
Welcome & Prayer

Song: Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains

Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

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Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 62:6-12

⁶ On your walls, O Jerusalem,
I have set watchmen;
all the day and all the night
they shall never be silent.

You who put the LORD in remembrance,
take no rest,

⁷ and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it a praise in the earth.

⁸ The LORD has sworn by his right hand
and by his mighty arm:

“I will not again give your grain
to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink your wine
for which you have laboured;

⁹ but those who garner it shall eat it
and praise the LORD,
and those who gather it shall drink it
in the courts of my sanctuary.”

¹⁰ Go through, go through the gates;
prepare the way for the people;

build up, build up the highway;
clear it of stones;
lift up a signal over the peoples.

¹¹ Behold, the LORD has proclaimed
to the end of the earth:

Say to the daughter of Zion,
“Behold, your salvation comes;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.”

¹² And they shall be called The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the LORD;
and you shall be called Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading: Luke 2:8-20

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a

manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading: Titus 3:4-7

⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: The Good News of God's Promises

1. Introduction

2. God's Promise in the Past (Isaiah 62:6-12)

- a. God setting up the perfect Kingdom
- b. The invitation to all
- c. How will God bring this about?

3. God Making the Way (Luke 2:8-20)

- a. The Good News of Jesus Christ
- b. Proclaiming the Good News

4. God's Salvation (Titus 3:4-7)

- a. The form of God's salvation
- b. Heirs of God's blessing

5. Application

The Nicene Creed

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

Prayer of Confession

All: **Heavenly Father,**
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have gone our own way
and broken your laws.
We are sorry for our sins
and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us and change us.
By your Holy Spirit,
enable us to live for you,
and to please you more and more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Lord's Supper

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 Minister says:

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

Song: What Child Is This

What Child is this who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping
This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding
Good Christian fear for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading
Nails spear shall pierce Him through
The cross be borne for me for you
Hail hail the Word made flesh
The Babe the Son of Mary

So bring Him incense gold and myrrh
Come peasant king to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him
Raise raise the song on high
The Virgin sings her lullaby
Joy joy for Christ is born
The Babe the Son of Mary

Music Trad. English Folk Melody "Greensleeves"

Words by William Chatterton Dix

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The Lord's Prayer

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

Closing and Grace

All: **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

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

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

Song: We Wish You A Merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas

And a happy New Year

Good tidings we bring

To you and your kin

Good tidings for Christmas

And a happy New Year

We come now expressing

The faith we're confessing

To bring you a Christmas blessing

For a Happy New Year

May God's love surround you

His peace dwell within you

His mercy continue

Throughout this New Year

Merry Christmas

Words & Music by Claire Cloninger and Bob Krogstad

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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

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

Onsite & Online Services

Here are the details of our 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

Onsite Service Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help out at our onsite services. If you are a regular at St Mary's Cathedral and would like to volunteer, please fill in the form at stmarys.my/volunteer

The Cathedral Electoral Roll

We encourage all our baptised and confirmed members who come regularly to our church (whether online or onsite) to be on our Electoral Roll. Joining the Electoral Roll will enable you to vote at our Annual General Meetings (AGM).

If you would like to sign up to be on the roll, please fill in the form here: stmarys.my/electoralroll

The electoral roll for 2022 will close on **31 December 2021**.

Banns of Marriage

I publish the banns of marriage between Aaron Zachary Anak Nicholas of St Thomas Cathedral Kuching and Karen Lim Pei Pei of St Mary's Cathedral Kuala Lumpur.

This is the **THIRD TIME** of asking. If any of you know any reason in law why these persons may not marry each other, you are to declare to me.

Dean,
Very Rev Dr Andrew Cheah

Banns of Marriage

I publish the banns of marriage between Tay Chee Wei and Chua Lynn Yen, both of St Mary's Cathedral Kuala Lumpur.

This is the **FIRST TIME** of asking. If any of you know any reason in law why these persons may not marry each other, you are to declare to me.

Dean,
Very Rev Dr Andrew Cheah

The Daily Office

We invite you to join us for the Daily Office - a short daily service with systematic Bible readings and set prayers. This will take place every day at 7.30 am by Zoom (except Sunday).

If you think this would be a helpful part of your daily routine over this segment of the lockdown, please join us by simply going to stmarys.my/dailyoffice at about 7.25 am each day for a 7.30 am start. That will take you directly to the Zoom room where the service takes place. The service will finish well before 8.00 am.

If you can't use Zoom for any reason, but you are keen to be involved, then give our office a call during office hours on 011 5760 3484 and we will be happy to discuss special arrangements with you.

Pastoral 'Clinics'

In addition to whatever ways of contacting the pastoral team that are already available, Rev Gordon Kong and Rev Lee Kon Yim are also available on Thursdays at the following times if you would like to talk to a pastor:

- Rev Gordon Kong – 9.00 am – 12.00 pm
- Rev Lee Kon Yim – 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

If you are a regular at St Mary's Cathedral and would like to book a half hour appointment slot with anyone of them, please call the Cathedral office on 011 5760 3484 by the previous day.

Small Groups

Looking to connect with a Christian community to share lives and grow spiritually? Please do consider joining one of our online small groups to study God's Word, as well as to support and encourage one another.

Do fill in this form and we will connect you to a small group: stmarys.my/smallgroups

Kids' Church

Kids' Church meets online every week at the following times:

- 3-4 year olds on Sunday at 10.20 am
- 5-6 year olds on Sunday at 9.00 am
- 7-9's on Saturday at 2.00 pm

- 10-12's on Sunday at 2.00 pm

If you would like to enrol your child or find out more about Kids' Church, please visit stmarys.my/kids

Youth Fellowship

Our Youth Fellowship (ages 13-18) meets on Sundays at 2.00 pm. If you would like to join us, please sign up at stmarys.my/youth

Youth Confirmation Programme

If you would like to indicate interest in our Youth Confirmation Programme for your teenager aged 13-17, please let us know at stmarys.my/youthconfirmation and we will inform you when the next one starts.

Subscribe to our Mailing List

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

stmarys.my/subscribe

Work Care Panel

We have a panel to help our Cathedral community look for work or advise about work and training opportunities. If you're looking for work and wouldn't mind a helping hand, fill in our Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect, indicating that you would like someone from the Work Care Panel to contact you.

Pastoral Emergencies

If you or someone you know is finding this time a particularly challenging one, or would like someone to pray with you, please do call one of your leaders or congregational pastors. Please also remember that you can use our Emergency Pastoral Care Hotline on 011 5762 8524.

Please do reach out if you need help with food or other essentials like groceries. You can let us know by filling in a Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect.