Evensong: Epiphany Lessons and Carols

Thursday, January 9, 2020
5:15 p.m.
Epiphany Lessons and Carols
Thursday After the Epiphany • 9 January 2020 • 5:15 pm

Please turn off audible cell phones and pagers.

Voluntary

“Very slowly,” from Sonatina
Leo Sowerby
The people stand as the procession enters.

Opening Acclamation

Officiant

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Collect

Officiant

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word:
Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Candles are lit during the following hymn.

Hymn 125
Sung by all, standing.

Perry

1 The people who in darkness walked have seen a glorious light;
2 To hail thy rising, Sun of life, the gathering nations come,
3 To us the promised Child is born, to us the Son is given;
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace for evermore adored,
5 His power increasing still shall spread, his reign no end shall know;

1 on them broke forth the heavenly dawn who dwelt in death and night.
2 joyous as when the reapers bear their harvest treasures home.
3 him shall the tribes of earth obey, and all the hosts of heaven.
4 the Wonder ful, the Counselor, the mighty God and Lord.
5 justice shall guard his throne above, and peace a-bound be low.

I. The Magi

Collect

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Matthew 2:1–12

The people sit.

The coming of the Magi

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.

Anthem

Peter Cornelius

Choir Three kings from Persian lands afar to Jordan follow the pointing star and this the quest of the travelers three where the new-born King of the Jews may be. Full royal gifts they bear for the King. Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. The star shines out with steadfast ray. The kings of Bethlehem make their way and there in worship they bend the knee as Mary’s child in her lap they see. Their royal gifts they show to the King. Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem the kings are traveling. Travel with them! The star of mercy, the star of grace shall lead thy heart to its resting place. Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring. Offer thy heart to the infant King. Offer thy heart!

—trans. H.N. Bate
II. The Baptism of Christ

Collect

Let us pray.
Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.
Amen.

Matthew 3:13–17

Jesus is baptized in the river Jordan and his divine Sonship is manifested

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.

And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

Anthem

Sung in Medieval English and Latin. Medieval carol setting by Smerte and Trouluffe

Choir Jesus autem hodie regressus est a Jordane. [But Jesus on this day returned from the Jordan.]

When Jesus Christ baptized was,
the Holy Ghost descended with grace;
the Father’s voice was heard in the place:

Hic est filius meus, ipsum intende. [This is my Son; listen to Him]
Hymn 139

Sung by all, standing.

Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam

1 When Jesus went to Jordan’s stream his Father’s will obeying,
and was baptized by John, there came a voice from heaven saying,
“This is my dear beloved Son upon whom rests my favor.”

2 The Holy Spirit then was shown, a dove on him descending;
the Triune God is thus made known in Christ as love unending.
He taught, he healed, he raised the dead, yet, in his great endeavor
worldly lies nor rest upon our merit.

3 He came by water and by blood to heal our lost condition;
he cleanses, reconciles to God, And till God’s will is fully done he will not bend or save us, his own blood was shed; but death could hold him
but trust in Christ who will baptize with water and the
waiver, for he is Christ the Savior.
never. He rose, and lives for ever.
Spirit that we may life in him.

Text: Martin Luther (1483-1546); para. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev.;
Music: melody from Geystliche Gesangbuchleyn, 1524; harm. Lucas Osiander (1534-1604)
III. The Wedding at Cana

Collect

Let us pray.
O God of steadfast love, at the wedding in Cana your Son Jesus turned water into wine, delighting all who were there. Transform our hearts by your Spirit, that we may use our varied gifts to show forth the light of your love as one body in Christ.
Amen.

John 2:1–11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Anthem

Now the silence, now the peace,
Now the empty hands uplifted;
Now the kneeling, now the plea,
Now the Father’s arms in welcome;
Now the hearing, now the power,
Now the vessel brimmed for pouring;
Now the body, now the blood,
Now the joyful celebration;
Now the wedding, now the songs,
Now the heart forgiven, leaping;
Now the Spirit’s visitation,
Now the Son’s epiphany;
Now the Father’s blessing,
Now, now, now.

Then the silence, then the peace,
Then the rest.
Then the Sabbath peace unbroken.
Then the garden.
Then the throne.
Then the crystal river flowing.
Then the splendor.
Then the life.
Then the new creation singing.
Then the marriage.
Then the love.
Then the feast of joy unending.
Then the knowing.
Then the light.
Then the ultimate adventure.
Then the Spirit’s harvest gathered.
Then the Lamb in majesty.
Then the Father’s Amen.
Then, then, then.

—Jaroslav J. Vajda
Now there lightens upon us a holy daybreak. Alleluia.
Come, all good people, and praise the Lord with gladness.
For the star which we have looked for shines forth a sign to all people.
Alleluia.

– George Craig Stewart

Let us pray.
Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine
with the radiance of Christ’s glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and
obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you
and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever.

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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you,
that your lives may be a light to the world;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.
Hymn 117

Sung by all, standing. An offering is received.

Morning Star

Hymn text: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt.; music: James Proctor Harding (1850-1911)

Voluntary

Komm, Gott Schöpfer, heiliger Geist

Near

Officiant The Very Rev. Dr. Malcolm Clemens Young, Dean
Homilist The Rev. Martha Korienek, Chaplain, Cathedral School for Boys
Readers The Rev. Sandra Dager, Assisting Clergy
The Rev. Canon Jude Harmon, Canon for Innovative Ministries
The Rev. Richard Schaper, Assisting Clergy
Musicians The Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys
Canon Benjamin Bachmann, The Diana Dollar Knowles Canon Director of Music
Christopher Keady, Assistant Director of Music