

Welcome to Christmas Day worship at St Paul's

About today's
service:

Worship this morning
is led by Pastor
Wilhelm Stern.

Our theme today is:
Rejoice –
God is here!





Processional Hymn

O come, all ye faithful

LH 34



1. 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!*



2. God of God,
Light of light,
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:

*O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!*



3. Sing choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the highest:

*O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!*



4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, 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!*

Adeste, fideles
Latin hymn, before 18th century
Tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1852, alt.
In the public domain





Opening Sentences

To us a child is born!

To us a Son is given!

The Word became flesh and lived among us.

To us a Son is given.

*From the fullness of his grace we have
all received one blessing after another.*

To us a Son is given.





The Invocation

*In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.*

Amen.





The Confession of Sins

Friends in Christ:

Jesus says: 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

Let us confess our sins to God our Father, and ask him to forgive us through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Please kneel or sit for the confession.





Lord God, our heavenly Father,
I have sinned against you,
not only in my words and actions,
but also in my secret thoughts and
desires which I cannot fully know or
understand, but which you know
completely.





I am sorry that I have displeased you,
and repent of the evil I have done.
For the sake of your dear Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
have mercy on me, forgive my sins,
and graciously help me in my
weakness. Amen.

*Silence for reflection
and self-examination.*





The Absolution

.....

Peace be with you.

Amen.



*Please stand to share the peace with
those around you.*





Hymn of Praise

Hark the herald angels sing
TIS 303



1. Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all you nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim:
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King.*



2. 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, the incarnate Deity,
pleased in human flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*



3. 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.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

Charles Wesley 1707-88 and others. In the public domain.





The Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:





The Prayer of the Day

O God the Son, highest and holiest, who humbled himself to share our birth and our death: bring us with the shepherds and the wise men to kneel before your holy cradle, that we may come to sing with your angels your glorious praises in heaven; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, God, world without end. Amen.





The Readings

The First Reading – Isaiah 52:7-10

The salvation of our God

Response

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.





Psalm 98

Cantor / Congregation

*The Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice;
the Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice.*

The Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice;
the Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice.



*Sing to the Lord a new song
for God has done wondrous deeds;
whose right hand has won the victory for us,
God's holy arm.*

The Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice;
the Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice.



*The Lord has made salvation known,
and justice revealed to all,
remembering kindness and faithfulness
to Israel.*

The Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice;
the Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice.



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

*Joyfully sing out all you lands,
break forth in song.*

The Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice;
the Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice.



*Sing to the Lord with harp and song
with trumpet and with horn.*

*Sing in your joy before the king,
the king, our Lord.*

The Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice;
the Lord comes to the earth
to rule the earth with justice.

Music: David Haas/Marty Haugen
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The Second Reading - Hebrews 1:1-4

God speaks to us through his Son

Response

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.





Alleluia Verse

Cantor / Congregation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.*

Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Luke 2:14 NRSV)





The Holy Gospel - John 1:1-14

The eternal Word has become a human being

The Holy Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

(sung) Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(sung) Praise to you, O Christ.





The Address

*There will be a time of reflection
after the address.*





Reflection

- Rejoice –
God becomes one of us
- Rejoice –
God shares our pain and joy
- Rejoice –
God gives us the gift of all gifts:
life and life eternal
- Rejoice –
All of creation will be free





The Nicene Creed

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,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.



For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.



On the third day he rose again
in accordance with 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,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who 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.

** or: Christian; 'catholic' here means 'universal'*





The Offering

Now sing we, now rejoice
LH 623

*Please return your message card
in the offering bowl.*

*Thank you to those who have given
their offering via REG.*



1. Now sing we, now rejoice,
Now raise to heaven our voice;
He from whom joy streameth
Poor in a manger lies.
Yet not so brightly beameth
The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Saviour art,
Thou my Saviour art!



2. Come from on high to me,
I cannot rise to Thee;
Cheer my wearied spirit,
O pure and holy child.
Through all Thy grace and merit,
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild.
Draw me unto Thee,
Draw me unto Thee.



3. Now through His Son doth shine
The Father's grace divine;
Death o'er us has reigned
Through sin and vanity;
The Son for us obtained
Eternal joy on high.
O that we were there,
O that we were there!



4. O where shall joy be found?
Where but on heavenly ground?
Where the angels singing
With all His saints unite,
Their sweetest praises bringing
In heavenly joy and light.
O that we were there,
O that we were there!

Nun singet und seid froh (In dulci jubilo)
German, 14th century
Tr. Arthru Tozer Russell, 1851, alt.





The Offertory

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and uphold me with a willing spirit.





The Prayer of the Church

Response

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.





The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

For that is fitting and right.





The Preface





Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy,

Lord God of hosts;

heaven and earth are

full of your glory.

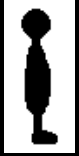
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.





The Words of Institution





The Lord's Prayer

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 for ever. Amen.





The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.





Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. Amen.



Welcome to guests with us today!

Holy Communion is for **baptised** Christians who **believe** in the Triune God, **trust** in Jesus Christ as their Saviour, **repent** of their sins, and **confess** that in this meal Christ gives us his true body and blood, in, with and under the bread and wine, for the forgiveness of sins.



If you share these beliefs, you are invited to receive Holy Communion.

Alternatively, you are very welcome to come forward to receive an individual blessing.

St Paul's Communion Practice:

- Come forward pew by pew (front to back)
- Alternate left and right sides of the church
- Either kneel or stand at the altar

Please allow the people in your pew who are closest to the wall to commune first, so they can return to their seat first.

A separate intinction cup is available for those who prefer to dip the wafer.

Communion is continuous – when you have received the bread and wine, please return to your seat.





Music During the Distribution

Choir:

The Shepherd's Farewell
Berloiz



*1. Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling,
The humble crib, the stable bare.
Babe, all mortal babes excelling,
Content our earthly lot to share,
Loving father, loving mother,
Shelter thee with tender care!
Loving father, loving mother,
Shelter thee with tender care,
shelter thee with tender care.*



*2. Blessed Jesus, we implore thee,
With humble love, and holy fear.
In the land that lies before thee,
Forget not us who linger here!
May the shepherd's lowly calling,
Ever to thy heart be dear!
May the shepherds lowly calling,
Ever to thy heart be dear,
ever to thy heart be dear.*



*3. Blest are ye beyond all measure,
Thou happy father, mother mild.
Guard ye well your heav'nly treasure,
The Prince of Peace, the Hold Child!
God go with you, God protect you,
Guide you safely through the wild!
God go with you, God protect you,
Guide you safely through the wild,
guide you safely through the wild.*





Distribution Hymn

Christ who in a wooden manger

Words: Pastor Stephen Pietsch



1. Christ, who in a wooden manger
made your small and humble bed;
now upon this wooden altar
lay your body and your blood:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
In this Christmas Eucharist!



2. Christ, who once a little baby
praised by shepherds and by kings;
small and great here kneel before you
to receive these holy things;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
In this Christmas Eucharist!



3. Christ, who cradled by your mother,
once received her loving kiss;
in our hands we hold your body;
take your blood upon our lips;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
In this Christmas Eucharist!



4. Christ, once glorified by angels.
worshipped by the heavenly host;
gathered here around your table,
we share in their victory-feast.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In this Christmas Eucharist!



5. Christ, the child, once born among us
to make your creation whole;
here again in this communion
you are our Immanuel.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In this Christmas Eucharist!

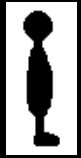
Words: Pastor Stephen Pietsch





The Dismissal





Song of Simeon

Lord, now let your servant
depart in peace
according to your word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation
which you have prepared
in the presence of all people;
a light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.



Glory to the Father,
and the Son,
and the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be for evermore.
Amen.





The Thanksgiving Prayer

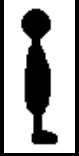
God of light, with our eyes we have seen your salvation in this holy feast you have prepared for us.

Send us out into the world to be your holy people,

revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.





The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

*The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.*

*The Lord look upon you with favour,
† and give you peace.*

Amen.





Closing Sentences

Go in peace

to be channels of the love of God.

In the name of Christ. Amen.





A special welcome to any visitors!

Please accept a Welcome Pack and sign our guest book in the foyer, or leave us your details on a message card.

The message card may be placed in the box at the church door.

MESSAGE  **ST PAUL'S**
Lutheran Church Box Hill
IN CHRIST WE GATHER, GROW, AND GO

Date: / / Service/Event:

Name:

Address:

Email:

Daytime phone:

I would like to:

Find out more about St Paul's

Join a small group

Record my changed address / phone / email

Leave the following message/prayer request for:

Pastors/staff Prayer group Sunday services

.....

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Information provided on this form will be used in accordance with our Privacy Policy which is available from the Church Office or <http://www.stpaulsboxhill.org.au>



Coming Up in Worship

Sunday December 30

Worship at 9.30am*

**note change of time*

New Year's Eve

There will be no New Year's Eve Service

Sunday 6 January (*and following*)

Worship at 8.30am and 10.30am



Closing Hymn

O how joyfully
TIS 330



1. O, how joyfully, O how hopefully,
waits the world on Christmas Eve!
Love comes healing,
God revealing.
Friends be joyful and believe.



2. O how joyfully, O how peacefully,
Sleeps the world on Christmas Night!
Sins are covered,
Grace discovered.
In our darkness shines the light.



3. O how joyfully, O how thankfully,
Wakes the world on Christmas morn!
God has spoken,
Death is broken.
Alleluia, Christ is born!

Brian Arthur Wren 1936 -
Based on *O du Fröhliche* by Johann D Falk
& Heinrich Holzschüher; as *tr.* Harris Loewen
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The staff of St Paul's
wish you and your family
a blessed, peaceful and joyful
Christmas and 2019.



