

St Mary's



**Third Sunday of Advent
13 December 2020**



Eucharist at 8 am and 10 am

Gathering in God's Name

In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Remain standing for the lighting of the Advent wreath

We have this ADVENT WREATH to remind us of the coming of Jesus Christ who is the light of the world.

We light the First Candle to remind us of all God's people who, in every age, watch for his coming.

We light the Second Candle to remind us of the great promise made by God and told to us by the prophets.

As we light the third candle let us say together:

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

A young person asks: **Why do we light the third candle?**

A parent replies: **We light the Third Candle to remind us of John the Baptist, who told us to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. ‘I am a voice that cries in the wilderness; Make a straight way for the Lord.’**

‘A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.’

John 1:6-8

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Celebrant: Let us say together:

Our Father who is in heaven we need the light of peace and love to shine in our world. Help us to prepare our lives and homes to receive the Messiah. Come Lord Jesus come. Amen.

Prayer of Preparation

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.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

The introduction to the confession

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, 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.

The presiding priest pronounces the absolution

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.**

The celebrant reads the prayer of the day

Eternal God,
you sent John the Baptist
to prepare the way for the coming of your Son:
grant us wisdom to see your purpose
and openness to hear your will,
that we too may prepare the way for Christ
who is coming in power and glory
to establish his rule of peace and justice;
through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The Year of the Lord's Favour

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord
for the display of his splendour.

They will rebuild the ancient ruins
and restore the places long devastated;
they will renew the ruined cities
that have been devastated for generations. "For I, the
Lord, love justice;

I hate robbery and wrongdoing.
In my faithfulness I will reward my people
and make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants will be known among the nations
and their offspring among the peoples.
All who see them will acknowledge
that they are a people the Lord has blessed.”

I delight greatly in the Lord;
my soul rejoices in my God.
For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness
and praise spring up before all nations.

(Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11)

At the end Hear the word of the Lord
All **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 126

***Response: The Lord has done great things for us; we
are filled with joy.***

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. *Response*

The heathens themselves said: "What marvels
the Lord worked for them!"

What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. *Response*

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. *Response*

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. *Response.*

**A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the
Thessalonians.**

Final Instructions

Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Brothers and sisters, pray for us. Greet all God's people with a holy kiss. I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers and sisters.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

(1 Thessalonians 5:12-28)

At the end

Hear the word of the Lord

All

Thanks be to God

Alleluia, **alleluia!**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
John**

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

John the Baptist Denies Being the Messiah

Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah."

They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

He answered, "No."

Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

Now the Pharisees who had been sent questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

“I baptize with water,” John replied, “but among you stands one you do not know. He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.”

This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

(John 1:6-8,19-28)

At the end This is the gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon Fr Jan Joustra

The Nicene Creed

Let us 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.**

The prayers of the people

After each section: Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

And at the end:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
**Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by
your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become for us the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

Priest The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our
God.

All **It is right to give our thanks
and praise.**

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.

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.

We thank you that when he shall come again
in power and great triumph to judge the world,
we may with joy behold his appearing,
and in confidence stand before him
who redeems us from sin and death
and makes us heirs of everlasting life.

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:

**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your
creation, this bread and this 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.”

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

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.

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:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from
evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:

**So may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

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

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

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.

The sending out of God's People

God for whom we wait,
we thank you that you have fed us
with the bread of life
and the cup of salvation.

As we joyfully await your Son,
keep us ever watchful

that we may be ready to stand before him
on the day of his coming.

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.

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter
the darkness from before your feet, and make you ready
to meet him when he comes in glory; 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

Acknowledgements:

© 1995 The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation, material from the text of *A Prayer Book for Australia* published under the imprint of Broughton Books. All rights reserved. The Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and are used with permission. All rights reserved. Unless otherwise stated, words and music are from *Together in Song: The Australian Hymn Book II*. When hymns are not public domain, they are reprinted with permission: One License 409E; CCLI License 220951; St James Music Press License 16619.

CONTACT ST MARY'S

Post: 430 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne 3051

E-mail: office@stmarys.org.au

Web: www.stmarys.org.au, Facebook, YouTube.



Vicar: Rev'd Canon Jan Joustra

vicar@stmarys.org.au

Mob: 0400 959 077

Clergy: Rev'd Canon Prof. Dorothy Lee

Rev'd Prof. Mark Lindsay

mlindsay@trinity.edu.au

Lay Ministers: Harriet Jenkins
Children and Family Ministry
hjenkins@stmarys.org.au

John Silversides
Prison Chaplain

Director of Music: Beverley Phillips 5286 1179
bevjp@westnet.com.au

Wardens: Anne Sunderland annes@jenkinsau.net
Michael Golding m-golding@bigpond.com
Sam Miller samcmiller92@msn.com

Parish Administrator Richard Hayward

KOOYOORA
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

The Anglican Diocese in conjunction with St Mary's Anglican Church North Melbourne does not tolerate abuse, harassment or other misconduct within our communities. If any person has concerns about behavior of a church worker, past or present. The Diocese of Melbourne is committed to doing all that is possible to ensure that abuse does not occur. All complaints of abuse are taken very seriously, and we do all we can to lessen harm. We offer respect, pastoral care and ongoing long-term support to anyone who makes a complaint. St Mary's Statement of Commitment to Child Safety is on our noticeboard and can be downloaded from our website www.stmarys.org.au.

PLEASE REPORT ABUSE CALL 1800 135 246

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

St Mary's Anglican Church, North Melbourne is an inner-city Christian community that strives to be faithful, inclusive and sacramental.

God inspires us to worship in daily celebration; to be caring, thoughtful and inviting.

In response to God's call, in the next three to five years we aim:

- *To grow substantially in faith and numbers*
- *To create an inter-generational culture that values all age groups - children and adults - equally*
- *To express our faith in active engagement within and beyond our own community*
- *To deploy our property and financial assets in strategic support of the ministry needs of the parish for the long term*
- *To become more open to change as we learn to grow*

