

Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community
Scattered Church: Worship at home on 04/01/26 Epiphany

Hymn

Brightest and best of the suns of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and come to our aid;
star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid!

Cold on his cradle the dewdrops 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 off'rings divine,
gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each humble 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 suns of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and come to our aid;
star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant redeemer is laid!

Reginald Heber 1783-1826

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you
and also with you.

God in Christ has revealed his glory.

Come let us worship.

From the rising of the sun to its setting
the Lord's name is greatly to be praised.

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.

O praise the name of the Lord!

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins.

cf Titus 2.11-14

God of mercy,

we acknowledge that we are all sinners.

**We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.**

For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,

forgive us for all that is past,

and help us to live each day

in the light of Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.
We have sinned:
forgive and heal us.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw us to himself and cleanse us from all our sins,
that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The 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.**

Readings

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.

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for
surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and
how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading
of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former
generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his
holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members
of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me
by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to
me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone
see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through
the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and
authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has
carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence
through faith in him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 2:1-12

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

(Dial 01647 407047 to hear it again during the week)

Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith
in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Intercessions

Let us worship the Saviour with joy
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.
The magi came from the east to worship your Son:
Father, grant to Christians everywhere the spirit of adoration ...
Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:
Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds ...
Lord of glory,
hear our prayer.

The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ:
Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world ...
Lord of glory,

hear our prayer.

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:

Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless, and all who suffer ...

Lord of glory,

hear our prayer.

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth:

Father, protect in your love our neighbours, our families and this community of which we are a part ...

Lord of glory,

hear our prayer.

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels, the magi, the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and all the faithful departed.

In your unfailing love for us and for all people,
hear and answer our prayers through your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us

**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.**

The Peace

Christ is our peace.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.

2 Corinthians 5.17

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

Notices

**God our Father,
your Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

May God the Father,
who led the wise men by the shining of a star

to find the Christ, the Light from light,
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

Amen.

May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,
give us a place with the saints in light
in the kingdom of his beloved Son.

Amen.

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
shine in your hearts and fill your lives
with his joy and peace.

Amen.

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

Hymn

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 to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly manger bed,
there to bend the knee before
him, whom heav'n and earth adore:
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy seat.

As their precious gifts they laid,
at thy manger roughly made,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heav'nly king.

Holy Jesu, 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 heav'nly 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

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Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community Services

Telephone Services

(Call 0333 0110 616; code 334 7721)

Wednesdays at 6pm: Evening Prayer

Sundays at 9am: Sunday Worship – a half hour Service of the Word: hymns, readings and prayers

Church Services

Jan 4 Epiphany	10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton 10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
Jan 11 Baptism of Christ	10.30am HC St Thomas Becket Bridford 10.30am HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock 10.30am Family Service St Mary Dunsford
Jan 18 Epiphany 2	10.30am MC HC St James Christow 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
Jan 25 Conversion of St Paul	10.30am MC HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford 4.00pm Forest Church
Feb 1 Candlemas	10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton 10.30am HC St James Christow 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
Feb 8 2 before Lent	10.30am HC St Thomas Becket Bridford 10.30am HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock 10.30am Family Service St Mary Dunsford
Feb 15 Sunday before Lent	10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh 10.30am HC St Mary Dunsford
Feb 18 Ash Wednesday	6.00pm HC St James Christow
Feb 22 Lent 1	10.30am MC HC St Mary Dunsford 4.00pm Forest Church Ashton
Mar 1 Lent 2	10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton 10.30am HC St James Christow 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
Mar 8 Lent 3	10.30am HC St Thomas Becket Bridford 10.30am HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock 10.30am Family Service St Mary Dunsford
Mar 15 Mothering Sunday	10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh 10.30am HC St Mary Dunsford
Mar 22 Passion Sunday	10.30am MC HC St Thomas Becket Bridford

	10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
	4.00pm Forest Church Ashton
Mar 29 Palm Sunday	10.30am MC HC St John the Baptist Ashton
	10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford
Mar 30 Holy Monday	6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer
Mar 31 Holy Tuesday	6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer
Apr 1 Holy Wednesday	6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer
Apr 2 Maundy Thursday	6.00pm HC & Washing of Feet St John the Baptist Ashton
Apr 3 Good Friday	10.30am Passion of St John HC St James Christow
	3.00pm Meditation & Prayers St Thomas Becket Bridford
	6.00pm Good Friday Music St Mary Dunsford

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Use the QR codes below, or go to <https://www.achurchnearyou.com> and search for the parish you want to support...remember to Gift Aid your donation if you can...thank you!



Ashton



Bridford



Christow



Doddiscombeleigh



Dunchideock



Dunsford