

Morning Prayer

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Online Service | Sunday, 19th December 2021



Synod of the Diocese of West Malaysia

St Mary's Cathedral

Making disciples of Jesus Christ

Greeting

¶ *The Minister welcomes the people to the online service.*

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease,
Fill all the world with heaven's peace.

Words: J.M. Neale; Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

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*Audio of congregational singing of Grace Community Church,
Sun Valley, California. Courtesy of Martijn de Groot*

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Prayer of Confession

Minister: Brothers and sisters: The Scriptures urge us to acknowledge our many sins, and not to conceal them in the presence of God our heavenly Father, but to confess them with a penitent and obedient heart, so that we may be forgiven through his boundless goodness and mercy.

Let us therefore draw near to the throne of our gracious God, through our Lord Jesus Christ who died for us, and confess our sins together:

All: **Almighty and most merciful Father**
We have strayed from your ways like lost sheep
We have followed too much the devices and
desires of our own hearts
We have left undone those things which we
ought to have done
And we have done those things which we ought
not to have done
We have offended against your holy laws
We pray, O Lord, have mercy upon us
Forgive those, O Lord, who confess their faults
Restore, O God, those who are penitent

**According to your promises declared to all
people in Christ Jesus our Lord
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake
That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous
and obedient life
To the glory of your holy name
Amen.**

Minister: Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon
and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our
sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Amos 9:11-15

- ¹¹ “In that day I will raise up
the booth of David that is fallen
and repair its breaches,
and raise up its ruins
and rebuild it as in the days of old,
¹² that they may possess the remnant of Edom
and all the nations who are called by my name,”
declares the LORD who does this.
- ¹³ “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“when the ploughman shall overtake the reaper
and the treader of grapes him who sows the seed;
the mountains shall drip sweet wine,
and all the hills shall flow with it.
- ¹⁴ I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel,
and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit
them;
they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine,
and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit.
- ¹⁵ I will plant them on their land,
and they shall never again be uprooted
out of the land that I have given them,”
says the LORD your God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:7-19

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁸ You brought a vine out of Egypt;

you drove out the nations and planted it.

⁹ You cleared the ground for it;

it took deep root and filled the land.

¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shade,

the mighty cedars with its branches.

¹¹ It sent out its branches to the sea

and its shoots to the River.

¹² Why then have you broken down its walls,

so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

¹³ The boar from the forest ravages it,

and all that move in the field feed on it.

¹⁴ Turn again, O God of hosts!

Look down from heaven, and see;

have regard for this vine,

¹⁵ the stock that your right hand planted,

and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.

¹⁶ They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down;
may they perish at the rebuke of your face!

¹⁷ But let your hand be on the man of your right hand,
**the son of man whom you have made strong for
yourself!**

¹⁸ Then we shall not turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call upon your name!

¹⁹ Restore us, O LORD God of hosts!
Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

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: Acts 3:17-26

¹⁷ “And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰ that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. ²² Moses said, ‘The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. ²³ And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.’ ²⁴ And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. ²⁵ You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.’ ²⁶ God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Song: In His Name

The prophets saw in ages past
Light in the distant dawn
The King is bound in agony
Will rise to life again
And in His name a saving word
Release from every stain
And in the darkness we have heard
This is God's only plan
This is God's only plan

The Son of God now in the flesh
He seeks to save the lost
A King who left His majesty
Behind to set us free
And in His name a saving word
Release from every stain
And in the darkness we have heard
This is God's only plan
This is God's only plan

*And O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praises
And O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praises*

His Spirit gives us words to speak
Jesus Christ is Lord
And as He breaks the hardest heart
He's worshipped and adored
And in His name a saving word
Release from every stain
And in the darkness we have heard
This is God's only plan
This is God's only plan

Words: Luke Woodhouse, Nathan Walter, Gavin Perkins & Charles Wesley

Music: Luke Woodhouse, Nathan Walter & Gavin Perkins

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Sermon: The Eternal Kingdom Of God

Amos 9:11-15

1. Introduction - Amos

2. The Booth Of David (v11-12)

a) The Davidic Kingship

b) The Kingdom Under the Davidic King

3. The Overflowing Blessing (v13-14)

a) The Blessings of God

b) The Restoration of the Loss

4. The Permanent Solution (v15)

a) The New Kingdom

b) The Eternal Solution

5. Conclusion

Song: Maker, Made A Child

There was once a child a son born long ago
In Bethlehem's dark cold night
A promise for the world His birth was long foretold
A baby born to swallow death

*Oh Bethlehem a prophet told
From your streets will rise the ruler of all time
Oh Bethlehem our king you hold
For the Maker of the world is made a child
Oh the Maker of the world is made a child*

Descended from the kings of ever failing hearts
Begotten from before all time
Behold the Prince of Peace behold the Son of God
Who's swaddled now in mortal flesh

The One who breathed out stars
Now draws a shaking breath
The light of life among us dwells
Oh hear the darkness quake as angels all proclaim
The glory of Immanuel

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The Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right
hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: In joyful expectation of his coming again,
we pray to Jesus, saying,

Leader: Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for the church throughout the world...

prayers for the church in other nations

prayers for churches in our province and diocese

prayers for our cathedral

Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your rule.

Leader: Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for the nations of the world...

prayers for the nations

prayers for our nation

Lord Jesus, King of Kings,
before you rulers will stand in silence.
For you come to judge the earth.

Leader: Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for those who are sick or in grief...

prayers for the sick and suffering

prayers for those who mourn the death of loved ones

(and thanksgiving for their lives)

Hasten the day when sickness and death
shall be no more,
and there shall be no more mourning,
or crying or pain,
when the old order of things is done away.

Leader: Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Come to us from heaven,
to lift us up to meet you,
and to be with you in glory
where you live and reign,
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.

All: **Amen.**

Collects

Collect for the fourth Sunday of Advent

**All: God our redeemer,
who prepared the blessed virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming
as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Collect for Advent Sunday

**All: Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us
in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

A Collect for Trustfulness In Times Of Worry And Anxiety

**All: Most loving Father,
you will us to give thanks for all things,
to dread nothing but the loss of you,
and to cast all our care on the One who cares for us.
Preserve us from faithless fears and worldly
anxieties,
and grant that no clouds of this mortal life
may hide from us the light of that love which is
immortal,
and which you have manifested unto us in your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**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

Hymn: Lo He Comes

Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain:
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of His train:
Hallelujah!
Jesus now shall ever reign.

Every eye shall now behold Him
Robed in awesome majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold Him,
Pierced, and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

Now redemption, long expected,
See in solemn pomp appear:
All His saints, by man rejected,
Now shall meet Him in the air:
Hallelujah!
See the Day of God appear!

Every island, sea, and mountain,
Heaven and earth, shall flee away;
All who hate Him must, confounded,
Hear the trump proclaim the Day:
Come to judgement!
Come to judgement! come away!

Yea, Amen! let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne:
Saviour, take the power and glory,
Claim the kingdom for Thine own:
O, come quickly,
Everlasting God, come down!

Words: John Cennick

Tune: HELMSLEY

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Audio of congregational singing of Metropolitan Tabernacle, London

Courtesy of Martijn de Groot. Used by Permission

Closing and Grace

¶ *Parting words from the minister, with the 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.**

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

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

Christmas Services

We hope that you will be able to join us for our onsite and online services this Christmas, 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

Bookings for the Christmas onsite services can be made at stmarys.my/booking

Christmas Carols with the Golden Circle

The Golden Circle is organising an online Christmas Carol session on Zoom this Monday, 20 December 2021 at 8.00 pm. Log in to hear Christmas Carols presented by representatives from various congregations and join in the Christmas cheer. Everyone is welcomed! Zoom link:

stmarys.my/gccarols

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. The booking for this onsite only Liturgical service opens at 2.00 pm, Sunday, 19 December 2021. Please book at stmarys.my/booking

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

Virtual Tea Terrace

A big 'thank you' to the team who organised the Virtual Tea Terrace (VTT) and to everyone who has 'popped in' to catch up and exchange greetings after the online service on Sunday mornings. This particular way of connecting has now come to an end, but do keep encouraging each other. Many of us are now able to book to come to church onsite and we pray that this will grow as more services are added. For those who are home, do consider other ways of connecting with each other. Do post your greetings to each other in the YouTube live chat as well as calling and WhatsApp-ing each other after church. Let us keep encouraging each other to love and good works as we see the Day approaching.

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.

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 SECOND 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 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**.

Diocesan Head Office Vacancies

The following vacancies are available in the Diocesan Head Office:

- 1) Administration Officer
- 2) Information Technology (IT) Officer

More details about the positions above and how to apply can be found [here](#).

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.

If you are a woman and have a pastoral matter which you would prefer to talk about with another woman, please feel free to contact Dss Yit Ching Li, Mrs Christine Rajaratnam or Miss Danielle Cheng. You can fill out a connect card with a request for one of them to contact you (please note however that Dss Ching Li is away at the moment).

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 in 2022.

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 also 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.