

Christmas Eucharist

24 Dec 2020 (8pm)



Synod of the Diocese of West Malaysia

St Mary's Cathedral

Making disciples of Jesus Christ

Welcome

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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.*

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

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing;

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786), circa 1743; Tune: Adeste fideles
Audio of congregational singing of Grace Community Church - Sun Valley, California.
Courtesy of Martijn de Groot. Used by permission.

Collects

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: Micah 5:2-4

(Please be seated)

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

At the end of the reading the reader says

Reader: **This is the Word of the Lord.**

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-7

After the reader announces the reading

All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

At the end of the reading

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to Christ our Lord

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.**

Sermon: The First Christmas (Luke 2:1-7)

- 1. Christmas happened in history (v.1-2)**
- 2. Christmas happened in fulfillment of prophecy (v.3-5)**
- 3. Christmas points us forward (v.6-7)**

Angels We Have Heard On High

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

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Come to Bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the new-born King.

See within a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Saviour's birth.

Words: Traditional French carol, 18th cent.; Tune: Gloria (French)
Audio of congregational singing of Grace Community Church - Sun Valley, California
Courtesy of Martijn de Groot. Used by permission.

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, *Eddie* our Vicar-General, *Steven* our Bishop-designate, *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 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, 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)

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: 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

Silent Night

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,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born,
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,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Words: Josef Mohr, circa 1816-1818. Stanzas 1 & 3 translated from German to English by John F. Young, 1863; translator of stanzas 2: anonymous. Music: Franz X. Gruber, circa 1820

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 Christians, 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 a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Words: William C. Dox
Melody: Greensleeves

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

Dismissal

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.

Joy to the World

(Please Stand)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come
let earth receive her King
let every heart prepare Him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! 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.

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.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), 1719

Music: Antioch (George Frederic Handel, 1685-1759, arranged Lowell Mason, 1792-1872)

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 connect.stmarys.my

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**

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: give.stmarys.my

Christmas Day Family Service

We will have an online family service premiering on Christmas Day at 10am:

stmarys.my/christmas#day

You can join this service interactively on Zoom with others too. Log in at stmarys.my/ChristmasDayZoom after 9:45am and we will join in the service together.

Christmas Videos

If you missed it, here are our Christmas videos again: [The Dean's Christmas Message](#), [When Christmas Isn't Christmas](#), Christmas Bytes Day [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), and [Kids' Church Christmas Eve Service](#).

All our videos are on our [YouTube channel](#).

Sunday Service

Join [our regular Sunday service](#) this Sunday at 10am where we will learn from Luke 2:15-21, wrapping up our mini-series over Christmas on this chapter.

Life Explored

Life Explored is a course designed to help people explore the meaning of life and introduce them to the God who is revealed in Jesus Christ. This course will run online for 7 sessions at 2pm, beginning 3 January. Getting to know God, through the Bible, would be a wonderful way to start the new year and indeed a new chapter in life! You can sign up for the course here: findoutmore.stmarys.my

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Pastoral Emergencies

If you or someone you know is finding this CMCO a particularly challenging time, 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**.