

The Parish Church of St Faith, Great Crosby

The **Eucharist**
on the Feast
of the **Epiphany**



The Gathering

Hymn

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe.
From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.

The Lord of glory be with you.
The Lord bless you.

There may be words of welcome.

Prayers of Penitence

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.

A period of silent reflection may follow.

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

May your ways be known on the earth, \your saving power
among the nations:
Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

You, Lord, have made known your salvation
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Absolution

The president pronounces God's love and forgiveness:
May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour,
+forgive you your sins,
and make you holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria

**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:

Grateful for the glory revealed today
through God made flesh, let us pray:

O God, who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament 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.

At the end of the Reading:
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: Psalm 72.10-15

Response: May all nations be blest in him.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; •
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.

All kings shall fall down before him; •
all nations shall do him service.

Response: May all nations be blest in him.

For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, •
the needy and those who have no helper.

He shall have pity on the weak and poor; •
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

Response: May all nations be blest in him.

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, •
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Long may he live;
unto him may be given gold from Sheba; •
may prayer be made for him continually
and may they bless him all the day long.

Response: May all nations be blest in him.

The Epistle
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.

At the end of the Reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia

Christ was revealed in the flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
(*Matthew 2.1-12*)

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.

At the end of the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Acclamations at the Presentation of the Gifts

The traditional gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh may be offered at the crib or at the altar, or the figures of the three wise men may be placed in the crib.

At the offering of gold:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe: to you be praise and glory forever. As gold in the furnace is tried and purified seven times in the fire, so purify our hearts and minds that we may be a royal priesthood acceptable in the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God forever.

At the offering of frankincense:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe: to you be praise and glory forever. As our prayer rises before you as incense, so may we be presented before you with penitent hearts and uplifted hands to offer ourselves in your priestly service.

Blessed be God forever.

At the offering of myrrh:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe: to you be praise and glory forever. As you give medicine to heal our sickness and the leaves of the tree for the healing of the nations, so anoint us with your healing power that we may be the first fruits of your new creation.

Blessed be God forever.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

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.

The Prayers

Prayers of intercession and thanksgiving are offered.

The following response may be used:

Leader: Lord in your mercy,

Response: Hear our Prayer

At the end:

Rejoicing in the fellowship of wise men, shepherds, angels, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Joseph, St Faith, and the whole church on earth and in heaven, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love.

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory hymn

Preparation of the Table

**Lord, accept your people's gifts,
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,
but hearts and voices raised
in praise of Jesus Christ,
our light and our salvation. Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ our Lord:
for at this time we celebrate your glory
made present in our midst.

In the coming of the Magi, the King of all the world
was revealed to the nations.

In the waters of baptism, Jesus was revealed as the Christ,
the Saviour sent to redeem us.

In the water made wine, the new creation
was revealed at the wedding feast,
poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven,
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

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

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of
our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Blessed Virgin Mary, St Faith,
the wise men, the shepherds, the angels and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray with
confidence as our Saviour has 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 Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God here amongst us,
Light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.**

OR

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us;
Jesus, Bearer of our Sins, have mercy on us;
Jesus, Redeemer of the World, grant us peace.**

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.**

*At the distribution of communion, the minister says to each
communicant:*

The Body of Christ

The Blood of Christ

*and each responds: **Amen.***

After communion, silence is kept, and on Sundays, the Angelus is rung.

Prayer After Communion

Lord, the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we, who with the wise men have been drawn by your light
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**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.

Notices may be given.

The Dismissal

Hymn

The Acclamation and Dismissal Gospel

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe

To you be praise and glory forever.

From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.

To you be praise and glory forever.

When the time had fully come,
you sent the Sun of Righteousness.
In him the fullness of your glory dwells.
To you be glory and praise forever.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
(Luke 2:28-32)
Glory to you, O Lord.

Simeon took the child Jesus in his arms and praised God,
saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for the revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you O Christ.

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

Amen.

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

Dismissal

We have seen his glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

