

HOLY COMMUNION (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER)

Christmas Day

8 am • 25 December 2024

Celebrant:

The Reverend Dr Susan Straub

Preacher:

The Reverend Dr Lynn Arnold AO

Organist:

Anthony Hunt

Welcome!

'Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' (Luke 2: 14)

For most people Christmas is a wonderful time of celebration and joy. However, there are many who at this time of year are mourning the loss of loved ones or are troubled by poor health or other issues. Added to this is that we live in a deeply troubled world. There is war in many places, and I'm sure many people join with me in praying for lasting peace in the Middle East. We pray the Prophet Isaiah's vision when 'God will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore (Isaiah 2: 4). At Christmas we proclaim that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. May we all seek to live in peace and do what we can to promote peace in our world.

The Anglican Church of Australia has set aside 2025 to focus on the Hope that is found in the Christian Gospel; the Hope that is very much part of the Christmas message. The Hope25 project will be supported across the Diocese of Adelaide and at St Peter's Cathedral. Look out for the various projects and celebrations that will occur next year. throughout information on Hope25 next found year can https://adelaideanglicans.com, https://www.hope25.com.au, https://www.stpetersand cathedral.org.au

On behalf of the clergy and staff of St Peter's Cathedral I wish you a blessed and peaceful Christmas, and a Holy New Year.

The Right Reverend Chris McLeod, Dean

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.

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 as the Clergy enter

Please kneel/sit

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

LMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

Turning to the People, the Priest says

OUR Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first commandment. And a second is like it; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you **And with thy spirit**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin; Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Please sit for the first reading (read by James Scott)

FIRST READING ISAIAH 9:2-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.
You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders. the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us. a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96

O sing to the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his holy name:

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations: and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised:

he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are mere idols: it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Majesty and glory are before him: beauty and power are in his sanctuary.

Render to the Lord, you families of the nations: render to the Lord glory and might.

Render to the Lord the honour due to his name:

bring offerings and come into his courts.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Say among the nations that the Lord is king:

he has made the world so firm that it can never be moved;

and he shall judge the peoples with equity.

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad: let the sea roar, and all that fills it:

Let the fields rejoice, and everything in them:

then shall all the trees of the wood shout with joy before the Lord;

For he comes, he comes to judge the earth:

he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

SECOND READING
TITUS 2:11-14

A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hear the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

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.
- 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) Words: C. Wesley (1707-1788) and others Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition

THE GOSPEL LUKE 2.1-20

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel is written in the 2nd Chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Luke, beginning at the 1st verse.

Glory be to thee, O Lord

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.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Please remain standing

THE NICENE CREED

believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made: Who for us, and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and giver of life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One Holy Catholick and Apostolick Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Dr Lynn Arnold AO

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

THE PRAYERS AT THE CRIB

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. Please stand to sing. 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.
- 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.
- 3 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 harm. R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835–1893)

Reproduced from Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition

Then the Priest says

E that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

THE GENERAL CONFESSION

Then all say together,

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Then the Priest (or the Bishop, if present,) standing up, and turning to the people, shall give the Absolution.

AMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest makes the sign of the Cross towards the congregation at the words pardon and deliver you, and it is the custom of some to also make the sign of the Cross at this time in thankfulness for God's pardon.

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Then shall the Priest say,

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. St. Matth. xi. 28.

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

St. John iii. 16

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Tim. i. 15.

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.

1 St. John ii. 1.

After which the Priest shall proceed, saying,

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

Answer. And with thy spirit.

Priest. Lift up your hearts.

Answer. We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

Answer. It is meet and right so to do.

T is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son to be born as at this time for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

All say together

Holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Let us pray

All say together

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Then the Priest says

LL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again:

The bell rings once to prepare us for our Lord's coming.

Hear us, O merciful Father we most humbly beseech thee, and with thy Holy and Lifegiving Spirit vouchsafe to bless and sanctify both us and these thy gifts of Bread and Wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, to the end that we, receiving the same, may be strengthened and refreshed both in body and soul.

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me.

The bell rings three times to call us to adoration when the host is elevated. It is the custom of some to make the sign of the Cross at this time.

Likewise, after supper, he took the Cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,

Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Amen.

The bell rings three times to call us to adoration when the chalice is elevated. It is the custom of some to make the sign of the Cross at this time.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us we are bold to say

Then all say together

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that 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.

Then the Priest says,

The peace of the Lord be always with you. *Answer*. And with thy spirit.

AGNUS DEI

All say together

- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

Then the Priest says,

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him that taketh away the sin of the world.

It is customary to make the sign of the Cross at this time in adoration.

The Priest then receives the Communion in both kinds, and then delivers it to other members of the Sanctuary party, and after this to the people.

And the Priest who gives the Bread to any one shall say,

HE Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life.

Or:

Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy heart by faith with thanksgiving.

And the Minister who gives the Cup to any one shall say,

HE Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life.

Or:

Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

After Communion, the Priest says

Let us pray.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All kneel.

Having now by faith received the precious Body and Blood of Christ, let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

AMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

All stand and say together

GLORY be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Please remain standing to 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,
- O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

2 God of God,

Light of Light,

Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;

Very God,

Begotten, not created:

- O come, let us adore him,
- O come, let us adore him,
- O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

3 Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;

Glory to God in the highest:

- O come, let us adore him,
- O come, let us adore him,
- O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

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:

- O come, let us adore him,
- O come, let us adore him,
- O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

Music: ADESTE FIDELES att. J. F. Wade (1711–1786)
Words: Latin 18th Century trans. F. Oakely, W.T. Brooke and others
Reproduced from Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition, number 78

THE BLESSING

AY Christ our infant saviour give you the joy of the Bethlehem shepherds, the awe of the worshipping sages and the humility and love of the holy family: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

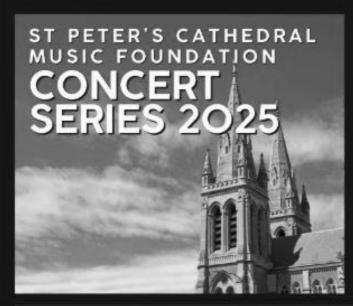
Please wait until the Sanctuary party leaves before leaving your seat.

You are invited to listen reflectively to the organ postlude.

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:

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Adults \$40 / Concession \$35 Thursday February 20th 7.00pm

www.musicfoundation.org.au



Wishing you a blessed, holy, and happy Christmas.

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 I January

Cathedral Office

Monday – Friday* 9 am – 5 pm

* excluding Public Holidays

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