

**St Bridget's West Kirby**

# **Follow your Star**



## **All Together Worship for Epiphany**

Our young people from Storytellers and members of St Bridget's school choir share the leading today as we worship God with open hearts, open minds and open hands

## OPENING HYMN

Let us build a house where love can dwell  
And all can safely live  
A place where saints and children tell  
How hearts learn to forgive  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions  
Rock of faith and vault of grace  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions  
All are welcome, all are welcome  
All are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger.  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.

## GATHERING PRAYERS

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you**

Young and young at heart  
Strangers and friends  
**We come to God's house**

In good times and sad times  
In light and in darkness  
**We come to God's house**

Seeking God's help  
Asking for God's blessing  
**We come to God's house.**  
**Everyone is welcome here!**

## SAYING SORRY AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

Forgiving God,  
the Magi from the East worshipped Jesus  
and brought their gifts.  
We too have seen your glory, but turned away.  
We too have gifts but have not offered them to you  
nor used them for you.  
We too have said you are a King,  
but have not served you as we should.

When our trust is less than certain,  
**Lord Jesus, forgive us and help us.**

When our love is less than bright,  
**Lord Jesus, forgive us and help us.**

When our prayer is less than frequent  
**Lord Jesus, forgive us and help us.**

May the God of love and power  
Forgive you and free you from your sins  
Heal and strengthen you by his Spirit  
And raise you to new life in Christ. **Amen**

**BIBLE READINGS:** based on Matthew 2: 10-12 and Isaiah 60:1-6



**LOOKING BACK...** the 4 (yes, 4!) Magi remember

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

As we continue our journey of faith  
we affirm our trust in God who leads us on.

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven  
and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

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

## **A TIME OF PRAYER**

### **THE PEACE**

Christ is our peace.  
In him, the old has passed away;  
everything has become new

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you**

*Sharing the peace expresses our willingness to work for peace in our  
relationships, our homes and communities.  
This is the peace which God desires for the whole world.*

## Hymn

See Him lying on a bed of straw  
A draughty stable with an open door  
Mary cradling the babe she bore  
The Prince of Glory is His name

**Chorus:**      *O now carry me to Bethlehem  
to see the Lord of love again  
Just as poor as was the stable then  
The Prince of Glory when He came*

Star of silver, sweep across the skies  
Show where Jesus in the manger lies  
Shepherds swiftly from your stupor rise  
to see the Saviour of the world. **Chorus:**

Angels, sing again the song you sang  
Sing the glory of God's gracious plan  
Sing that Bethl'em's little baby can  
be the Saviour of us all. **Chorus:**

Mine are riches from your poverty;  
from your innocence eternity:  
mine, forgiveness by your death for me,  
child of sorrow for my joy. **Chorus:**

## THE EUCHARIST

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

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.**

Lord of life  
You created the universe  
Where all living things reflect your glory

And now we give you thanks,  
for by the leading of a star  
you have revealed your only Son to the world,  
that in following him we are led from darkness into his  
marvellous light.  
You made us all, each wonderfully different,  
to join with the angels and sing your praise:

**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.

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 Bridget and 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.

Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven  
hallowed be your name.  
Your Kingdom come;  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil**

**For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours  
Now and for ever,  
Amen.**

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**



## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*Please come up for communion after this invitation.*

*We have an open altar and in good faith all are welcome.*

*If you would prefer a blessing, simply keep your hands lowered.*

## **Hymns during communion** *(Please join in)*

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!  
My heart is glad to say the words:  
You are holy, Lord!

Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!  
Mi corazón te sabe decir:  
santo eres Señor!

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Be still for the presence of the Lord,  
The Holy One is here.  
Come, bow before Him now, with  
reverence and fear.  
In Him no sin is found,  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the  
Lord, the Holy One is here.



Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire, with  
splendour He is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight, our  
radiant King of light!  
Be still for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place,  
He comes to cleanse and heal, to  
minister His grace.  
No work too hard for Him, in faith  
receive from Him;  
be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place.

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I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest.  
Lay down, you weary one,  
lay down your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
so weary, worn and sad.  
I found in him a resting place,  
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am this dark world's light.  
Look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
and all your days be bright."  
I came to Jesus and I found  
in him my star, my sun,  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
'til travelling days are done.



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Christ's food in our souls  
**Our food shared like his**

Christ's life in our hands  
**Our lives shaped by his**

Christ's love in our hearts  
**Our love warmed through his**

Christ's peace on earth  
**Our path following his. Amen**

## BLESSING

God the Creator, open our eyes  
that we may see where you are leading us.  
God the Son,  
be ever close to us on our journey  
God the Spirit,  
protect and guide us as we travel on

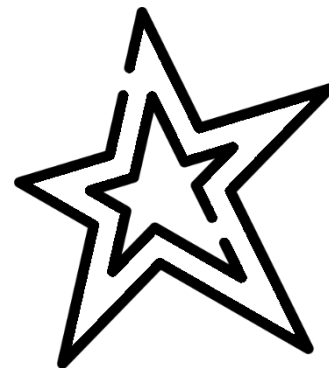
And the blessing of God  
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer  
Be with you, today and always. Amen

## A FINAL WORD FROM THE WISE WOMAN

## SENDING OUT Please hold up your stars

As you travel out into the world,  
May the light of Christ guide your feet  
Let Love be your song and life your celebration.  
Now go out into the world to meet God's people  
And find them no longer strangers, but fellow travellers;

**We will walk in the light of the star**  
**We will walk in the joy of the Creator.**  
**We will walk in the love of the Son.**  
**We will walk in the power of the Spirit.**  
**Amen**



## FINAL HYMN

One more step along the world I go,  
one more step along the world I go;  
from the old things to the new  
keep me travelling along with you.

*And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
keep me travelling along with you.*

Round the corners of the world I turn,  
more and more about the world I learn;  
all the new things that I see  
you'll be looking at along with me.

*And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
keep me travelling along with you.*

As I travel through the bad and good,  
keep me travelling the way I should;  
where I see no way to go  
you'll be telling me the way, I know.

*And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
keep me travelling along with you*

Give me courage when the world is rough,  
keep me loving though the world is tough;  
leap and sing in all I do,  
keep me travelling along with you:

*And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
keep me travelling along with you.*

You are older than the world can be,  
you are younger than the life in me;  
ever old and ever new,  
Keep me travelling along with you:

*And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
keep me travelling along with you.*

## **PLEASE JOIN US AFTER THE SERVICE FOR REFRESHMENTS IN ST BRIDGET'S CENTRE**

Thank you for sharing in the worship today.  
Here are two opportunities to get to know one another better.

### **The Link Cafe**

Every Wednesday we run a community café called **The Link** in St Bridget's Centre from 8.30am to 12 noon. It is open to all.

### **St. Bridget's Weekend**

Hotpot Supper: Saturday 31st January 6.30pm (doors 6.15pm)  
A wholesome hotpot supper evening with joyful entertainments.  
Tickets £10 which includes hotpot and a drink (Veggie, Vegan and GF will be available) from the Parish Office or from Andrew Gibb (07456 394 194). Come along and bring a friend or two!  
*Any profits from the evening will go to Wirral Foodbank*