

St Mary's



Advent 2

10th December 2023



8am and 10am Presiding and Preaching: Rev'd Canon Jan Joustra

Welcome to St Mary's North Melbourne.

Thank you for joining us in worship.

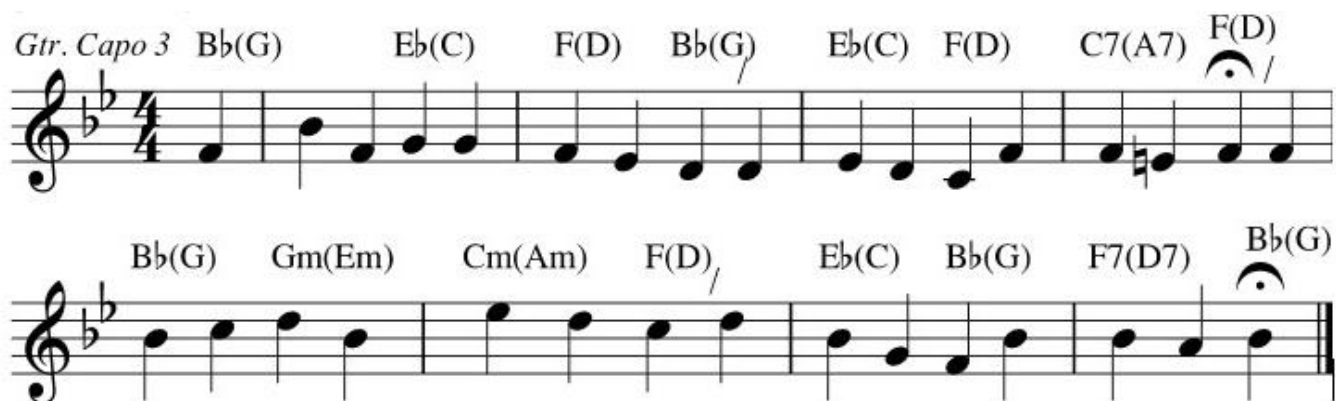
*Please join in saying the text marked in **bold** and singing the musical responses and hymns.*

INTRODUCTION

Isaiah's cry 'Prepare the way of the Lord' is as relevant and compelling today as it was when the prophet first proclaimed it, and when John the Baptist repeated it. Preparation for the coming of the Lord is not confined to Advent; making ourselves ready for Him is a lifetime task.

HYMN

TIS 270



1. **On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
come then and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings.**
2. **Then cleansed be every heart from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home
where such a mighty guest may come.**
3. **For you are our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**4. To heal the sick stretch out your hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let your light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**5. To him who left the throne of heaven
to free us all, let praise be given;
and praise be to the Father done,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One.**

Charles Coffin 1676–1749 tr. John Chandler 1806–76 alt.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the 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.
As we light the second 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.’**

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

A young person asks: **‘Why do we light the second candle?’**

A parent replies: **‘We light the Second candle to remind us of the great promise made by God and told to us by the prophets.’**

‘A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of its roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.’

Isaiah 11:1-2

For the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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.

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 image displays three staves of musical notation, each featuring a Cantor part and an All: part. The music is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer - cy.' and 'Christ, have mer - cy.'.

Staff 1: Cantor: Lord, have mer - cy. All: Lord, have mer - cy.

Staff 2: Cantor: Christ, have mer - cy. All: Christ, have mer - cy.

Staff 3: Cantor: Lord, have mer - cy. All: Lord, have mer - cy.

THE CONFESSION

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. In the light we confess our sins.

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 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 COLLECT

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for the reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

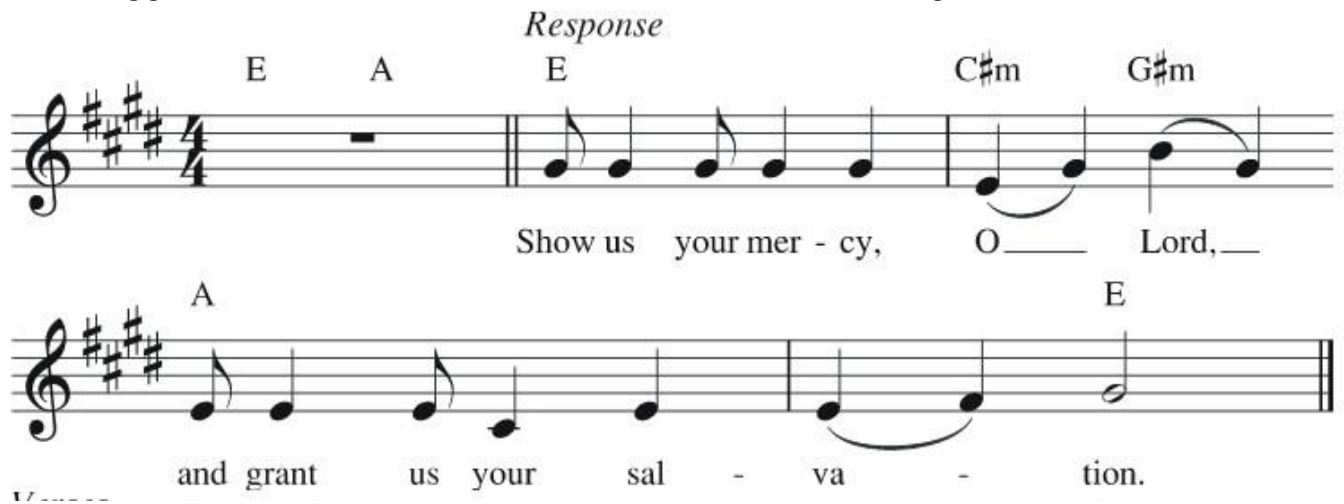
The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Isaiah 40.1-11

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,
 for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
 and to those who turn their hearts to him.
 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,
 that his glory may dwell in our land. ***Response***

Mercy and truth have met together;
 righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
 Truth shall spring up from the earth,
 and righteousness shall look down from heaven. ***Response***

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
 and our land will yield its increase.
 Righteousness shall go before him,
 and peace shall be a pathway for his feet. ***Response***

tr. from Psalms and a Canticle (B. Pulkingham)

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Saint Peter:

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord

is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him.

2 Peter 3.8-15a

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

TIS 264

Gtr. Capo 2 E(D) B(A) A(G) E(D) / B(A) F#(E) B(A) /

B(A) E(D) A(G) C#m(Bm) F#m(Em) B7(A7) E(D)

- Hark! a herald voice is calling:**
‘Christ is near,’ it seems to say,
‘cast away the dreams of darkness,
waken, children of the day!’

2. **Wakened by the solemn warning
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling
shines upon the morning skies.**
3. **Lo, the Lamb so long expected
comes with pardon now from heav'n;
let us meet him with repentance,
pray that we may be forgiv'n.**
4. **So when love comes forth in judgment,
debts and doubts and wrongs to clear,
faithful may he find his servants
watching till the dawn appear.**

Anon., Latin ?6th cent. tr. Edward Caswall 1814–78 and others

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, **Alleluia**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God

Alleluia

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark:

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”’, John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

Mark 1.1-8

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

NICENE CREED

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

THE PEACE

We are the body of Christ:

His spirit is with us.

The peace of Christ be always with you:

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Gtr. Capo 2 E(D) A(G) B(A) E(D) C#m(Bm) B(A) E(D) /

A(G) B(A) E(D) C#m(Bm) B(A) E(D) /

F#m(Em) G#(F#) C#m(Bm) B(A) C#m(Bm) G#(F#) /

E(D) C#m(Bm) B(A) E(D) / A(G) B(A) E(D)

1. Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to let the captive free,
and take away transgression,
and rule in equity.
2. He comes with help and mercy
to those who suffer wrong,
to raise the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong,
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls condemned and dying
were precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace the herald go,
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.
4. Kings shall fall down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
5. O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
that name to us is love.

James Montgomery 1771–1854 alt.



THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life. **Blessèd be God for ever.**

Blessèd 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. **Blessèd be God for ever.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sursum Corda

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
	
The Lord be with you.	And al - so with you.

Celebrant	*People*
Lift up your hearts.	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	*People*
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

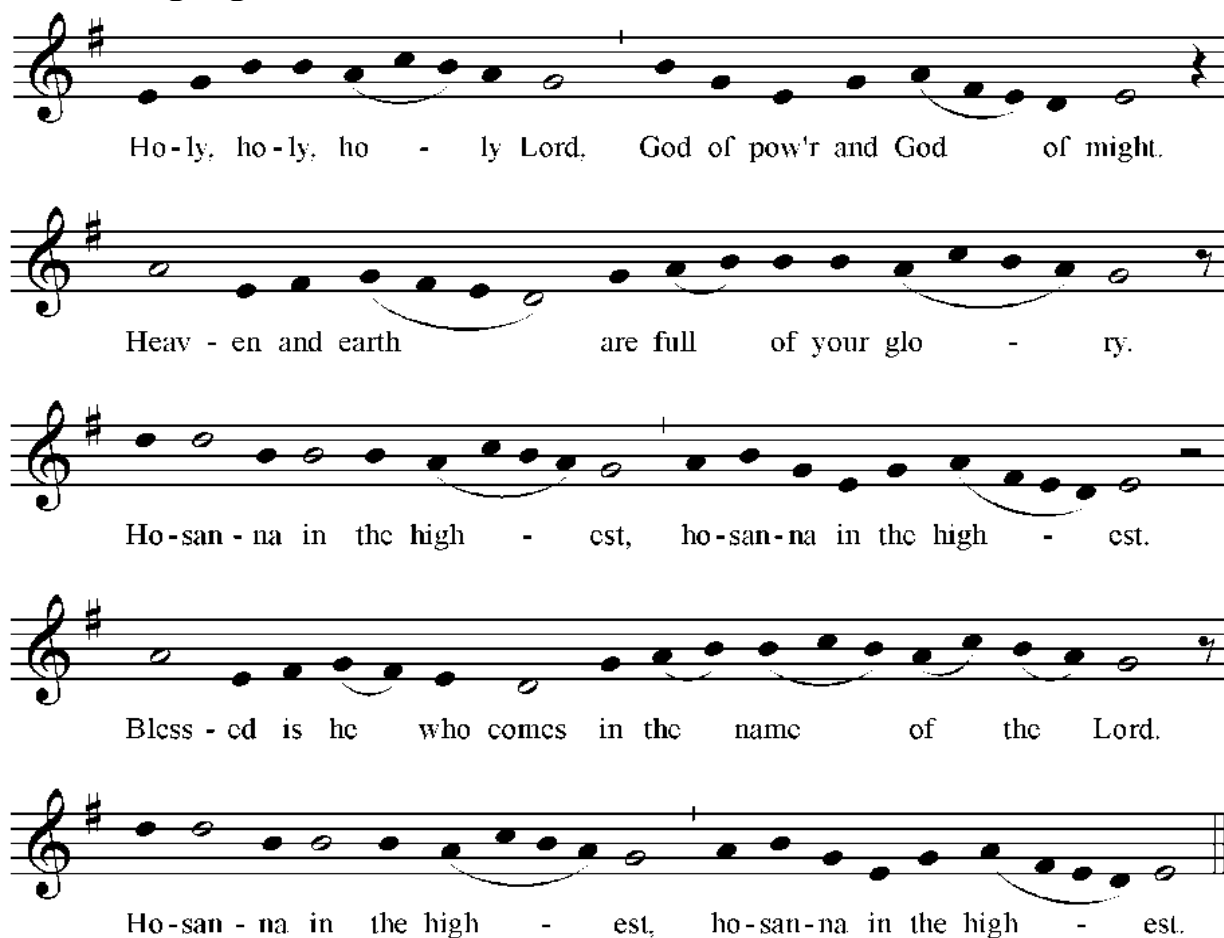
All glory and honour, thanks and praise be given to you at all times and in all places, Lord, holy Father, true and living God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For he is your eternal Word through whom you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

In him the day of our deliverance has dawned. We rejoice that through him you make all things new and we look for his coming in power and majesty to judge the world. In your great love you gave him to be made man for us and to share our common life.

In obedience to your will your Son our Saviour offered himself as a perfect sacrifice, and died upon the cross for our redemption. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin and reconciled us to yourself, our God and Father.

He is our great high priest whom you raised from death and exalted to your right hand on high where he ever lives to intercede for us. Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit and made us a royal priesthood called to serve you for ever.

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



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

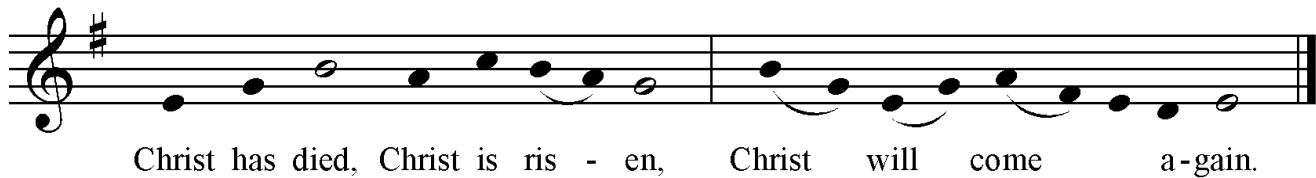
Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.

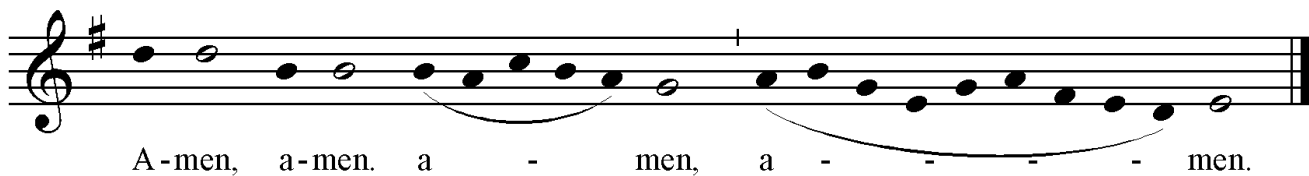
On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

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.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



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:



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As 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.**

The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

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.

AGNUS DEI

* Je - sus, wis - dom and might - - - y Lord: you
Je - sus, true branch of Jes - - - se's tree:
Key of Da - vid and Day - spring form on high:
De - sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el:
take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.
grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE INVITATION

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 ANTHEM

How beautiful upon the mountains

John Stainer

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love.

Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of the Spirit.

THE BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, 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**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

In the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN

Tis 265

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the first line of the melody with chords: Em, Am, Em, G, Em, Am, Em. The second staff contains the second line with chords: Am, G, D, Am, Em, Am, Em. The third staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the third line with chords: D, G, Bm, Em, Am, Em, C, Am, Bm, Em. The lyrics 'Re-joice! re-joice! Em-ma - nu-el shall come to you, O Is - ra-el.' are written below the third staff.

- O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.**

Rejoice! rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

2. O come, O come, great Lord of might
who to the tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! rejoice! ...

3. O come, O key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! rejoice! ...

Sung unaccompanied:

4. O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! rejoice! ...

5. O come, O dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! rejoice! ...

Anon., Latin, 18th cent. or earlier based on Antiphons from 9th cent. or earlier
tr. John Mason Neale 1818–66 alt.

PRAYERS

Please pray for those in need: Susan and Greg, Peter and Juneanne, Jenny Langmead, Mavis and Martin, Brandi and family.

Also, those whose anniversaries of death fall this week, including: Marjorie Kenny, Darren Rooke and Andrew Scragg.

If there is a name that should be included please advise the Parish Office by email office@stmarys.org.au

The Roster

	December 10th	December 16th	December 17th
	Advent 2	Carols on the Corner (Saturday 5pm)	Advent 3 (Set up Christmas tree after church)
8:00am Reader	Judie Bainbridge	Readers	Andrew McKinlay
10:00am Readers	John Blanch Elizabeth Brookes	Andrew Murray Michael Golding	Helen McCallum Alice Christofi
Serving Team	Alice Christofi Anne Sunderland Peter O'Donoghue	No serving team	Alice Christofi Anne Sunderland Lewis Gurr-Stephen
Subdeacon	Josie Snowden		Andrew Murray
Welcome	Parish Council	4 x set up and welcome Marquee Speakers etc	Parish Council
Introduction & Intercession	Geoff Jenkins	Clergy	Andrew Murray
Video/AV	Adam Wing		Adam Wing
Kids Corner & Sunday School	Rosie Moloney		Rosie/Harriet
Morning Tea	Helen McCallum David Keuneman	BBC: Sam & Adam & Luke & others	Margaret Noble Michael Noble

Acknowledgements:

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Mary's Parish Notices

Christmas Stall after this Sunday's Service

Christmas goods will be available for sale in the Small Hall after church on Sunday.
This is an ideal time to buy a Christmas gift for a friend.

Gazebo needed for Carols on the Corner

We're looking for one more Gazebo/marquee for the carols on the corner service on December 16. Please speak to Sam if you have one you're happy to lend out. Pickup can be arranged if needed.

Thursday Midday Eucharist

There is a midday Eucharist held on Thursdays.
All are Welcome!

Giving to Support St Mary's

We value your financial support. This helps us keep our doors open and fulfil our mission. *You can donate by following this link or scanning the QR code:*

<http://st-marys-anglican-north-melbourne.square.site/>



Or make a direct transfer to:

Account Name: St Marys Anglican Church North Melbourne

Bank: Westpac **BSB:** 033 132 **Account Number:** 264412

CONTACT ST MARYS

Post: 430 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne 3051

Phone: 9328 2522

E-mail: office@stmarys.org.au

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



Clergy: Rev'd Robyn Boyd (Associate Priest)
revrobyncb@gmail.com (currently on leave)

Vicar: Rev'd Canon Jan Joustra
vicar@stmarys.org.au

Wardens:	Rhondda Fahey	rhondda.fahey@bigpond.com
	Michael Golding	m-golding@bigpond.com
	Sam Miller	samcmiller92@msn.com

Director of Music: Beverley Phillips bphillips@melbourneanglican.org.au

Parish Administrator: Darrell Pitt.

Office Hours: 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, Mon-Fri.



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 behaviour 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*

