

Introduction

Minister: Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

(Luke 2:10-11)

Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

Latin, 18th century, tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880 and others

Congregation, please stand.

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;

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest;

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born for our salvation,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
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!*

Public Domain

Greeting

Minister: The light and peace of Jesus Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

All: 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.

Gloria In Excelsis

**All: Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One;
you alone are the Lord;
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Collect

Collect for Christmas Eve

**All: Almighty God,
you make us glad with the yearly remembrance
of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that,
as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer,
so we may with sure confidence behold him
when he shall come to be our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
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.**

Psalm 98

(Please stand: the Psalm will be said responsively.)

A Psalm.

¹ Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvellous things!

His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

² **The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the
nations.**

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

⁴ **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!

**⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together**

**⁹ before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.**

**He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

At the end of the reading the reader says

Reader: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,**

All: **As it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be forever.
Amen.**

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12

(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.

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say,
“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,
“I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶ And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

⁷ Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

⁸ But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
the sceptre of uprightness is the sceptre of your
kingdom.

⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

¹⁰ And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the
beginning,

and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹ they will perish, but you remain;

they will all wear out like a garment,

¹² like a robe you will roll them up,

like a garment they will be changed.

But you are the same,

and your years will have no end.”

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.**

The Peace

(Please stand)

The Greeting of Peace is introduced in these or other suitable words:

Minister: Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

(Isaiah 9:6)

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

All may exchange a sign of peace.

During the singing of the next hymn, a collection may be taken for the work of ministry in the Cathedral and beyond. You may give cash in the offertory bags or use the QR code provided. If you are a regular who is already giving online, or you are a visitor to the Cathedral, please feel free to pass the offertory bag along without embarrassment.

Hymn: Hark, The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 and others

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 host 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 a virgin’s womb;
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th’ incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

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.

Public Domain

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:
[accept our offerings] and receive the prayers we
offer.

*(The words 'accept our offerings' may be left out if a collection is not
taken during the hymn before the prayers).*

We pray for *Titus* our Archbishop,
Steven our Bishop, *Andrew* our Dean
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: Lord, in your mercy

All: **hear our prayer.**

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: Lord, in your mercy

All: **hear our prayer.**

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 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: Lord, in your mercy

All: **hear our prayer.**

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: Lord, in your mercy

All: **accept our prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Prayer of Penitence and Confession

The minister may use this or another call to confession

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, seek to live in love and charity with your neighbours, 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. But first, let us make our humble confession to almighty God.

(Please kneel or be seated.)

**All: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in thought and word and deed,
in the evil we have done
and in the good we have not done,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry, and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The minister declares God's forgiveness

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Then the minister shall say,

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says unto all
that truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest.

(Matthew 11:28)

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)

Hear also what St Paul says.

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

(1 Timothy 1:15)

Hear also what St John says.

If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins.

(1 John 2:1-2)

The Eucharist

(Please remain kneeling or seated)

Minister: The Lord is here.

All: **His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

Minister: It is indeed right it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks
because, by the power of the Holy Spirit,
he took our nature upon him
and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother,
that being himself without sin,
he might make us clean from all sin.

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:

All:

**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!]**

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.**

The Minister prays

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,
who in your tender mercy gave your 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
for the sins of the whole world;
and who instituted, and in his holy gospel
commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until his coming again:
Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that we who receive
these gifts of your creation,
this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour
Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers, by faith,
of his most blessed body and blood:

who, in the night he was betrayed,
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 this, all of you;
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.

**All: Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
give us your peace.**

The Distribution

Minister:

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

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

Hymn: O Holy Night (Hear the Gospel Story)

Original words (v. 1) by Placide Cappeau. Translated by John S. Dwight. Music by Adolphe C. Adams (1847). Add. words (v. 2-3) by Kevin Hartnett.

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

Humbly He lay, Creator come as creature,
Born on the floor of a hay-scattered stall.
True Son of God, yet bearing human feature,
He entered earth to reverse Adam's fall.
In towering grace, He laid aside His glory,
And in our place, was sacrificed for sin.
Fall on your knees! O hear the gospel story!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

Come, then, to Him Who lies within the manger,
With joyful shepherds, proclaim Him as Lord.
Let not the Promised Son remain a stranger;
In reverent worship, make Christ your Adored.
Eternal life is theirs who would receive Him;
With grace and peace, their lives He will adorn.
Fall on your knees! Receive the Gift of heaven!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born
O night, O holy night when Christ was born

© 2014 Sovereign Grace Worship/ASCAP (adm. by Integrity Music). Sovereign
Grace Music, a division of Sovereign Grace Churches. All rights reserved.
Used by Permission. CCLI Licence No. 332301

Hymn: Silent Night, Holy Night

Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848, tr. by J. F. Young, 1820-1885

Silent night, holy night.

All is calm, all is bright,
round yon virgin mother and child;
holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night.

Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing alleluia:
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night.

Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Public Domain

Hymn: See Amid The Winter's Snow

Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."*

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies;
He who, throned in height sublime,
sits amid the cherubim!

Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
what your joyful news today?
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep?

"As we watched at dead of night,
Lo! we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing 'Peace on earth'
told us of the Saviour's birth."

Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was Thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this!

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
by Thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble Thee,
in Thy sweet humility!

Public Domain

Hymn: O Little Town Of Bethlehem

Philips Brooks, 1835-1893

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 all on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
so God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

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 Immanuel.

Public Domain

Prayers of Response

(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.**

**All: Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out into the world
in the power of your Spirit,
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
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.**

Hymn: Joy To The World

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

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 all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow 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.

Public Domain

Connect with us

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.

English Services

Please join us for our English services on Sundays:

- Liturgical Services – 7am, 9am, 11am
- Contemporary (SMACC) Services – 9am (Wisma Anglican), 11am, 5pm

If you are joining us online on Sundays, the Liturgical service will be livestreamed at 9am.

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

Cathedral Kids' Church

The Kids' Church classes run on Sunday mornings, beginning 12 January 2025. The different age groups meet

at their respective classrooms at the Cathedral. Parents may pick up their children after the 11am church services ends. Please email kidschurch@stmaryscathedral.org.my or speak to our Kids' Church teachers for further information.

Hope Explored

Hope Explored is a 3-session course that helps you to explore the great longings in life: for hope, for peace and for purpose. Do join us to find out what the gospel of Luke says about these longings.

Please join us in-person for 3 Sunday afternoons from 5 January 2025, at 1.30 pm. A simple lunch will be served. You can register using the form here:

stmarys.my/findoutmore

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 the service you normally attend.
If giving to the Ministry Workers Fund, please put **“MWF”**.

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

E-wallet

Scan the following QR code using any banking or e-wallet app (Touch n Go/GrabPay/Boost). Please ensure **“St Mary's Cathedral”** is listed as the payee.



St Mary's Cathedral Main Hall

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.

Giving via Pledge Envelopes

In recent years, the church giving system has moved from a pledge envelope system to an online giving system. Those who wish to remain contributing via pledge envelopes are advised to write their pledge numbers on any blank envelopes and drop them in the allocated boxes at church.

Giving to the Ministry Workers Fund

If you would like to give to the Ministry Workers Fund, please scan the following QR code using any banking or e-wallet app (Touch n Go/GrabPay/Boost). Please ensure “**MWF**” is listed as the payee.



MWF