



St
Matthew
in-the-City

SUNDAY
DECEMBER

6



ADVENT 2

2020

INTROIT

O Radix Jesse;

O Clavis Davis

Great O Antiphons

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All praise to you, Christ Jesus,
our brother, priest, and God.

You are our stories' ending,
our first believing word.

Though all our life is shaken,
we stand within your grace;
once for all time, you brought us
into the holy place.

You heard the voice from heaven,

God's word of gracious love;

you saw the Holy Spirit
descending as a dove,

and, through the Jordan River,
where John preached and baptised,
you entered into Israel

as God's long-promised Christ.

Through the baptismal waters
God brings the church to birth,
makes us a holy people,
and teaches us our worth.

There is no turning back, now
that we are born anew;
stay with us, Jesus, guide us,
and give us work to do.

Give us the will to listen to all God has to say,
to grow into the blessing of our baptismal day.
Send us to tell this nation **God's reign is close to hand,**
and justice, joy, compassion will flourish in our land.

Words: Elizabeth Joyce Smith. Tune: Aurelia, S. S. Wesley (1810-1876). TIS 457

WELCOME

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.

Liturgist:

Watch, wait, hope!

Even now, the tender leaves of peace
may be growing on the trees of life.

Watch, wait, hope!

For the wonder of new love
may be moving towards its birthing.

The Christ will come.

The Word of God will not fail us.

Keep awake!

For the shadows of our doubt will be lifted
and singing sounds in the distance.

The Christ will come.

The Word of God will not fail us.¹

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Our Second Advent candle speaks to our hunger for peace,
it speaks to our world's hunger for peace.

The candle represents the future
that is full of peaceful possibilities
of a new way of living as we dream of peace.

We are hungry for peace.

Please be seated.

¹ Dorothy McRae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days", adapted

THE MAGNIFICAT (The Song of Mary, Luke 1:46-55)

Magnificat J.W.V. 104, No.7 Josef Gabriel Rheinberger (1839-1901)

RECONCILIATION

Liturgist:

When peace is hard to find open our eyes to look again, O God.
Open our minds to search again for your presence and your purpose.

Loving Spirit, search our hearts and meet us in this place.

Silence

Within our darkest night, you kin-dle the fire that never dies a -
way, never dies a - way. Within our darkest night, you kin-dle the
fire that nev-er dies a - way, nev-er dies a - way.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The piece ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

We know that we are the ones who are divided
and we are the ones who must come back together.
May we learn love, compassion, and honour
that we may heal the earth, each other, and ourselves.

Priest:

May we know the grace of forgiveness
and offer that grace to others.

May the fires of hope be rekindled among us,
giving light and warmth to the world.

Amen.

SENTENCE AND PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

Psalm 85:10-11

Come Holy Spirit, to all baptised in your name:
give us passion, give us fire,
help us transform the world to what you created it to be;
following the voice of John the Baptist
crying in the wilderness, leading us to you. Amen. ³

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Let us wait,
and hope in God.

GRADUAL HYMN

Christ, your sun is rising,
and our hearts surprising,
source of all befriending,
spirit never-ending.

We may find you living,
present in all giving,
human face of loving,
faithful in your moving.

³ NZPB p 618 adapted

In all pain and pleasure
you discern our measure,
welcoming the stranger,
facing every danger.

Take away all sorrow,
bless a new tomorrow,
guide our liberation,
join in celebration.

Words: Jenny Blood. Tune: Ravenshaw, melody by W. H. Monk (1823-1889). TIS 427

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Mark,
chapter one, beginning at verse one.



Shine on our path -ways.

Mark 1:1-8

This is the Gospel of Christ.



May we hear wis - dom.

THE SERMON

SILENCE

ANTHEM

Zion hört die Wächter singen;

Gloria sei dir gesungen (from Church Cantata BWV 140)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

We move to the font.

BAPTISM

GOD'S CALL

The priest says:

E te whānau a te Karaiti,
God is love, God gives us life.
We love because God first loves us.
In baptism God declares that love;
in Christ God calls us to respond.

THE PRESENTATION FOR BAPTISM

The candidate for baptism is presented by a sponsor:

I present Molly Ellen Nelson to be baptised
and made a member of the Body of Christ, the Church.

The priest says:

From the beginning the Church has received believers by baptism.
On the day when the apostles
first preached the Gospel of Christ's resurrection,
Peter urged his hearers
'Repent and be baptised, every one of you,
in the name of Jesus the Christ
for the forgiveness of your sins,
and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
For the promise is to you and to your children,
and to all who are far away, everyone whom
the Lord our God may call.'

Molly, how do you respond to this promise?

Candidate: I hear God's call and come for baptism.

The priest says to the candidate:

Do you turn away from what could separate you from God
and do you desire to know the love of God in your life?

The candidate replies:

I do.

The priest says:

Do you trust in Christ's victory
which brings forgiveness, freedom and life?

The candidate replies:

In faith I turn to Christ
my way, my truth, my life.

People:

May God keep you in the way you have chosen.

THE BAPTISM

The priest stands by the water for baptism, and says:

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

People:

whose promise endures for ever.

The priest prays:

We thank you God for your love in all creation,
especially for your gift of water
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

We thank you for your covenant with your people Israel;
through the Red Sea waters
you led them to freedom in the promised land.

In the waters of the Jordan
your Son was baptised by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

Through the deep waters of death Jesus fulfilled his baptism.
He died to set us free
and was raised to be exalted Lord of all.

It is Christ who baptises with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

We thank you that through the waters of baptism
you cleanse us, renew us by your Spirit and raise us to new life.
In the new covenant we are made members of your Church
and share in your eternal kingdom.
Through your Holy Spirit, fulfil once more your promises
in this water of rebirth,
set apart in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might,
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen!**

*The priest baptises the candidate for baptism,
by pouring water on the candidate, saying:*

Molly Ellen, I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

**God receives you by baptism into the Church.
Child of God, blessed in the Spirit,
welcome to the family of Christ.**

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the baptised with oil, saying:

We sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ.

A lighted candle is given by the sponsor, who says:

Walk in the faith of Christ crucified and risen.
Shine with the light of Christ.

THE AFFIRMATION

The congregation, the newly baptised, respond in these affirmations.

Praise to God who has given us life.

Blessed be God for the gift of love.

Praise to God who forgives our sin.

Blessed be God who sets us free.

Praise to God who kindles our faith.

Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.

The priest says to all those present who are baptised Christians:
Let us, the baptised, affirm that we commit our lives to Christ.

All respond:

Blessed be God, blessed be Jesus!

The priest then says to the newly baptised:
What is your faith?

The newly baptised responds:

I believe and trust in God the Creator,
maker and sustainer of all things;
and in God the Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ;
and in God the Holy Spirit, giver of life and truth.
This is my faith.

The newly baptised is welcomed with a karakia.

Priest:

As a community of faith we rejoice at this baptism
and will share with Molly what we ourselves have received:
a delight in prayer, a love for the word of God,
a desire to follow the way of Christ, and food for the journey.
Molly, you are now a pilgrim with us.
May you grow in the Holy Spirit,
fulfil your ministry and follow Christ you whole life long.

**God of love,
we thank you for our calling to be disciples of Christ.
Help us to nurture Molly in the faith we share.
May she grow to love, worship and serve you,
and bring life to the world. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

We commit ourselves to live in peace as we work for it
to kindle peace within, between and beyond us.

For the peace of Jesus is an active peace
building, bridging and always dreaming.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN ⁴

Will you offer me compassion?
Will you walk the road with me?
Brother, sister, will you feed me
ripe fruit from the Mercy Tree?

Will you utter words of comfort?
Will you bless me with your peace?
Mercy is the gift I long for:
mercy from the Mercy Tree.

I do not deserve your loving,
brother, sister, yet I plead –
I am human, I have need of
mercy from the Mercy Tree.

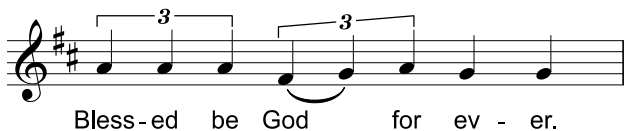
If you offer me your friendship
if you make your peace with me,
mercy will most surely touch you:
mercy from the Mercy Tree.

Words: John Weir

Tune: Misericordia, Douglas Mews. AA 160

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

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



⁴ *During this hymn there is a collection to support St Matthew's; 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.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Cantor

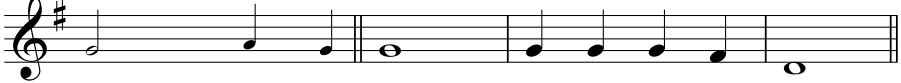
All



Hope is a - mong us. We are God's__ light.

Cantor

All



Shine then with free - dom into all the cor - ners of the world.

Cantor

All



Lest fear overcome the bril - liance of life and light and lib - er - ty.

O God, Mystery of summer skies,
we thank you in the lengthening days
for opening our eyes to see your sunlit beauty;
for parting the wide heavens to send your gentle light;
for offering your word to take our mortal flesh.

Jesus was promised by those
who shared your dream of peace;
John the Baptist cleared the way
with words of desert fire;
Mary and Joseph accepted his coming
with tenderness and faith;
we know that he draws near again
to show us who we really are with honesty and love.

Now we take up the song of hope
that we might awaken to his coming among us
and the world be touched by the footfall of his glory:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly is the Love called God, the sparks of hope.

Blaze, jus-tice blaze. Blest is Je - sus

who lit up our world, who lit up our world. Ho-san - na,

ho- san - na, ho - san - na to the low-est and the least.

On the night that he was betrayed,
 your Son Christ Jesus,
 gathered with his faltering friends
 for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table,
 he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:

‘This is my body, which is given for you.
 Do this to remember me.’

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying:

‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
 Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.’

As on that night, so here and now
 he offers himself in touch and taste
 beyond all words can hold.

We of - fer bread to eat with eyes and hands held
o - pen. We pass this cup to share. We take, break,
bless and give kind-ling hope ev' - ry where.

Therefore, in our eating and drinking
we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ;
we proclaim him as creation's host,
transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.
We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts
that these fragile, earthly things may symbolize for us
the body and blood of our brother, Christ Jesus.

Inspire us with the Advent hope
that one day death and greed will be no more
and people without number will come from east and west,
north and south to share the kingdom meal.

All honour and glory be yours, Mother of blessings,
for ever and ever. **Amen.** ⁵

Please be seated.

⁵ Steven Shakespeare *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*, adapted

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 hope of Christ.

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

We sing three times Taizé "Dona nobis pacem" (Grant us peace):



Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem;



do - na - no - bis pa - cem.

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.

*All are welcome to come and receive the bread and wine;
there are gluten free wafers, just ask the serving priest.*

*There is a chalice for dipping -
simply hold the bread in front of you to signify your choice.*

If you do not wish to take communion you may come forward for a blessing.

*If the stairs are a barrier please sit in the front pews
and communion will be brought to you.*

*Te Taro o te Ora. The Bread of Life
Te Kapu o te Ora. The Cup of Salvation*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

In dulci jubilo

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Priest:

Most loving God,
we are thankful for all we have shared
around this table of love.

**We are thankful that through faith,
hope will overcome doubt,
love will overcome fear,
and light will overcome darkness.
May the blessing of light be on us:
light without and light within. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

FINAL HYMN

Hills of the North, rejoice;
river and mountain-spring,
hark to the advent voice;
valley and lowland sing.
Christ comes in righteousness and love,
he brings salvation from above.

Isles of the Southern seas,
sing to the listening earth,
carry on every breeze
hope of a world's new birth:
in Christ shall all be made anew,
his word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the East, arise,
he is your brightest morn,
greet him with joyous eyes,
praise shall his path adorn:
your seers have longed to know their Lord;
to you he comes, the final word.

Shores of the utmost West,
lands of the setting sun,
welcome the heavenly guest
in whom the dawn has come:
he brings a never-ending light
who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

Shout, as you journey home,
songs be in every mouth,
lo, from the North they come,
from East and West and South:
in Jesus shall all find their rest,
in him the universe is blest.

*Words: based on Charles E. Oakley (1832-1865)
Tune: Little Cornard, Martin Shaw (1875-1958). TiS 469*

Deacon from the rear of the church:

Go now to dream together, pray together, work together,
to build one world of peace and justice for all.

Amen. We go in the light and promise of Christ.

VOLUNTARY

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*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

*Hymns reproduced with permission under CCLI licence 637264
Hymns and music livestreamed with permission under CCLI licence 1483113*



Christmas

2020

SERVICE TIMES

13TH DECEMBER

8PM Christmas Readings & Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE

7PM Children's Nativity Service

9.30PM Brass Band Music

10.30PM Carols for Christmas

11.30PM Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

10AM Christmas Sung Eucharist



(09) 379 0625
admin@stmatthews.org.nz
stmatthews.nz

SCAN HERE TO SIGN-IN WITH THE
NZ COVID TRACER APP



St Matthew in the City

132 Hobson Street, Auckland City, Auckland

Sign-in. Stop the virus.

Help protect yourself, your whānau, and your community with our contact tracing app.

Search NZ COVID Tracer app now:



Unite
against
COVID-19



MANATŪ HAUORA