



# Service Sheet

9<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 10.30am St Mary's  
The First Sunday of Epiphany  
The Baptism of Christ

**Welcome to St Mary's Church!** We are so glad you are here – whether you are in the church building or watching online. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello (in the chat feature online, or to the service leader or a member of the welcome team in church). You can find out more about our church on our website ([www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/denhamparish.church](https://facebook.com/denhamparish.church)).

## WELCOME

### OPENING PSALM. Psalm 29. 1-2

Ascribe to the Lord,  
O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord  
the glory of his name;  
worship the Lord in holy splendour.  
Amen

## HYMN

**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven!**  
To his feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to our fathers in distress;  
praise him still the same as ever,  
slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Glorious in his faithfulness!

Father-like he tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame he knows;  
In his hands he gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Widely as his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace!

## SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.  
**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

**STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL**

## CONFESSION

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed; through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## COLLECT

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

## SONG

**Father God I wonder**  
how I managed to exist  
Without the knowledge  
of Your parenthood  
And Your loving care  
But now I am Your child  
I am adopted in Your family  
And I can never be alone  
'Cause Father God  
You're there beside me

*I will sing Your praises  
I will sing Your praises  
I will sing Your praises forevermore*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 43.1-7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have

redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up,' and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

*This is the Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL READING: Luke 3. 15-17,21-22

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

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had

been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

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

## SERMON

*Today we continue the Epiphany season.*

*The word 'Epiphany' is often used to describe a life enhancing thought. 'I've had an epiphany,' - an inspiring moment of insight. The baptism of Jesus accompanied by the descent of the Spirit upon him and the voice of the Father speaking from heaven - was an inspiring moment of insight for the whole of humanity. The Eastern Church call this season 'Theophany' rather than 'Epiphany' which means - 'A revealing of God in our world.' This day such a revelation can come to our hearts afresh. Are we ready to receive him? Are we ready for our own life enhancing epiphany?*

## HYMN

Just as I am, without one plea  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidst me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need, in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, release:  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown

has broken ev'ry barrier down,  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love  
the breadth, length, depth and height  
to prove,  
here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

## THE CREED

**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**

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

## **THE PEACE**

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

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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 thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high. Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who 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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many,  
we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **GIVING OF COMMUNION**

*At present we receive Holy Communion in one kind (bread) only.*

*We have devised a one-way system for receiving the bread and then returning to your place through the empty first pew. Please refer to the diagram on page 7. We are inviting people to come forward by pew*

*number starting with pew No. 1.*

*Please follow the directions of our sidesteam and keep a distance of two meters to the person in front of you. If you'd like to receive a blessing, please keep you hands at your sides as you come forward. Please walk back to your pew after you receive the wafer and consume it there.*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## **HYMN**

**Crown him with many crowns,**  
the Lamb upon the throne;  
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns  
all music but its own;  
awake, my soul and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above,  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends each burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of years,  
the Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For thou has died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

## THE BLESSING

The Lord bless and watch over you,  
the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you,  
the Lord look kindly on you and give  
you peace; and the blessing of God  
almighty, the Father, the Son, and the  
Holy Spirit, be among us and remain  
with us always. **Amen.**

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

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## ALPHA STARTS ON THUR 3 FEB

Who could you invite to explore life,  
faith and meaning this year? Find out  
more and sign up through our church  
office or at  
[www.denhamparish.church/alpha](http://www.denhamparish.church/alpha)

## CHRISTMAS APPEAL: THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who  
contributed to our Christmas Appeal.  
You have given a total of £940 which  
we have rounded up to £1,000,  
allocating £500 each to SHOC / Trinity  
and Give & Share

## LiFT NIGERIA: THANK YOU

We have received a thank you letter  
from Peter Okparaji, the director of  
LiFT and the orphanage home that we  
have helped to build. Please find his  
letter and a couple of videos from the  
home at

[www.denhamparish.church/lift](http://www.denhamparish.church/lift)

email: [office@denhamparish.church](mailto:office@denhamparish.church)

phone: 01895 832771

## READ THE BIBLE IN 2022

Find ideas and suggestion to establish  
a regular pattern of Bible reading,  
including a brand-new book from our  
mission partner BRF:

[www.denhamparish.church/bible/](http://www.denhamparish.church/bible/)

## ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS

We will print high quality Christmas  
cards of the nativity stained-glass  
window at St Mary's this year.

Interested? [Contact Edda.](#)

## 1952 - WHAT A YEAR!

For our next magazine we are inviting  
you to share your memories of 1952.  
They could be personal or connected  
with what happened in the world.  
What is your stand-out memory? Send  
your contribution to the church office  
or email [magazine@denhamparish.church](mailto:magazine@denhamparish.church)  
by Sunday 23 January.

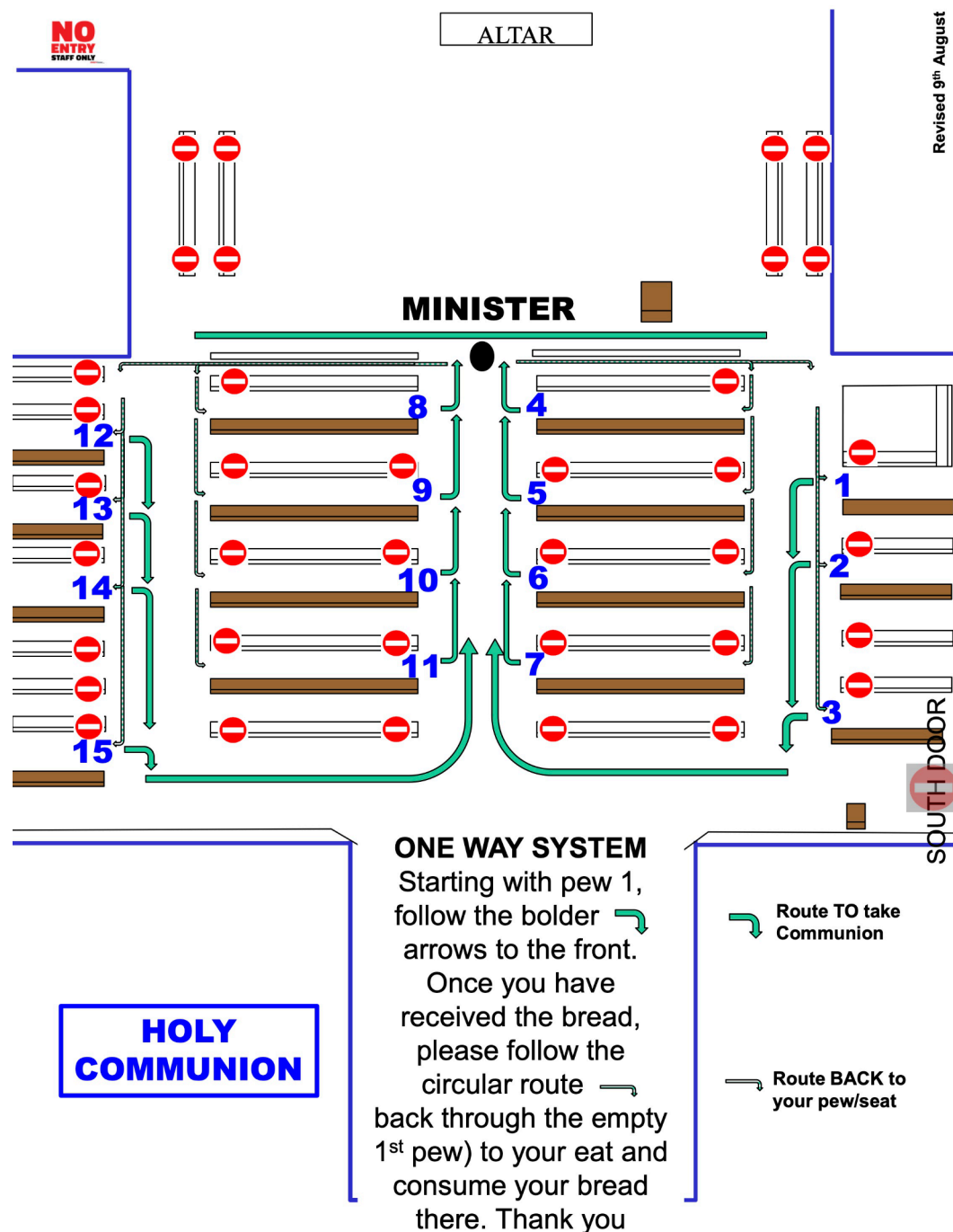
## ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a  
donation to Denham Parish  
Church, please scan this  
code with the camera or QR  
app on your smartphone and  
follow instructions.

## Let's pray together ...

- For joyful courage as we live out the good news of Jesus in our daily lives.
- For those who live under oppressive regimes or suffer the consequences of natural disasters.
- For our health service, the vulnerable and the sick.
- For the families and friends of Gerald Hollands, Frank Marchant, Enette Reid and all those who have lost loved ones.





*What do you think?*

**#AskAtAlpha**

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