



Christmas Eve 2020 11.30pm
St Matthew-in-the-City

Nau mai, haere mai;
a warm welcome to St Matthew-in-the-City,
a spirited place where people stand, connect,
and seek common ground.

We are glad you have come
to celebrate Christmas
with this community.

We hope that you will find
the Christmas spirit of peace and love
in tonight's celebrations.

Presider: Rev Helen Jacobi, Vicar

Preacher: Rev Cate Thorn

Organist: Paul Chan

St Matthew's Voices

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

PRELUDE on "Irby" by David Willcocks

SOLO:

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

CHOIR:

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor, and meek, and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.

**And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honour and obey,
love and watch the loving mother
in whose gentle arms he lay.
Christian children all should be
mild, obedient, good as he.**

For he is our childhood's pattern;
day by day like us he grew;
he was little, weak and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew;
and he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him: but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
where like stars his children crowned,
all in white shall wait around.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Tune: Irby, H. J. Gauntlett (1803-1876), harm. by A. H. Mann; Carols for Choirs I 3

WELCOME

Son of God, light that shines in the dark,
Child of joy and peace,
help us to come to you
and be born anew this holy night.

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,
the love at our beginning and without end,
in our midst and with us.

God is with us, here we find new life.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Liturgist:

Tonight we light the Christ Candle
representing God's love for us, and for the world
that our hunger for hope, peace, joy and love,
can be quenched as we, disciples of Jesus,
provide hope, peace, joy and love
to both stranger and friend.

The candle represents a future filled with hope,
peace, joy and love.

Please be seated.

GLORIA

Gloria (from Missa Brevis in D)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

SENTENCE AND PRAYER FOR THE DAY

In the beginning there was the Word ...
and the Word was God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us ...
full of grace and truth.

John 1:1, 14

God of grace and truth,
whose word brings light to birth
in the heart of a darkening world,
which fears a love it cannot name:
may flesh be blessed and born anew
by a truth which leaves the heavens
and walks the waiting earth;
through Jesus Christ, the Word incarnate.
Amen.¹

PSALM 96

Setting by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 52:7-10

May we hear angel voices.
May we see the star.

¹ *Steven Shakespeare*

GRADUAL HYMN

Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Mārie te pō, tapu te pō
Ka kite nga hepara
Te korōria o te rangi
Me nga ahera Harerula
Kua whanau te tamaiti
E Ihu te Karaiti

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
radiant beams from Thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

*Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848), tr. J. F. Young (1820-1885)
Tune: Silent Night, melody by F. X. Gruber (1787-1863). TIS 311*

We turn to face the Gospel reader.

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to John,
chapter one, beginning at verse one.



Shine on our path -ways.

John 1:1-14

This is the Gospel of Christ.



May we hear wis - dom.

THE SERMON

THE ANTHEM

Sussex Carol

Traditional, arranged by David Willcocks

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us be still and mindful of the world,
the Church, this nation,
our communities, and ourselves.

THE PEACE

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace
who breaks down the walls that divide.

The peace of God be always with you
and also with you.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

There will be no collection during this hymn.

If you wish to make a donation, please use the collection box at the rear of the church at the conclusion of the service.

For electronic giving option:

Text **stmatthew** to **818** to make a fast one off or ongoing donation by credit card to St Matthew-in-the-City.

Or you can download the PUSHPAY app from Apple Store or Google Playstore and search for St Matthew-in-the-City.

HYMN

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
it is the night of our dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'til he appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

*Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine.*

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
here come the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
in all our trials born to be our friend.

Fall on your knees!...

Truly he taught us to love one another;
his law is love and his gospel is peace.
Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother;
and in his name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
let all within us praise his holy name.

Fall on your knees!...

Words: Placide Cappeau (1808-1877)

Tune: O Holy Night, Adolphe Charles Adam (1803-1856)

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Glory be to God who flows through all creation,
blessing us with gifts to share.

Blessed be God forever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Spirit is here.

God's hope is in us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the God of Peace.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

All life is holy, sacred; worthy of respect and dignity.

Let us give thanks for the power of the heart
to sense the holy in the midst of the simple.

Power and possibility of Love,
we praise you and give you thanks,
for on this night Jesus was born among us,
a baby needy and naked,
born into poverty and oppression,
in order to proclaim the gift
of your transforming grace and justice.

Therefore with all the faithful, living and dead,
with Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, Magi, and angels,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
forever praising you and singing:

Sanctus (from Missa Brevis in D)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

On the night before he died Jesus took bread;
when he had given you thanks, he broke it,
gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you,
for this is my blood which brings new life;
do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

With this bread and wine we answer the call of God.

**We offer bread to eat
with eyes and hands held open.
We pass this cup to share.
We take, break, bless
and give kindling hope every where.**

Empower our celebration, Spirit of promise,
feed us with your life, fire us with your love,
confront us with your justice,
and make us one with all who share your gifts of love.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kua akona nei tātou e to tātou Ariki, ka waiata tātou:

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi,
kia tapu tōu Ingoa.

Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.

Kia meatia tāu e pai ai ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.

Hōmai ki a mātou āiane
he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.

Murua ō mātou hara,
me mātou hoki e muru nei,
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.

Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;
engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:

Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha, me te korōria,
Āke, ake, ake. Āmine.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the life of Christ.

We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.

“Hodie Christus natus est” (from “Ceremony of Carols”)

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

TE POWHIRI THE INVITATION

Haere mai e te kahui a te Atua,
Tangohia enei kai rangatira a te Karaiti.

Come bringing your varied faiths and backgrounds,
for all are welcome to share in this act of communion.

*There are three places to receive Communion -
two in front of the Altar Table, and at the font at the back of the church.
Gluten free wafers are available at the Altar Table station.*

Te Taro o te Ora. The Bread of Life.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Agnus Dei (from Missa Brevis in D)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Ding dong merrily on high

Arranged by Charles Wood (1866-1926)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Welcome, welcome,
Jesus Christ our infant Saviour,
baby who makes every birth holy.

May we, who like the shepherds
have witnessed in the stable a new kind of love
return to our work with joy.

May we, for whom the heavens have opened
to proclaim that God is with us,
we who have fed on living bread
and drunk the wine of heaven,
go out to be instruments of your peace,
day by day. Amen.

THE BLESSING

FINAL HYMN

Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the new-born King!
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th’angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”

Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the new-born King!”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin’s womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th’incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the new-born King!”

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the new-born King!”

Deacon from the rear of the church:

Go now, so the world may know
the wonder and mystery of grace.

Amen. We go in the power of Love.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Festive Encore on "We wish you a Merry Christmas"

Arranged by Dan Miller

*You are invited to keep this copy of the liturgy and take it home with you
to share with another member of your family, or with a friend.*

Music for Liturgical responses is by Michael CW Bell

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If you want to know more about St Matthew's
take a look at our website www.stmatthews.nz,
like us on Facebook,
follow our vicar on Twitter @RevHelenJacobi and @StMatthewsNZ

Feel free to take photos during our services
and share them on Facebook and Twitter.
No video recording please.

Toilets are located down the stairs on the left hand side of the church.
An accessible toilet is located on the right hand side past the kitchen.

Christmas Day Service:

10am Christmas Sung Eucharist

The Parish Office is now closed;
reopening Monday 11 January 2021.

Sunday services on 27 December, 3, 10 January at 10am only.

Sunday 8am services resume on January 17, 2021.

Wednesday 12.20pm services resume on February 3, 2021.

Vicar: Rev Helen Jacobi helen@stmatthews.org.nz
Priest for Community Engagement: Rev Cate Thorn cate@stmatthews.org.nz
Parish Office phone: (09) 379 0625

The service is being live streamed -
the camera only shows the altar area, not the congregation.

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St Matthew in the City
132 Hobson Street Auckland City Auckland

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against
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MANATŪ HAUORA