

Christmas Day Eucharist

25 December 2021 | 9.30 am



Synod of the Diocese of West Malaysia

St Mary's Cathedral

Making disciples of Jesus Christ

Procession: Joy To The World (v1-2)

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Please stand. The hymn will be sung by one cantor only. Congregation will sing in their hearts.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Collect

(Please remain standing)

**All: Almighty God,
Who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance
of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ;
Grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our
redeemer,
So we may with confidence behold him
when he shall come to be our judge;
Who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

(Please be seated)

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

⁸ The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹ Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

At the end of the reading the reader says

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

(Please be seated)

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

At the end of the reading the reader says

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: John 1:1-14

After the reader announces the reading (the people all standing up), all shall say

Glory to Christ our Saviour

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

At the end of the reading the reader shall say

This is the Gospel of Christ

All shall respond

Praise to Christ our Lord

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

(Please stand)

**All: 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,
one in being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in fulfilment of 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,
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified,
He 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

(Please kneel or be seated)

Leader: Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ has promised that you will hear us when we ask in faith: receive the prayers we offer.

We pray for *Melter* our Archbishop, *Steven* our Bishop, *Andrew* our Dean, our pastoral team and for all who serve in this Cathedral and Diocese.

Strengthen your people for their witness and work in the world.

Fill your ministers with your Spirit, that they may faithfully preach the gospel and administer your holy sacraments.

Unite in the truth all who confess your name, that we may live together in love and proclaim your glory in all the world.

Leader: Father, hear our prayer,

All: **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Leader: We pray for our Yang di-Pertuan Agong,
for the Prime Minister and his cabinet
and for all who hold office in our country.

Give wisdom to those in authority in this
and every land,
and give to all peoples a desire for righteousness
and peace,
and the will to work together in trust,
to seek the common good
and to share with justice the resources of the
earth.

Leader: Father, hear our prayer,

All: **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Leader: We pray about the floods.

Almighty God, by your Word you laid the foundations of the earth, set the bounds of the sea, and still the wind and waves. Surround us with your grace and peace, and preserve us through these disasters. By your Spirit, lift up those who have fallen, strengthen those who work to rescue or rebuild, and fill us with the hope of your new creation.

Leader: Father, hear our prayer,

All: **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Leader: We pray about the pandemic.

Almighty God, who in your wrath sent a plague upon your own people in the wilderness for their rebellion against Moses and Aaron, and also in the time of King David, sent a plague of pestilence which killed seventy thousand, but remembering your mercy spared the rest: have pity upon us miserable sinners, who now are visited with great sickness and mortality; and in the same way that you then accepted an atonement and commanded the destroying Angel to cease from punishing: so it may now please you to withdraw from us this plague and grievous sickness.

Leader: Father, hear our prayer,

All: **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Leader: We pray for the aged and the infirm,
for widows and orphans,
and for the sick and suffering.

We also pray for the poor and oppressed,
for prisoners, refugees and captives,
and for all who care for them.

Comfort and heal, merciful Father,
all who are in sorrow, need, sickness
or any other trouble.
Give them a firm trust in your goodness;
help those who minister to them;
and bring us all into the joy of your salvation.

Leader: Father, hear our prayer,

All: **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Leader: We praise you, Lord God,
for your faithful servants in every age
and ask that we may share with them
Christ's resurrection glory,
through his death and rising again
for our salvation.

Leader: Hear us, Father,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
All: **who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

The Eucharist

(Please remain kneeling or seated)

Minister: Brothers and sisters: as we come together to share in the holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ, the Scriptures urge us to examine our lives and repent of our sins. As we do so, let us be thankful that God the Son humbled himself, becoming man, to die for us on the Cross. And by the shedding of his precious blood, he obtained for us forgiveness of sins, and life with him forever. In remembrance of his death, and as a pledge of his love, Jesus instituted this holy sacrament, to our great and endless comfort.

You, then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are reconciled and at peace with others, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from now on in his holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort, and make your humble confession to almighty God.

All:

**Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, and judge of all people.
We confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
We have justly provoked your righteous anger
against us.
We repent and are deeply sorry for our
wrongdoings.
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father.
For the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
forgive us all that is past,
and enable us to serve and please you,
in newness of life,
to the honour and glory of your name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.**

Minister: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on 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.

All: **Amen.**

Minister: Hear these words of comfort from the Scriptures:

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners
(1 Timothy 1:15)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
(John 3:16)

This Prayer of Humble Access may be said by all

**All: We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord,
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him
and he in us.
Amen.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts

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

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: **It is right to give him thanks and praise**

The Minister prays

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,
We thank you that in your love and mercy,
you gave your only Son Jesus Christ
to die on the cross for our redemption.

We thank you that by offering himself once for all,
he made a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice for sin
and completely satisfied your holiness,
justice and love.

And he instructed us to remember his death together
until his coming again.

Hear us, merciful Father,
and grant that by your Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink this bread and wine,
according to our Lord's command
may remember his death for us with faith,
trusting in him alone for our salvation
and so share in his body and blood.

For on the night he was betrayed, he 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 which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them saying, “Drink from this, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

All: **Amen.**

The Distribution

Minister:

Eat and drink this in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Hymn: Once In Royal David's City

Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and mean and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child, so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heav'n above,
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor, lowly stable
with the oxen standing by
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars his children crowned,
all in white, his praise will sound.

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Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

John Francis Wade, 1711-1786, tr. Frederick Oakeley

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!*

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, all glory in the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

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Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. George Whitefield

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel.

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 we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.

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Hymn: Angels From The Realms Of Glory

James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

*Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.*

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light:

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:

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Hymn: Away In A Manger

Martin Luther, 1483-1546

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.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and take us to heaven to live with you there.

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The Lord's Prayer

(Please kneel or be seated)

**All: 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever.
Amen.**

Announcements

The Blessing

The gathering ends with a blessing.

Minister: May the joy of the angels,
the wonder of the shepherds,
and the peace of the Christ child,
fill your hearts this Christmas time,
And the blessing of God Almighty:
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Recession: Joy To The World (v3-4)

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Please stand. The hymn will be sung by one cantor only. Congregation will sing in their hearts.

No more let sins and sorrows grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

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Thank you for joining our service. If you would like for us to get in touch with you, or have any feedback for us, please fill in our Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect

Giving

Online transfer

Bank name: **Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Bhd**

Account name: **St Mary's Cathedral**

Account number: **312 142 334 691**

Recipient reference: If giving a pledge, enter ***your 3-digit pledge number.***

Otherwise, enter **Online Service**

For one-off giving, please email the bank-in slip or online transfer receipt to: **collections@stmaryscathedral.org.my**

Boost e-wallet

Scan the following QR code using the Boost App. Be sure to confirm "St Mary's Cathedral" is listed as the payee.



St Mary's Cathedral

Note: This method of giving is analogous to putting cash into the offertory bag/box. Your donation will go to the General Fund. You will not be given a receipt. Do not use this to give a pledge.

Details on our webpage: stmarys.my/give

Christmas Services

We invite you to join our online services this Christmas weekend, as we celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Information on our Christmas services can be found on our Christmas webpage: stmarys.my/christmas

Christianity Explored

Christianity Explored is a course that helps you to explore who the God of the Bible is and what He says about life's meaning and purpose.

We invite you to join us for 10 Sundays, 2.00 pm, starting from 26 December 2021.

Please visit stmarys.my/findoutmore for more details on how to register.

New Year's Eve Service (Zoom)

We will host a New Year's Eve Service on Zoom at 11.30 pm, Friday, 31 December 2021. It will be a simple time of prayer, reading the Scriptures, and a message to help us prepare for the New Year. Join us here: stmarys.my/nye

New Year's Day Liturgical Service (Onsite)

Our New Year's Day Liturgical Service will be held at the Cathedral at 9.00 am, 1 January 2022. If you would like to come for this service, please book at stmarys.my/booking

Regular Onsite & Online Services

Here are the details of our regular English onsite services on Sundays:

- English Liturgical Service – 10.00 am
- English Contemporary (SMACC) Service – 5.00 pm

If you would like to book to come, you can do so at stmarys.my/booking. Bookings will open at 2.00 pm on Sunday and will close at noon on Friday or when all the seats are taken, whichever comes first. If you find it hard to book online, you can call the Cathedral Office on 011 5760 3484 during office hours and Mrs Nesamani will help with the booking. **You will need to have a confirmed booking before you can come on Sunday.**

If you are joining us online on Sundays, both the English services above will be livestreamed from the Cathedral (Liturgical at 10.00 am, SMACC at 5.00 pm).

More information about our services can be found here: stmarys.my/services

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To receive emails about latest updates and important news about the Cathedral, fill in the form at

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