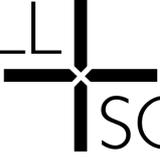


CHRISTMAS & EPIPHANY

BENWELL  TEAM PARISH
SCOTSWOOD

WELCOME

Welcome! We are very happy to have you join us as we meet to worship God. If you need assistance with anything, please do not hesitate to ask. Do not worry if you are unfamiliar with the church; feel free to watch, listen, and join in as you feel comfortable.

Children are very welcome here and activities for them are often available.

If you would like communion brought to you or need gluten free bread, please just let us know.

If there is a collection then we are always grateful for donations, but you are welcome here without any pressure or expectation. To give digitally or find out more information have a look at our website at benwellscotswood.com.

CHRISTMAS & EPIPHANY

The Christmas season lasts twelve days and it is the time when we celebrate the incarnation - God entering the world as a human, born of Mary to dwell among us as Jesus Christ.

Epiphany season begins on 6th January and lasts until 2nd February. It is a time when we especially celebrate the glory of God becoming manifest in the world. It begins with recalling the visit of the Magi (or Wise Men) from afar to the Holy family, and thus how the Messiah was first revealed to the wider world.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Newcastle

ENTRANCE HYMN

GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

WELCOME

CONFESSION

Christmas season:

Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Epiphany Season:

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.
Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

**Almighty God,
our heavenly Father,
we are truly sorry and repent
of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son
Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve
you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

or with introductory sentences:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

We say or sing:

**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.****

COLLECT

The prayer of the day, we respond:

Amen.

READINGS

One or more scripture readings ending with:

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN *or* PSALM

GOSPEL

Please remain standing if you are able.

This or another acclamation:

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia!

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

We stand and affirm our faith:

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Kneel or sit.

These or other responses:

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

or Lord hear us

Lord graciously hear us.

The prayers may end:

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

THE PEACE

Stand

Christmas season:

Unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called
the Prince of Peace.

Epiphany season:

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

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We greet each other and say 'peace be with you'.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Bread and wine are brought forward, the altar is prepared, and a collection may be taken.

These prayers may be used:

Christmas season:

Word made flesh, life of
the world,
in your incarnation you
embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we
share in your riches.
Amen.

Epiphany season:

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

Please remain standing if you are able.

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.

Christmas season:

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit, and
lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.
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:

Epiphany season:

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:

We say or sing the Sanctus:

**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.**

Sit or kneel.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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 [*N 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.

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.**

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We say or sing the Agnus Dei:

**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.**

or **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 peace.**

These or other words may be used:

Jesus is 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.**

*All are invited to come forward to receive
communion or a blessing.*

Hymns may be sung.

Silence may be kept.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The president says the post-communion prayer.

We then say:

**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.

FINAL HYMN

BLESSING

One of these or another blessing:

Christmas season:

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the
shepherds,
the perseverance of the
wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and
Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-
child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God
almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain
with you always. **Amen**

Epiphany season:

Christ the Son of God
perfect in you the image
of his glory
and gladden your hearts
with the good news of his
kingdom
and the blessing of God
almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain
with you always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ, amen.

Please join us for refreshments after the service.

ADDITIONAL TEXTS
for CHRISTMAS NIGHT *or* MORNING

Greeting:

Welcome all wonders in one sight!
Eternity shut in a span.
Summer in winter, day in night,
heaven in earth and God in man.
Great little one whose all-embracing birth
brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

Lighting of the wreath:

Lord Jesus, Light of light,
you have come among us.
Help us who live by your light
to shine as lights in your world.
Glory to God in the highest. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation:

Today Christ is born:
Alleluia!
Today the Saviour has come:
Alleluia!
Today the angels sing on earth:
Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest.

Introduction to the peace (Christmas night only):

This holy night the angels sang,
'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.'