



Welcome to St. Michael and All Angels, Amersham on the Hill.

06 January, 2019

Epiphany

Please take this sheet home with you for future reference.

You can follow the service in the booklet given to you as you came in. This week's readings are printed out below. Please use the time before the service to be quiet and to prepare for worship. We invite you to stay for tea, coffee or juice, served in the area to the left of the altar after the 10.00am. service.

8.00am.: Said Eucharist

10.00am.: Sung Eucharist. Incense will be used at this service.

Introit (sung by the choir) *Lord of Life v.1*

Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the people 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 your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Alternative 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.**

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. For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72vv.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

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

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

Ephesians 3.1–12

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 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 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.

For 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.

Peace

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas, star & angels gave the sign.

Music during Communion (sung by the choir)

Warlock: *Bethlehem Down*

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, 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.

Services this week

THE CHURCH AND LADY CHAPEL are usually available for prayer and meditation from 9.30am.

MONDAY and TUESDAY 9.00am. MORNING PRAYER from 'Celebrating Common Prayer' - Lady Chapel

A gentle 20 minute service of prayer, psalms and readings. All welcome. There is a simplified service booklet available in the Lady Chapel, which can be used by anyone, should no priest be present.

TUESDAY 10.30am. SAID EUCHARIST.

NEXT SUNDAY: 8.00am. SAID EUCHARIST with laying on of hands and anointing

10.00am. GATHERED ROUND. Informal all-age worship with Communion

Readings for next Sunday: Isaiah 43.1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-17,21-22

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

HEALING AND WHOLENESS - Lady Chapel – Wednesday, 09 January - 3.00pm. 3.30pm. & 4.15pm.

Sessions last 30 minutes. Please arrive before the start of your preferred time. Appointments are not necessary. If you would like to come but need transport, please call Joy Johns on 729061.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL – Sunday, 13 January, after the 10.00am. service

Special orders should be given to Sue Eames, or left in the Office, to ensure availability on the monthly stall.

MESSY CHURCH–St. Michael's - Saturday, 19 January - 11.30am. – 1.00pm.

Family Fun Saturday! Crafts. Song and Dance. Lunch for everyone. You choose what you want to do. No need to book in advance. Just come along. No charge.

NOT-ONE-FOR-LUNCH - Lady Chapel –Monday, 21 January - 12.45pm. for 1.00pm. (please note amendment to date)

A sandwich lunch for those who live alone and eat alone, and an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones in a very informal atmosphere.

POP IN AND PAINT" - St. Michael's – Friday, 25 January – 10.30am. – 12.15pm.

Join Jenny Thompson and Liz Grammenos from Simpatico. No experience needed - only enthusiasm and interest. All materials supplied, but you are welcome to bring your own paints. If you prefer just to come along for a chat and to watch the proceedings, that's fine too! Further information from Judy Redpath on 725271.

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB- Wheeler Room- Friday, 01 February- 2.00pm. – 4.00pm.

A Quiet Passion: The story of the American Poet Emily Dickenson from her days as a school girl through to later life as a recluse, starring Cynthia Nixon and Jennifer Ehle. *Running Time –125mins.*

All welcome. Refreshments served after the showing.

RECYCLING YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

A reminder that Jenny Baker is again collecting used Christmas and other cards on behalf of Judith Holst of St Thomas Becket Church, Hamburg <http://anglican-church-hamburg.de>. Judith leads the team of hardworking volunteers who select, cut and paste the pictures into thousands of new cards and then sell them on in aid of their church funds. Judith warmly appreciates the past support of members of our congregation at St Michael's and sends her heartfelt thanks to everyone concerned. Regarding Christmas cards it would be appreciated if you could first take time to discard any cards with glitter, bows or other 3D embellishments. Cards with a religious theme and any number of robins and English country and village scenes, as well as good quality humorous cards, are especially welcome. A reminder that the scheme has recently been expanded to include non-Christmas cards – i.e. used birthday and other greeting cards. Kindly leave your cards for recycling in the box under the letters table.

PRAYER CHAIN AND PRAYER WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

A number of people pray at home for St. Michael's and for specific needs or thanksgivings that people may have. If you would like to be part of this network or have a prayer request, please contact Joy Tobler on 818172. If anyone would like prayer with laying on of hands, either for themselves or for someone else, this ministry is available after church services. Please ask a member of the healing team, whose names are on the 'Healing Board', or the clergy.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCH BREAK - Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 08 January - Midday to 2pm.

Lunch Café with coffee, speciality teas and snack lunches, daily newspapers. The church is open for quiet reflection and offers a varied programme of music, worship, meditation and speakers between 1.10pm. and 1.30pm. We are open for anyone who wants a bit of an oasis during the week at lunch time every Tuesday. **This week: Graham Nash at the Organ**