

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Year B



He taught them as one having authority

The Parish Mass

Sunday 28th January 2024

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

Deuteronomy presents Moses as the ideal prophet. The first reading foretells the coming of a prophet who will speak God's word to the people. The prophet can never speak on his own authority, but speaks on behalf of God.

The Jews believed that God would raise up in the last days a prophet like Moses. The early Christians regarded Jesus as the awaited prophet. His teaching was given with authority and confirmed by miracles, as we see in today's gospel, the sign that God was in him.

The two main components of Jesus' ministry were teaching and healing. Jesus teaches and acts with divine power and authority. Mark illustrates the authority of Jesus in terms of his teaching, exorcism, and healing.

But here the emphasis is on his teaching. Jesus speaks with prophetic authority in a manner very different from the traditionalism of the scribes, something that made a deep impression on the ordinary people.

It is our custom to spend some time in quiet preparation before the liturgy begins, and save further conversation until we meet socially for refreshments afterwards. The following reflection, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

Prayer / Reflection

Ideally words and deeds should always go together.
The weakness of a lot of words arises from the fact
that they are not preceded by, or accompanied by,
or followed by corresponding deeds.
Lord, grant that what we say with our lips,
we may believe with our hearts,
and practice with our lives.

Settings

The Salisbury Service (Gloria only)

Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

Mass of the Quiet Hour

George Oldroyd (1887-1956)



Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

§ *At the sound of the bell, **all stand***

Hymn

§ *The procession enters*

All

**Son of God, eternal Saviour,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Son of Man, whose birth amongst us
Hallows all our human race,
Thou, our head, who, throned in glory,
For thine own dost ever plead,
Fill us with thy love and pity;
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.**

**As thou, Lord, hast lived for others,
So may we for others live;
Freely have thy gifts been granted,
Freely may thy servants give.
Thine the gold and thine the silver,
Thine the wealth of land and sea,
We but stewards of thy bounty,
Held in solemn trust for thee.**

**Come, O Christ, and reign above us,
King of love, and Prince of Peace,
Hush the storm of strife and passion,
Bid its cruel discords cease;
By thy patient years of toiling,
By thy silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
Shame our selfish greed of gain.**

**Son of God, eternal Saviour,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Son of Man, whose birth amongst us
Hallows all our human race,
Thou who prayedst, thou who willest
That thy people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition:
Here on earth thy will be done.**

Words Somerset Corry Lowry (1855-1932)

*Music Everton
Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)*

All † In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Greeting

All The Lord of glory be with you
and also with you.

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

Jesus' teaching guides us in the right path.
His healing gives us courage and hope in our sufferings.
Let us turn to the Lord now for enlightenment and healing.

Silence for reflection

Confession

All **God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we have thought
and said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past,
and help us to live each day
in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyries

Lord Jesus, you guide the humble in the right path.
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

You heal the broken-hearted.
Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

You seek out and save the lost.
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

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 our Lord.
All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **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

Let us pray.

God our creator,
who in the beginning
commanded the light to shine out of darkness:
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief,
shine into the hearts of all your people,
and reveal the knowledge of your glory
in the face of 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.

All

Amen.

§ *Sit*

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the book Deuteronomy.

Moses said to all Israel: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my

name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.’

Deuteronomy 18.15-20

All This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Response

Rosalie Bonighton



Choir I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the faithful and in the congregation.
The works of the Lord are great,
sought out by all who delight in them. **Response**

His work is full of majesty and honour
and his righteousness endures for ever.
He appointed a memorial for his marvellous deeds;
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion. **Response**

He gave food to those who feared him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
He showed his people the power of his works
in giving them the heritage of the nations. **Response**

The works of his hands are truth and justice;
all his commandments are sure.
They stand fast for ever and ever;
they are done in truth and equity. **Response**

He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever;
holy and awesome is his name.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
a good understanding have those who live by it;
his praise endures for ever. **Response**

Psalm 111

Holy Gospel

§ Stand

Acclamation

1. Choir only
2. Choir and Congregation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

All **Alleluia.**

The Lord of glory be with you
and also with you.

All

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Mark 1.21-28

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All



Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

§ Sit

The Nicene Creed

§ Stand

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All **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.**

*All may
bow* ***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.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Priest Let us with confidence bring our needs before the Lord,
knowing that he will listen to our cries
as he listened to the cry of the sick man in the synagogue.

§ *Kneel*

The response to each petition

Intercessor Lord of all power and might,
hear our prayer.

After the final petition

Priest Almighty and ever-living God,
strengthen our faith, hope, and love.
May we do with loving hearts what you ask of us,
and come to share in the life you promise.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

Christ is our peace.
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.
The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

The Offertory

The bread and wine are presented, and the altar is prepared

Hymn

A monetary collection is taken and laid at the foot of the altar

All

**Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old
Was strong to heal and save;
It triumphed o'er disease and death,
O'er darkness and the grave;
To thee they went, the blind, the dumb,
The palsied and the lame,
The leper with his tainted life,
The sick with fevered frame.**

**And lo! Thy touch brought life and health,
Gave speech, and strength, and sight;
And youth renewed and frenzy calmed
Owned thee the Lord of light;
And now, O Lord, be near to bless,
Almighty as of yore,
In crowded street, by restless couch,
As by Gennesareth's shore.**

**Be thou our great deliverer still,
Thou Lord of life and death;
Restore and quicken, soothe and bless,
With thine almighty breath;
To hands that work, and eyes that see,
Give wisdom's heavenly lore,
That whole and sick, and weak and strong,
May praise thee evermore.**

Words Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)

Music St Matthew
William Croft (1678-1727)

Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, we bring these offerings of our service to your altar.
May you be pleased to receive them,
and transform them into the sacrament of our redemption.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God,
through Jesus Christ your only Son 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:

Choir Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Christ is the bread of life:

All

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo/mood is marked *mf*. The lyrics 'When we eat this bread and drink this cup,' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody, starting with a *cresc.* marking and ending with a *f* marking. The lyrics 'we pro-claim your death, Lord Je - sus, un - til you come in glo - ry.' are written below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

mf

When we eat this bread and drink this cup,

cresc.

f

we pro-claim your death, Lord Je - sus, un - til you come in glo - ry.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
 we remember his offering of himself
 made once for all upon the cross;
 we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
 we look for the coming of your kingdom,
 and with this bread and this cup
 we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
 this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
 and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
 in the presence of your divine majesty,
 renew us by your Spirit,
 inspire us with your love
 and unite us in the body of your Son,
 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
 we worship you, Father almighty,
 in songs of everlasting praise:

All



The Blessed Sacrament is elevated, and bells are rung

§ *Kneel*

The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,
 let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

All

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

All The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ:
**we being many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**
All Into one body we were all baptized,
and one Spirit was given us all to drink.

Agnus Dei

Choir O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

 O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

 O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

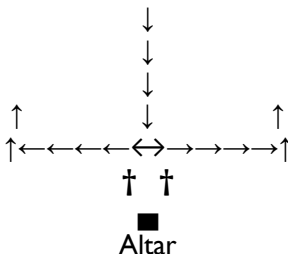
Invitation to Communion

All Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Giving of Communion

Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and save me for your mercy's sake.
Let me not be confounded for I have called upon you.

Holy Communion, alternatively God's blessing, is administered standing as indicated below. If you wish to receive God's blessing please bring this booklet with you. Thank you.



Spiritual Communion – *for those at home*

Act of Reception

All In union, blessed Jesus,
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.

I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.

Motet

Choir

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby, now reclining,
Sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Angels are watching, stars are shining
Over the place where he is lying.
Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping,
Sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Soon will come sorrow with the morning,
Soon will come bitter grief and weeping:
Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby, now a-doing,
Sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,
Then in the grave at last reposing:
Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby! is the babe a-waking?
Sing lullaby!
Hush, do not stir the Infant King.
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,
Conquering Death, its bondage breaking:
Sing lullaby!

Text The Infant King
Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Music Basque Noël
arranged by David Wilcocks (1919-2015)

Hymn

All

**King of Glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
And that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
Thou hast heard me;
Thou didst note my working breast,
Thou hast spared me.**

**Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing thee,
And the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
Thou didst clear me;
And alone, when they replied,
Thou didst hear me.**

**Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
In my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
To enrol thee:
E'en eternity's too short
To extol thee.**

Words George Herbert (1593-1633)

*Music Gwalchmai
John David Jones (1827-1870)*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ Stand

Generous Lord,
in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of our love:
the mystery of your love:
help us so to live out our days
that we may be signs of your wonders in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All

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.**

Hymn

All

**Firmly I believe and truly
God is three, and God is one;
And I next acknowledge duly
Manhood taken by the Son.**

**And I trust and hope most fully
In that manhood crucified;
And each thought and deed unruly
Do to death, as he has died.**

**Simply to his grace and wholly
Light and life and strength belong,
And I love supremely, solely,
Him the holy, him the strong.**

**And I hold in veneration,
For the love of him alone,
Holy Church as his creation,
And her teachings, as his own.**

**Adoration ay be given,
With and through the angelic host,
To the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Words St John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Music Shipston
Warwickshire ballad
arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

All The Lord of glory be with you.
and also with you.

Solemn Blessing

All May you be witnesses for the Gospel by the love and joy you radiate.
Amen.

All May you keep firm in the hope we profess,
because the one who made the promise is faithful.
Amen.

All May God, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,
strengthen and support you with his grace.
Amen.

All And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

All Go out into the world in peace,
to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love
and to reflect God's glory. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Epilogue on "Dix"

William Henry Harris (1883-1973)

The procession departs

Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary

Refreshments are now being served in the Parish Centre. You are most welcome to join us and take the opportunity to meet your fellow worshippers.

Collection – responding to God’s generosity

If you have not already done so, we invite you to make a monetary offering towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew’s Church. You may do so using any of the following methods:

During the collection at the Offertory.

Cash, cheques, stewardship envelopes - using the receptacle provided at the back of church. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may also benefit from the Gift Aid (an extra 25p for every pound given) associated with your giving.

Contactless giving - using the terminal provided. Just press the button for the amount you wish to give - £5, £10, or £20, and then hold your bank card over the reader.

Giving on your smart phone - using the QR code printed below. It gives you the option of any amount, Gift Aid, and making a regular payment.

Giving online - click the donate button on the parish website or Facebook page and follow the instructions.

Your generosity is gratefully received. Thank you.



*Our thanks are due to Anonymous Donor 10
who has generously financed
the production of this week’s service booklet.*

This evening at 5.30 pm

Congregational Evensong

**Please take this booklet home
as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week,
and then re-cycle it.**

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