



# Service Sheet

8<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 10.30am, St Mary's  
The Epiphany

**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

### HYMN

#### O worship the Lord

in the beauty of holiness;  
bow down before him,  
his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience,  
and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him:  
the Lord is his name.

Low at his feet lay  
thy burden of carefulness:  
high on his heart  
he will bear it for thee,  
comfort thy sorrows,  
and answer thy prayerful,  
guiding thy steps  
as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter  
his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth  
thou wouldst reckon as thine:  
truth in its beauty,  
and love in its tenderness,  
these are the off'rings  
to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them  
in trembling and fearfulness,  
he will accept  
for the name that is dear;  
morning of joy give  
for ev'nings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling  
and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord  
in the beauty of holiness;  
bow down before him,  
his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience  
and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him:  
the Lord is his name.

### 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.**

## CONFESSION

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. **We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. 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

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 (x3)  
for evermore.  
(REPEAT)*

*(The children leave for Sunday Club)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 60.1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. 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. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. 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. 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. 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.

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

### GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2.1-12

*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.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be

born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "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." 'Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

## SERMON

### 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.**

Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.

*Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine in your Church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Yours, Lord, is the greatness,  
the power, the glory,  
the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven  
and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give 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.**

Father, you made the world and love  
your creation. You gave your Son Jesus  
Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and

rising have set us free from sin and  
death. And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels 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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as  
we obey his command, send your Holy  
Spirit, that broken bread and wine  
outpoured may be for us the body and  
blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had  
supper with his friends and, taking  
bread, he praised you. He broke the  
bread, gave it to them and said: Take,  
eat; this is my body which is given for  
you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the  
cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave  
it to them and said:

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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus  
did, in him we plead with confidence  
his sacrifice made once for all upon the  
cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life  
and cup of salvation, we proclaim his  
death and resurrection until he comes  
in glory. Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and  
resurrection you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together  
for that day when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all  
the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms and bring  
us with all the saints to feast at your  
table in heaven.  
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in  
Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving  
Father, for ever and ever.

**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

*Please follow the directions of our  
sidesteam. There is no one-way system  
anymore. Please return to your seat  
through the middle aisle.*

*We now take communion in both bread  
and wine again. Please feel under no  
compulsion to receive the wine, though.*

*If you'd like to receive a blessing, please  
keep your hands at your sides as you come  
forward.*

*If you'd like to receive Holy Communion  
seated in the pew, please let a member of  
our sidesteam know.*

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**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

The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds  
in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they  
lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell  
Born is the King of Israel*

They looked up and saw a star,  
shining in the east, beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.

And by the light of that same star,  
three wise men came from country far,  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.

This star drew nigh to north-west,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay  
right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those wise men three,  
full rev'rently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence,  
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heav'nly Lord  
that hath made heav'n  
and earth of naught  
and with His blood mankind has bought

## THE BLESSING

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

*Songs and Hymns reproduced under CCLI licence 61873*

## Help needed after church today!

The Communion Table needs to be turned around to its original position. This requires around six people, as it is quite heavy. Please can you spare a few minutes to assist with this after the 10.30am service today?

## Weekly Diary

**Weds 11th - Little Lions toddler group.**  
St Mark's. Contact eddalindner18@gmail.com

## 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 creation care and all our efforts to look after our planet - individually, as a nation and international community.
- For conflicts and wars in our world: For people of peace to find ways of making peace.
- For those who are unwell.
- For those who have lost loved ones.



## Let's Change the Climate Challenge

One week of challenges. From ditching the car to going veggie, sustainable switches to tackle the climate crisis!

**You are invited to join Tearfund's Climate Challenge from today until next Sunday.**

Find all the details here: [www.tearfund.org/changetheclimate](http://www.tearfund.org/changetheclimate)

[watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen](http://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen)

The CHOSEN is the first-ever multi-season series about the life of Christ. It's the free show that tens of millions of people have watched so far.







**Warm Space at St Mark's: Every Wednesday, 18 Jan - 1 March**

From Wednesday 18 January to Wednesday 1 March we will be offering a warm space at St Mark's from 1pm to 5pm. Our training curate Azita Jabbari is leading this project. She will need two other helpers for each session to make it a welcoming and engaging experience for those who come.

The team will provide a warm welcome, an opportunity to chat and offer a bowl of soup and a hot drink. No previous experience required!

For each Wednesday you can sign up for the first or the second half of the four hours. The first 'shift' will be from 12.45-3pm. The second one from 3.00-5.15pm. **Please sign up if you are able to help:**

<http://tiny.cc/warm-space-help>

**NOT ABLE TO HELP WITH A FULL "SHIFT"?**

**Pop in for a cuppa and a chat on those Wednesdays!**

## FROM REFUGEE TO REVEREND Azita's Story



**Mon 16 Jan 2023, 7.30pm  
St Mary's Church, Denham  
UB9 5BH  
FREE ENTRY**

Find out more and sign up:  
**[www.denhamparish.church/azita](http://www.denhamparish.church/azita)**