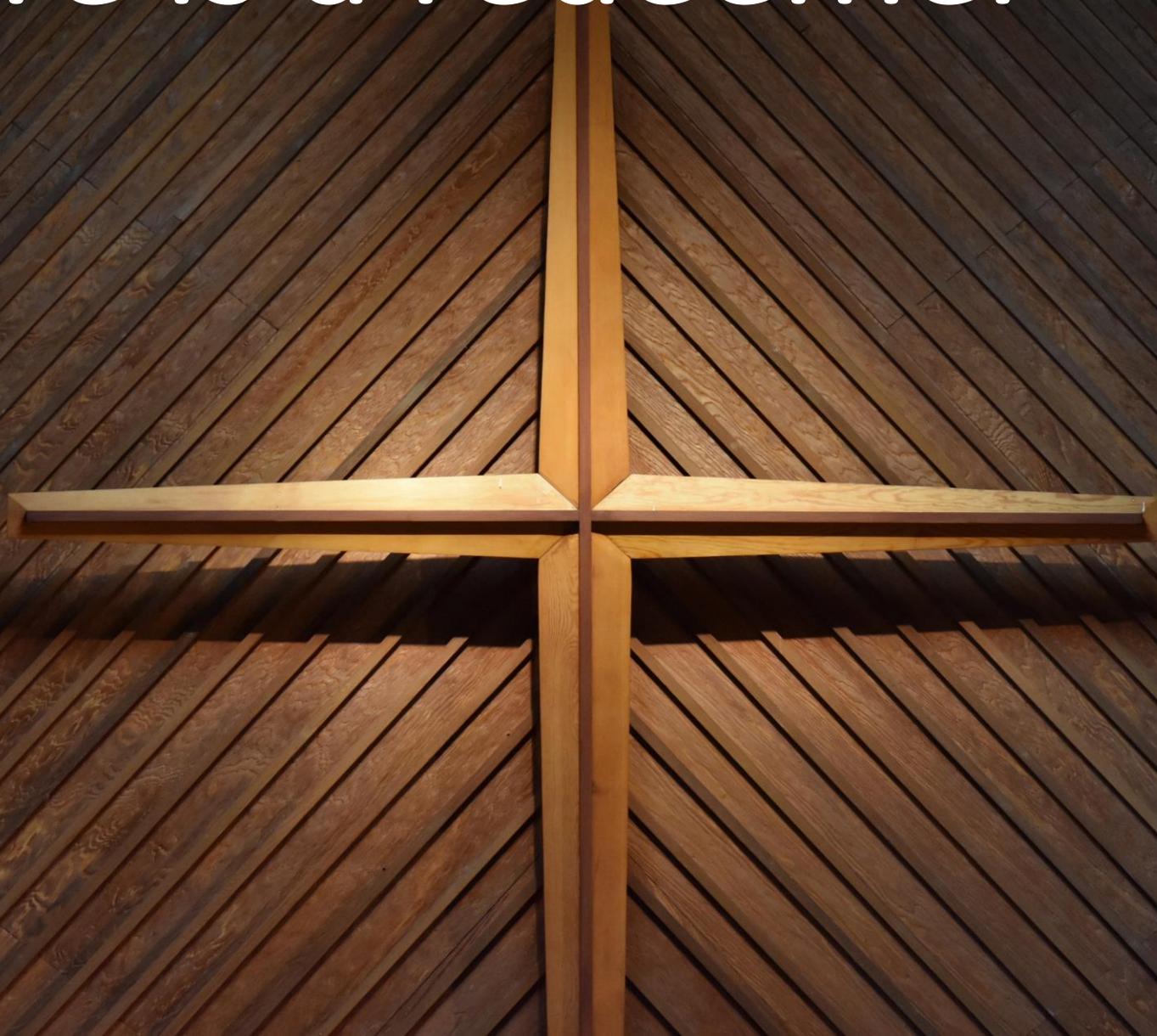
**Praise the Lord oh my
soul cry out
For in You my soul
is well**

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Bowthorpe
Church

There is a redeemer



**There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah,
Holy One.**



**Thank You,
O my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
Till the work on earth
is done.**



**Jesus my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God
Messiah,
O for sinners slain:**



**Thank You,
O my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
Till the work on earth
is done.**



**When I stand in glory
I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my
King for ever
In that holy place.**



**Thank You,
O my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
Till the work on earth
is done.**

Opening prayer

Loving God, we come with thanks and praise for John the Baptist preparing the way by calling people to repent and be baptised.



We thank and praise you, Lord
for Jesus our Saviour
proclaimed your Son by water
and Spirit



We thank and praise you, Lord
for the good news
that salvation has come to earth
in Jesus



We thank and praise you, Lord
for wisdom seen in the visit of the
Magi with gifts of worship



We thank and praise you, Lord
for your love undeserved and
lavishly given



We thank and praise you, Lord
for your Holy Spirit
transforming and empowering
lives



We thank and praise you, Lord
for your promise
of an eternity in which to
praise you

We thank and praise you, Lord



Confession

One of the ways in which we are hindered from praising the Lord for all he has given is by continuing to sin, whereby we fall



short of the glory of God (Rom. 3.23). Let us confess our sins, seek God's forgiveness and be released from the tyranny of sin.

**Forgive the smallness of our faith
and the depth of our sin. Release
us from the burdens of the past,
and raise us to new life and new
ways of service through Jesus
Christ your Son, our Lord. Amen.**



Assurance of pardon

`If anyone does sin, we have one who speaks with the Father in our defence – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.



He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world' (1 John 2:1-2).



Through him your sins are
forgiven.

Amen. Thanks be to God.



Prayer for Sunday Club

Gracious Lord, just as you were a blessing to both Wise Men and little children, so now we ask your blessing on the Sunday Club, leaders and children; for your glory's sake. **Amen.**



Matthew 2: 1 - 12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked,



‘Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.’

3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.



4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.

5 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written:



6 “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.””



7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child.



As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.'

9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose



went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.



11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.





Reflection Good News for the wise



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Prayers of intercession



The Lord's Prayer

**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.**



Brightest and Best of the Sons of the morning



BEST



**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.**



**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.**



**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?**



**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.**



**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.**



Offertory

Almighty God, out of the fulness of your gifts we bring before you this bread and wine, our gifts and our lives. Blessed be your holy name forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



The Peace

Glory to God is the highest, and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.



The peace of the Lord be always
with you
and also with you.



Holy Communion

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God.

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



It is right, and a good and joyful
thing,
always and everywhere to give
thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of
heaven and earth.



Before the mountains were
brought forth, or you had
formed the earth, from
everlasting to everlasting, you
alone are God.



You created light out of darkness
and brought forth life on the
earth.

You formed us in your image and
breathed into us the breath of
life.



When we turned away, and our
love failed, your love remained
steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our
sovereign God,



and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people in heaven and on earth, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**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.**



Holy are you, and blessed is your
Son Jesus Christ,
in whom you have revealed
yourself, our light and our salvation.
You sent a star to guide wise men to
where the Christ was born;



and in your signs and witnesses,
in every age and through all the
world,
you have led your people from
far places to his light.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:



"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,

gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:



"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."



And so, in remembrance of these
your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and
thanksgiving as a holy and living
sacrifice, in union with Christ's
offering for us, as we proclaim the
mystery of faith.



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



Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

May they be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.



By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.



Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy
Church, all honour and glory is
yours, almighty Father, now and
for ever.

Amen.



We wait until everyone has received the bread and then eat together as a sign of our unity in Christ.

The Body of Christ broken for you.



We wait until everyone has received the wine and then drink together as a sign of our unity in Christ.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.



Prayer after communion

God of a love stronger than death, you have given us new birth into a living hope through the gift of your Son.



God with us, like a mother you
have fed us with yourself and
strengthened us for the journey
ahead. God of truth and power,
you take our weakness and our sin
and refashion us by your grace.



**Gracious God, may the love
which bids us welcome at this
table gather all your children into
one, in your eternal presence,
whole and free at last. Amen.**



Jesus my King, my Wonderful Saviour



**Jesus my King, my wonderful
Saviour**

**All of my life is given to Thee
Now I am living in your great
salvation**

**Your precious blood is
making me free**



**Wonderful Saviour, wonderful
Saviour**

**You are so near, so precious
to me**

**Wonderful Saviour, wonderful
Saviour**

**My heart is filled with
praises to Thee**



**Freedom from sin, O wonderful
story**

**All of its stains washed whiter
than snow**

**Jesus has come to live in this
temple**

**All of my days His love I will
show**



**Wonderful Saviour, wonderful
Saviour**

**You are so near, so precious
to me**

**Wonderful Saviour, wonderful
Saviour**

**My heart is filled with
praises to Thee**



**Jesus my Lord, I'll ever adore
Thee**

**Lay at Your feet, my treasures
of love**

**Lead me in ways to show
forth Your Glory**

**Ways that will end in
Heaven above**



**Wonderful Saviour, wonderful
Saviour**

**You are so near, so precious
to me**

**Wonderful Saviour, wonderful
Saviour**

**My heart is filled with
praises to Thee**



**When in that bright and
beautiful city**

**There I will see Your glories
untold**

**I will be like You, my
wonderful Saviour**

**I will sing praise while ages
unfold**



**Wonderful Saviour, wonderful
Saviour**

**You are so near, so precious
to me**

**Wonderful Saviour, wonderful
Saviour**

**My heart is filled with
praises to Thee**



Closing prayer and blessing

Father God, the star that led the
Magi to the world's true King
announced to the world that its
Saviour was born.



Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to Saviour's side. May our lives reflect your light day by day,

as we seek to serve where you
have placed us, that we might be
the means through which others
can encounter your Son, our
Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**



May he, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill your lives with his light and joy and peace.



And the blessing of God
Almighty, the Father, the Son and
the Holy Spirit be among you and
remain with you always. **Amen.**



Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord

In the name of Christ. Amen.

