

# First Sunday After Christmas 31 December 2023



8am and 10am Presiding and Preaching:

Rev'd Robyn Boyd

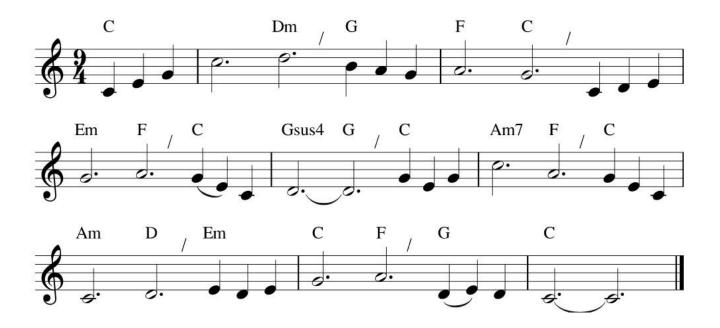
#### Welcome to St Mary's North Melbourne. Thank you for joining us in worship.

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

#### Introduction

There are lessons for us in the differing responses Mary and Jesus in today's gospel. On the one hand Jesus calls us to be about the affairs of our Father; on the other Mary shows us the value of storing up things in our hearts. Action and reflection are both essential in the Christian life.

HYMN Tis 319



1. Child in the manger, infant of Mary; outcast and stranger, Lord of all!
Child who inherits all our transgressions, all our demerits on him fall.

- 2. Once the most holy child of salvation gentle and lowly lived below; now, as our glorious mighty Redeemer, see him victorious over each foe.
- 3. Prophets foretold him, infant of wonder; angels behold him on his throne; worthy our Saviour of all their praises; happy for ever are his own.

Mary Macdonald 1789–1872 tr. Lachlan Macbean 1853–1931 alt. Arrangement © L. F. Bartlett

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

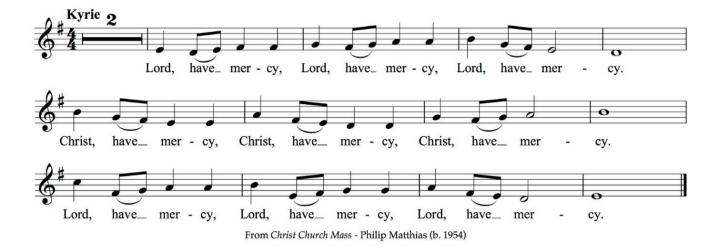
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

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 assistant introduces 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 celebrant 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 COLLECT

Almighty God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: in your mercy, bring us to share the divine life of Jesus Christ, who came to share our human life, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

# Please sit for the reading

# A reading from the prophet Isaiah:

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Isaiah 61.10-62.3

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

#### **PSALM 148**

# Response: Let all praise the name of the Lord!

Alleluia! Praise the Lord from the heavens: praise him in the heights. Praise him, all you angels of his: praise him, all his host. Praise him, sun and moon: praise him, all you shining stars. *Response* 

Praise him, heaven of heavens: and you waters above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord: for he commanded and they were created. He made them stand fast for ever and ever: he gave them a law which shall not pass away. *Response* 

Praise the Lord from the earth: you sea-monsters and all deeps; Fire and hail, snow and fog: tempestuous wind, doing his will; Mountains and all hills: fruit trees and all cedars; *Response* Wild beasts and all cattle: creeping things and winged birds; Kings of the earth and all peoples: princes and all rulers of the world; Young men and maidens: old and young together. *Response* 

Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven. He has raised up strength for his people: and praise of all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Alleluia! *Response* 

#### **SECOND READING:**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians:

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Galatians 4.4-7

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

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, **Alleluia**Open our heart O Lord,
to listen to the word of your Son. **Alleluia** 

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

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

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Luke 2.22-40

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

#### **SERMON**

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** 

After each sections: 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 GREETINGS OF PEACE

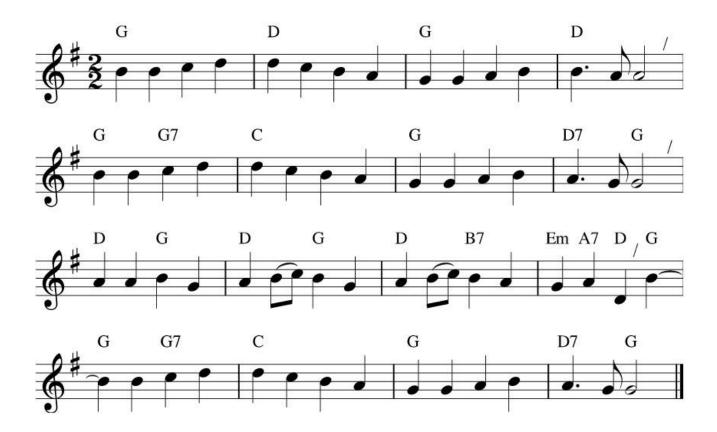
We are the body of Christ.

# His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

HYMN Tis 152



1. Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, God of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

- 2. All your works with joy surround you, earth and heav'n reflect your rays, stars and angels sing around you, centre of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, singing bird and flowing fountain call to praise you joyfully.
- 3. You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest.
  You our Father, Christ our brother, all are yours who live in love; teach us how to love each other, lift us to your joy above.

Henry Van Dyke 1852–1933 alt. Arrangement © L. F. Bartlett

#### 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.

#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

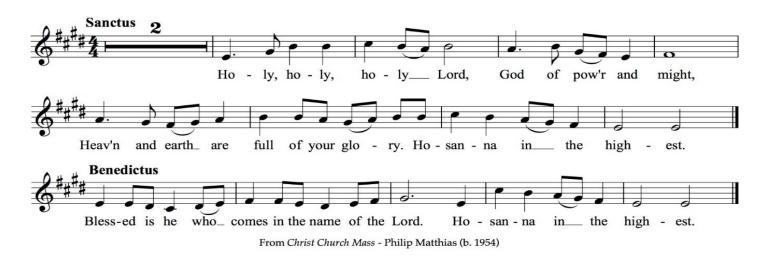
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever!

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. You make us in your image to reflect your glory.

You give us breath and speech that with all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:



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.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord! As a mother tenderly gathers her children you embraced a people as your own.

In worship and sacrifice they drew near, entering your gates with thanksgiving.

From them you raised up Jesus, our Saviour, the living bread, in whom all hungers are satisfied.

Brought to the temple in his mother's arms, he was proclaimed as the light of all the nations.

In the upper room with his friends on the night before he died, Jesus took bread and gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.'

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: 'Drink 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 in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith:



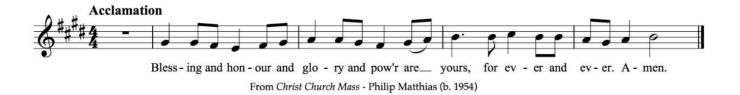
Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he prays for us at your right hand: Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts from your own creation, that they may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. .

As by your Spirit he was welcomed with joy by Anna and Simeon, so may we and all your people rejoice in your presence and be changed from glory to glory.

By him, with him, and in him, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

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



#### 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.

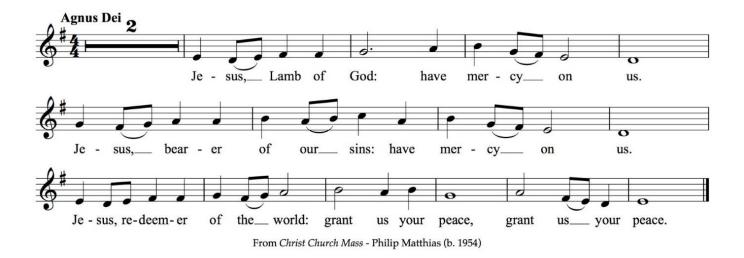
## The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

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**



#### 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.

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; 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

May 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 amongst 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 322



1. The north wind is tossing the leaves, the red dust is over the town, the sparrows are under the eaves and the grass in the paddock is brown, as we lift up our voices and sing to the Christchild, the heavenly King.

2. The tree ferns in green gullies sway, the cool stream flows silently by, the joybells are greeting the day, and the chimes are adrift in the sky, as we lift up our voices and sing to the Christchild the heavenly King.

John Wheeler 1901– Words and music John Wheeler/William Garnet James

#### **POSTLUDE**

#### **PRAYERS**

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

Also, those whose anniversaries of death fall this week.

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

The Roster	
	Sunday 31st
	9am
8:00am Reader	
10:00am Readers	Luke Hopkins (tbc)
Serving Team	Anne Sunderland Alice Christofi (tbc)
Subdeacon	Andrew Murray
Welcome	Parish Council
Introduction & Intercession	Andrew Murray
Video/AV	TBC
Kids Corner & Sunday School	
Morning Tea	Margaret Noble Michael Noble

#### Acknowledgements:

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# Mary's Parish Notices

#### **Nativity Sets**

Many thanks to all who have contributed to make our Nativity Sets display so wonderful.

If you need your set(s) for your home for Christmas, please feel free to take home. Otherwise, we'll be leaving the sets there for all the Christmas services, which we trust will add a further blessing to those who visit our church at Christmas. If any sets are still there after Christmas, and if we haven't packed them up for you, we'll keep them on display for another week or two - and we'll make sure the wise men and camels have found Jesus!

The boxes etc in which you brought them are stored under the display tables.

#### **Celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany**

Epiphany Eve, **Friday 5th January, 6pm** – The Eucharist will be followed by barbeque. Please bring what you would like to barbecue and to drink; we'll have salads and bread.

#### **Sharing with the Hungry**

There are three ways we can contribute food to those who cannot afford it.

- A financial donation to the Anglican Benevolent Society via the church office feeds the funds we use for a weekly purchase of meat for the kitchens at St Marks Fitzroy.
- A financial donation to either St Marks or Mission House via the church office gives them the money to buy what is needed for their food parcels.
- Food donations but no glass items can be left in the baptistery at St Mary's for either St Marks or Mission House.

#### **Parish Councillors for 2024**

Here are our parish councillors for 2024. They are:

Sam Miller, Anne Sunderland, Adam Wing (Churchwardens), Andrew Barnard (treasurer), Helen McCallum, Alice Christofi (secretary), Andrew Gador-White, John Blanch, Rosie Moloney (Parish Councillors)

# 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**

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vicar@stmarys.org.au

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Adam Wing awwingman@gmail.com Sam Miller samcmiller92@msn.com Like

You Tube

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

Parish Administrator: Darrell Pitt.

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

ROOYOORA
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

The Anglican Diocese is 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