

The Temple Church

Sunday 11 January 2026

The First Sunday after the Epiphany Communion Service, 11.15a.m.

Happy New Year! We are delighted you can be with us this morning. If you wear a hearing-aid, please turn its setting to T.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Fantasia à gusto Italiano

Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713-1780)

HYMN

**Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem,
In thy birth at Bethlehem.
Anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme,
And at Cana, wedding-guest,
In thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in power divine,
Changing water into wine.
Anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,
Mirrored in thy holy Word.
May we imitate thee now.
And be pure, as pure art thou;
That we like to thee may be
At thy great Epiphany
And may praise thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.**

Music: Charles Steggall (1826-1905)

Words: Bishop Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people which call upon thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Romans 12. 1-5

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office; so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

PSALM 100

- 1 O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands :
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 **Be ye sure that the Lord he is God :**
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people,
and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with
praise : be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
- 4 **For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting :**
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.
- 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
- 6 **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:**
world without end. Amen.

SECOND READING

St. Luke 2. 41-end

Now Jesus's parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem, after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, and stature, and in favour with God and man.

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 God, may we
Evermore be led to thee.**

**As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee whom heav'n 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 heav'nly king.**

**Holy Jesus, ev'ry 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.**

Music: Conrad Kocher (1786-1872)
Words: William C. Dix (1837-1989)

HYMN

**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.**

Music: Alwyn Surplice (1906-1977)
Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Her BWV 715

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)