



Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Andrew

It is good that we are here to offer our prayer, praise and thanksgiving. You are very welcome to join us as part of this worshipping community. Please stay after the service for refreshments in the John Skinner Centre; and introduce yourself to the clergy or one of the stewards.

SUNG EUCHARIST

Sunday, 22 December 2019, 10.45 am

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Celebrant and Preacher: Very Rev'd Dr Isaac Poobalan, Provost

Director of Music and organist: Professor Andrew Morrisson
The Cathedral Choir

Mass Setting

Adrian Batten, *Short Communion Service*

Organ voluntary

J.S. Bach, *Meine Seele erhebt den Herren* BWV 648

Processional Hymn 19 (t.ii NEH)

(Words: St Ambrose, one of the great Latin Church Fathers who introduced metrical and antiphonal singing into the Western church, *Veni, Redemptor gentium*, Tr from the Latin by John Mason Neale. Music: German traditional melody, adapted for *Christliches Gesangbüchlein*, 1568, adapted by Michael Praetorius, *Puer Nobis Nascitur*)

- 1 Come thou Redeemer of the earth
And manifest thy virgin birth:
Let every age adoring fall;
Such birth befits the God of all.
- 2 Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit, thou art still
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,
The promised fruit to man displayed.
- 3 The virgin womb that burden gained
With virgin honour all unstained;
The banners there of virtue glow;
God in his temple dwells below.
- 4 O equal to the Father thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.
- 5 Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene,
And twilight never intervene.
- 6 O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost for evermore.

Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Epistle: Romans 1:1-7 (NRSV)

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gradual Hymn 10 (NEH)

(Words: Fred Pratt Green, a 20th century English Methodist Minister. Music: From *Piae Cantiones*, 1582, *Personent Hodie*)

1 LONG ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew.
Come to make all things new;
Bear his people's burden,
Freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?

2 God in time, God in man,
This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
Born himself of woman,
God divinely human. [Refrain]

3 Mary, hail! Though afraid,
She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid;
Till the time expected
Nurtured and protected. [Refrain]

4 Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes!
Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV)

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,’ which means, ‘God is with us.’

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Offertory Hymn 186 (NEH)

(Words: Thomas Dudley-Smith, Church of England Bishop and hymnwriter; the hymn is based on Luke 1:46-55. Music: Walter Greatorex, 20th century English musician and teacher, *Woodlands*)

- 1 Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

- 2 Tell out my soul, the greatness of his name:
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

- 3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word:
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and for evermore.

Communion motet:

Gabriel's Message (traditional Basque carol, arranged by Edgar Pettman)

Post-Communion Hymn 8 (t.388 i NEH)

(Words: Georg Weissel, a 17th century German academic and pastor, *Macht hoch die Tür*,
Tr Catherine Winckworth and the editors of the New English Hymnal. Music: Thomas
Williams, from *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789, *Truro*)

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Saviour of the world is here!

2 O blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ as ruler is confessed;
O happy hearts and happy homes
To whom the king in triumph comes.

3 Come then, O Saviour, and abide,
Our hearts to thee be open wide;
May all thy inward presence feel,
To all thy grace and love reveal.

Organ Voluntary:

J.S. Bach, *Fugue on the Magnificat* BWV 733

LET US PRAY

We thank God for the life and witness of this Cathedral, and we pray for guidance and inspiration as we plan for its regeneration so that it may serve the people of God in this city for generations to come.

In the Cathedral community we pray for Helena Thomas, Yvonne Craik, Moira Paterson, Jean Souter, Ravi Garg and Gordon Smith.

We praise God for those who mark a blessing this week with a birthday or an anniversary.

We remember those whom we love but see no longer, and those whose year's mind occurs this week.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement; for His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome; for His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch; for the Rev'd Dr Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches; for Bishop Ivan M Abrahams, General Secretary World Methodist Council; and for the Rev'd Chris Ferguson, General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for life and hope in our communities; and for those for whom Christmas is a difficult time.

In the Porvoo Prayer Diary we pray for the Diocese of Oslo in the Church of Norway, and for Bishop Kari Veiteberg; for the Diocese of Durham in the Church of England, and for Bishop Paul Butler; and for the Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness in the Scottish Episcopal Church, and for Bishop Mark Strange, our Primus.

EVENTS AND SERVICES

- 22 December (today) 6.30 pm, Service of **Nine Lessons and Carols**.
- 24 December **Midnight Mass** and First Communion of Christmas, 11.30 pm
- 25 December **Family Eucharist** for Christmas Day, 10 am.
- 28 December **Cathedral at Noon**, 12 pm: Cassandra Humble, French music for soprano voice.
- 28 December **Provost's Open House**, 3-5 pm, 27 Raeden Avenue: come and have some mulled wine and festive nibbles.
- 29 December **Holy Communion** at 8 am
Sung Eucharist for the First Sunday after Christmas, at 10.45 am
- 31 December **Cross-over Eucharist** at 10.45 pm, with Cathedral Gospel Band