

FESTAL CHORAL EUCHARIST

Christmas Day

10 am • 25 December 2024

St Peter's Cathedral resides on the lands of the Kaurna people. We give thanks for their ancestors and acknowledge the ongoing right and responsibility of their elders to care for this Country. We are committed to work and pray towards a more just settlement for all Indigenous people and pay our respect to First Nations people with us.

St Peter's Cathedral is a Christ-centred, sacramental, inclusive, thinking, mission-oriented faith community.

Celebrant
The Reverend Canon Jenny Wilson
Canon Precentor

Preacher
The Right Reverend Chris McLeod
Dean of St Peter's Cathedral and National Aboriginal Bishop

Choir: The St Peter's Cathedral Choir

Director of Music: Anthony Hunt

Cathedral Organist: Andrew Georg

Please join us in saying the words in bold. All indications for sitting, kneeling, and standing are a guide only: please do whatever is most comfortable for you.

Please stand when the handbell rings.

The Choir enters in procession followed by the Altar party.

All sing

- O come, all ye faithful,
 Joyful and triumphant,
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
 Come and behold him
 Born the King of Angels:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord!
- God of God,
 Light of Light,
 Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
 Very God,
 Begotten, not created:
- Sing, choirs of angels,
 Sing in exultation,
 Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
 Glory to God
 in the highest:
- 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Music: ADESTE FIDELES att. J.F. Wade 1711–1786
Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015)
Words: Latin 18th Century trans. F. Oakely, W.T. Brooke and others
Reproduced from Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

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

JOHN 1.1, 14

Let us pray:

Please sit/kneel

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The choir sings

KYRIE Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo

Kyrie eléison Lord, have mercy Christe eléison Christ, have mercy Kyrie eléison Lord, have mercy

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Christ the grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.

Silence.

Let us bring our weaknesses and infirmities to the Lord, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand as the Choir sings

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe: Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis, qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris. Amen. Haydn Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father have mercy on us.

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

God Most High, whose eternal Word chose a dwelling among us, that we might live in your presence: grant us a spirit of wisdom to know how rich is the glory you have given us, and how great is the hope to which we are called in the Word made flesh; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please sit for the reading (read by Coby Mellor)

FIRST READING ISAIAH 62.6-12

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,
I have posted sentinels;
all day and all night
they shall never be silent.
You who remind the Lord,
take no rest,
and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.
The Lord has sworn by his right hand
and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have laboured; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, 'See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him. and his recompense before him.' They shall be called, 'The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord'; and you shall be called, 'Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.' Hear the word of the Lord.

The choir sings

Thanks be to God.

The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice:

all gods bow down before him.

PSALM 97

let the multitude of islands be glad.
Clouds and darkness are round about him:
righteousness and justice
are the foundation of his throne.
Fire goes before him:
and burns up his enemies on every side.
His lightnings light the world:
the earth sees it and quakes.
The mountains melt like wax before his face:
from before the face of the Lord of all the earth.
The heavens have proclaimed his righteousness:
and all peoples have seen his glory.
They are ashamed, all those who serve idols
and glory in mere nothings:

Chant: Coby Mellor (b 1985)

Zion heard and was glad,
and the daughters of Judah rejoiced:
because of your judgements, O God.
For you, Lord, are most high over all the earth:
you are exalted far above all gods.
The Lord loves those that hate evil:
the Lord guards the life of the faithful,
and delivers them from the hand of the ungodly.
Light dawns for the righteous:
and joy for the true of heart.
Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous:
and give thanks to his holy name.

Please remain seated for the reading (read by Georgia Morton)

SECOND READING
TITUS 3:4-8A

A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

When the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is sure.

I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to believe in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works; these things are excellent and profitable to everyone.

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing

- I Jesus Christ the Lord is born all the bells are ringing!
 Angels greet the holy One and shepherds hear them singing, and shepherds hear them singing.
- 2 'Go to Bethlehem today, find your king and saviour: glory be to God on high, to earth his peace and favour, to earth his peace and favour!'
- 3 Held within a cattle stall, loved by love maternal, see the master of us all, our Lord of lords eternal, our Lord of lords eternal!

- 4 Soon shall come the wise men three, rousing Herod's anger; mothers' hearts shall broken be and Mary's son in danger, and Mary's son in danger.
- 5 Death from life and life from death our salvation's story:
 let all living things give breath to Christmas songs of glory, to Christmas songs of glory!

Music: Melody from Piæ Cantiones, 1582

Harmony: David Iliff (1939)

Words: Michael Perry (1942-1996)

based on Puer nobis nascitur (Latin, 15th Century)

Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition

Please remain standing

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The choir sings the alleluia, which is repeated by the congregation



Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all who enjoy his favour.

After the verse, the alleluia is sung again by all

THE GOSPEL LUKE 2:1-20

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.



In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit. Children are invited to follow the gospel procession to the crib.

THE PRAYERS AT THE CRIB

O God the Son, highest and holiest, you humbled yourself to share our birth and our death: bring us with the shepherds and the wise men to kneel before your holy cradle, that we may come to sing with your angels your glorious praises in heaven; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Trebles sing

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Children are invited to go to the Cynthia Poulton Hall for some special Christmas craft activities, returning in time for Communion.

THE SERMON

The Right Reverend Chris McLeod

Following the sermon, a brief period of silence may be kept to aid reflection.

Please stand to sing the Hymn

- Of the Father's love begotten ere the world began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore.
- 2 At his word they were created;
 he commanded, it was done:
 heaven and earth and depths of ocean
 in their threefold order one;
 all that grows beneath the shining
 of the light of moon and sun,
 evermore and evermore.
- 3 O that birth, for ever blessed when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bare the Saviour of our race, and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore.
- 4 O ye heights of heaven, adore him; angel-hosts, his praises sing; powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King: let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring, evermore and evermore.

Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-c.413)

Music: Melody from Piae Cantiones, 1582
harm. editors of New English Hymnal, 1986
Reproduced from Common Praise 65

Please remain standing

THE NICENE CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church.

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 of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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.

Please kneel/sit for

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his own marvellous light.

Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship and to serve you ...

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of truth ...

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of all nations and bring in your kingdom of justice, righteousness and peace ...

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and strengthen our communities ...

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace ...

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit, hear our prayer, receive our praises, fill our lives.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:



Please stand

THE GREETING OF PEACE

A child has been born for us, a son given to us:

And his name is called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please remain standing to sing

Please remain standing. During the following hymn, a Collection will be taken for the support of the ministry of the Cathedral. Cash and digital options are available.

- O little town of Bethlehem,
 How still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by.
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth
 The everlasting light;
 The hopes and fears of all the years
 Are met in thee tonight.
- 2 O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth, And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth; For Christ is born of Mary; And, gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
- How silently, how silently,
 The wondrous gift is giv'n!

 So God imparts to human hearts
 The blessings of his heav'n.

 No ear may hear his coming;
 But in this world of sin,

 Where meek souls will receive him, still The dear Christ enters in.
- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
 Descend to us, we pray;
 Cast out our sin, and enter in,
 Be born in us today.
 We hear the Christmas angels
 The great glad tidings tell:
 O come to us, abide with us,
 Our Lord Emmanuel.

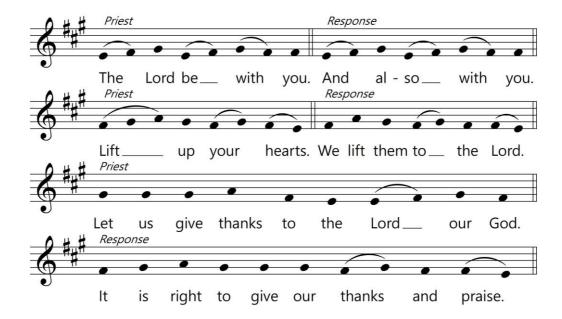
Music: FOREST GREEN, English Traditional Harmony: R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Descant: David Hill (1957-)
Words: Bishop P. Brooks (1835–1893)
Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition

Please remain standing

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.



All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

In your Word made flesh you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

The Choir sings

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth, pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat.
This is my body given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Haydn Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo

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.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:



Bless-ing and hon-our and glo-ry and power are yours for ev-er and ev-er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Please kneel/sit as the Choir sings

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

Haydn Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Baptised and communicant Christians of all denominations are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Gluten free bread is available on request at Altar. If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion, you may like to come forward and receive a blessing (simply bow your head as a signal).

During Communion the Choir will sing a selection of Christmas Carols.

After Communion, please kneel/sit

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of heaven, dwelling among us, we thank you for feeding us with this holy food. By your grace keep us ever faithful to your Word made flesh that as his body in the world we may bring your presence to all people.

Father,
we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit

to live and work to your praise and glory.

Please stand to sing

- I 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 the angelic host proclaim,
 'Christ is born in Bethlehem'.
 Hark the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King.
- 2 Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb: Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity, Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King.

3 Hail the heaven-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 man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. Hark the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847) Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015) Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and others Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition

Please remain standing

THE BLESSING

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; 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 remain standing as the Choir and Clergy depart in procession.

After this, you are invited to sit and listen to the organ postlude.

Claude-Bénigne Balbastre (1727-1799) Noël: Votre bonté grand Dieu

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

The life and work of this Cathedral is made possible through the generosity of individuals like you.



Your gift helps us to maintain this iconic building for all people to enjoy, to continue a strong music and liturgy tradition, and to support the mission of the Church. You can donate in these ways:

- Envelopes and/or cash in the Collection plates or the Donation Boxes around the Cathedral.
- ◆ Electronic Funds Transfer: BSB 705-077 Account Number 00040056 (include your name as reference)
- Use the Tap & Go machine to make an instant donation.
- ◆ Debit/Credit card: Scan the QR code to be taken directly to our online donation page.





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The Cathedral is open for visiting and private prayer

Monday 10:30 am - 1 pm Tuesday to Friday 10:30 am - 3:30 pm

Sunday Worship in January 2025

8 am Eucharist (BCP)
10:30 am Sung Eucharist
6 pm Night Prayer

Weekday Worship (from 26 December – 31 January)

Wednesday 7:30 am* & 10 am Eucharist Friday 7:30 am Eucharist

* No 7:30 am Eucharist on 1 January

Cathedral Office

Monday – Friday* 9 am – 5 pm

* excluding Public Holidays

www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au office@stpeters-cathedral.org.au 08 8267 455 I



Wishing you a blessed, holy, and happy Christmas.