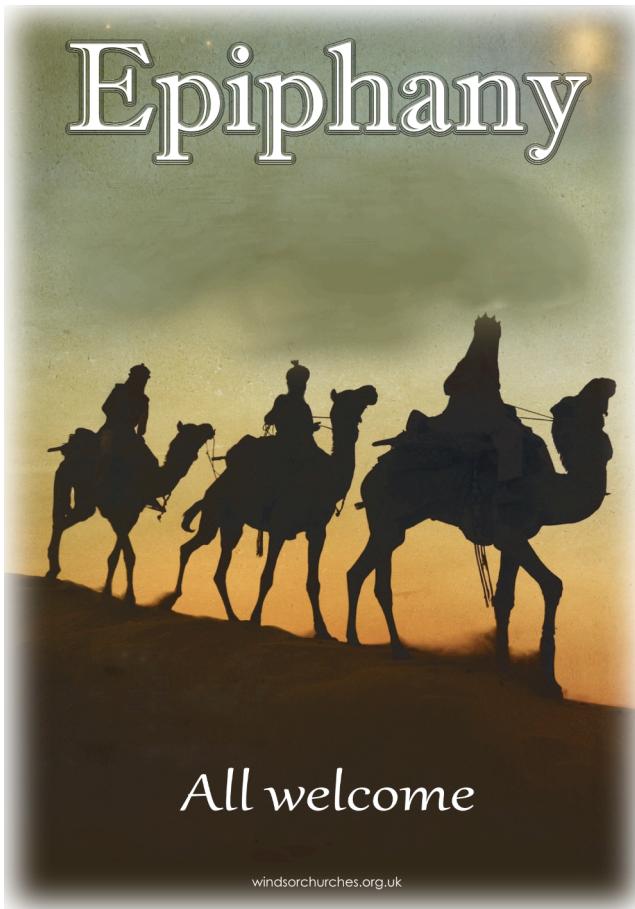


**Parish of Central Windsor**

# **Choral Evensong**

**according to  
The Book of Common Prayer**



## **Epiphany-Tide**

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
5.30pm**

**A warm welcome to  
All Saints' Church  
for our service this evening**

Organ music before the service: A solis ortus (de Grigny)

Please stand for:

THE OPENING HYMN

**Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*come and worship, Christ, the new-born King,  
come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King,***

**Shepherds in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant Light:  
*come and worship...***

**Sages, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of Nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:  
*come and worship...***

**Saints before the altar bending,  
watching long in hope and fear,  
suddenly the Lord, descending,  
in his temple shall appear:  
*come and worship...***

**Though an infant now we view him,  
he shall fill his Father's throne,  
gather all the nations to him;  
every knee shall then bow down:  
*come and worship...***

*from Iris 1816 & The Christmas Box 1825  
vv 1-4 James Montgomery (1771-1854)*

*The Opening Sentence and Introduction are said:*

Dearly beloved....

*A general Confession to be said of the whole Congregation,*

Almighty and most merciful Father, We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws, We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, And we have done those things which we ought not to have done, And there is no health in us: But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults, Restore thou them that are penitent, According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord: And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

*The Absolution or Remission of sins to be pronounced by the Priest*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.

Amen.

*The Preces and Responses are sung*

V. O Lord, open thou our lips  
R. **And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

V. O God, make speed to save us.  
R. **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
R. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,**  
**world without end. Amen.**

V. Praise ye the Lord.  
R. **The Lord's Name be praised.**

*The appointed Psalm is sung*

## **PSALM 72. VV1-15**

**GIVE the King thy judgements, O God : and thy righteousness unto the King's son.**

**2 Then shall he judge thy people according unto right : and defend the poor.**

**3 The mountains also shall bring peace : and the little hills righteousness unto the people.**

**4 He shall keep the simple folk by their right : defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer.**

**5 They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth : from one generation to another.**

**6 He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool : even as the drops that water the earth.**

**7 In his time shall the righteous flourish : yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.**

**8 His dominion shall be also from the one sea to the other : and from the flood unto the world's end.**

**9 They that dwell in the wilderness shall kneel before him : his enemies shall lick the dust.**

**10 The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents : the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts.**

**11 All kings shall fall down before him : all nations shall do him service.**

**12 For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth : the needy also, and him that hath no helper.**

**13 He shall be favourable to the simple and needy : and shall preserve the souls of the poor.**

**14 He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong : and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

**15 He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia : prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.**

*A Lesson of the Old Testament is read*

The First Lesson is taken from the Book of Isaiah

**Isaiah 60, 1-6**

**60<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

**2 For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.**

**3 Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

**4 Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.**

**5 Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.**

**6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.**

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

Here endeth the Lesson: Thanks be to God

The Magnificat is sung

**My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded:  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.  
For behold, from henceforth:  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me:  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him:  
throughout all generations.  
He hath shewed strength with his arm:  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed,  
for ever.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.**

*A Lesson of the New Testament is read*

The Second Lesson is taken from the Gospel according to Matthew

### **Matthew 2, 1-12**

<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>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.’ <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>“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 my people Israel.”’ <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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.’ <sup>9</sup>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.

<sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Here endeth the Lesson: **Thanks be to God**

**The Nunc Dimittis** is sung by the choir to the setting Brewer in D

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;  
Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

**The Apostles' Creed** is said

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead, and buried:  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence  
he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
The holy Catholick Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body,  
And the Life everlasting. Amen.

*V.* Lord be with you.

*R.* And with thy spirit.

*V.* Let us pray. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*R.* Christ, have mercy upon us.

*V.* Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.**

*V.* O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

*R.* And grant us thy salvation.

*V.* O Lord, save the King.

*R.* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*V.* Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

*R.* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*V.* O Lord, save thy people.

*R.* And bless thine inheritance.

*V.* Give peace in our time, O Lord.

*R.* Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou,  
O God.

*V.* O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*R.* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## **The Collect for Epiphany**

O GOD, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant, that we, which know thee now by faith, may after this life have the fruition of thy glorious Godhead; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Second Collect at Evening Prayer**

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

## **The Third Collect, for Aid against all Perils**

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Anthem: Lo! Star-led chiefs (Crotch)**

**Prayers of Intercession are said, ending with**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,  
be with us all evermore.  
Amen.**

**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 by thee.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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)*

## Hymn after sermon

**1 From the eastern mountains, pressing on, they come, wise men in their wisdom, to his humble home; stirred by deep devotion, hastening from afar, ever journeying onward, guided by a star.**

**2 There their Lord and Saviour meek and lowly lay, wondrous light that led them onward on their way, ever now to lighten nations from afar, as they journey homeward by that guiding star.**

**3 Thou who in a manger once hast lowly lain, who dost now in glory o'er all kingdoms reign, gather in the peoples, who in lands afar ne'er have seen the brightness of thy guiding star.**

**4 Gather in the outcasts, all who've gone astray, throw thy radiance o'er them, guide them on their way; those who never knew thee, those who've wandered far, guide them by the brightness of thy guiding star.**

**5 Onward through the darkness of the lonely night, shining still before them with thy kindly light, guide them, Jew and Gentile, homeward from afar, young and old together, by thy guiding Star.**

**6 Until every nation, whether bond or free, 'neath thy star-lit banner, Jesu, follow thee, o'er the distant mountains to that heavenly home where nor sin nor sorrow evermore shall come.**

*Godfrey Thring (1823-1903)*

## FINAL BLESSING

Voluntary: Point d'Orgue sur les Grands Jeux (de Grigny)

You are welcome to take this service sheet away with you for private reflection or to give to a friend.

If you are visiting today or attending for the first time, we hope that you have felt “at home” here, that you will be refreshed by today’s service of worship and that you will return in the future.

We shall be delighted if you decide to make our church community your spiritual home.



If you would like to know more about the Christian faith, please ask! You can also find out more by following the “Faith & Life” section on the Church of England website: [churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe](http://churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe)

If you don’t already, would you like to receive an email with details of next Sunday’s service, including the order of service? You can send a request by scanning the QR code or visiting our website and selecting the icon to the bottom right of the home screen.

[windsorchurches.org.uk](http://windsorchurches.org.uk)



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