

Anglican Diocese of Brisbane

CHRIST CHURCH ST LUCIA

A Service of Lessons & Carols

4th Sunday of Advent



Sunday, 20th December, 2020

6.00pm

RECTOR

The Venerable Michael Faragher

Choir

The Lucian Singers

Director of Music / Organist

Christopher Wrench

Organ Scholar

Talia Garrett-Benson

Trumpet

William Foster

Solo (*Once in Royal David's city*)

Oliver Wrench

5.40pm

Organ Prelude

Variations sur 'In dulci jubilo'

Denis BÉDARD

b.1950

In dulci jubilo, BWV 608

Johann Sebastian BACH

1685-1750

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Gilbert MARTIN

b.1941

In dulci jubilo, BuxWV 197

Dietrich BUXTEHUDE

C 1637-1707

As the organ prelude is an integral part of the service, please maintain a respectful silence

There will be an opportunity to contribute to the work of the church via **tap-and-go** or the **offering plate** following the service as you exit the church

Order of Service

*Please remain SEATED for the readings & choir carols and
STAND as you are able to sing the hymns.*

The congregation is invited to stand as are able for verse 3

OPENING HYMN

Solo Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle-shed
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
[All STAND] with the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

**ALL And through all his wondrous childhood
day by day like us he grew,
he was little, weak, and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew:
and he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above:
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.**

Words by CF Alexander (1818-95)

Melody by HJ Gauntlett (1805-76)

v.4 arr. Robert Ampt. (b.1949)

vv 2-3 by H.J.Gauntlet & AH Mann (1850-1929)

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

The Venerable Michael Faragher

Rector of Christ Church St. Lucia

Dear friends in Christ,
we gather together on the final Sunday in Advent
to prepare our hearts for the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ;
to meditate upon the mystery of that Incarnation
by which our nature is redeemed,
and to receive with joy the message of our salvation.

The Lectern candles are lit during the Advent Prose

CHOIR Advent Prose (Advent 4) - David Drury (b.1961)

*Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.*

Comfort ye, my people, my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions;
Fear not, for I will save thee: for I am thy God,
the Holy one of Israel, thy Redeemer.

*Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.*

Words: Rorate Cæli (Is.45:8)

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honour and glory, now and forever. Amen.

1. The PROPHECY

Isaiah 11: 1-3a, 4a

Read by Sophie Cockcroft

The Godly character of the Christ foretold

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

The Advent Wreath is lit during the singing of following carol

CHOIR A Tender Shoot - Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)

A tender shoot has started
up from a root of grace,
as ancient seers imparted
from Jesse's holy race;
It blooms without a blight,
blooms in the cold bleak winter
turning our darkness into light.

This shoot, Isaiah taught us,
from Jesse's root should spring;
the Virgin Mary brought us
the branch of which we sing:
our God of endless might
gave her this child to save us,
thus turning darkness into light.

Words: Otto Goldschmidt, *trans.* W Bartholomew

PRAYER Read by Dr. Rhonda Faragher

Michael Leunig

Dear God,
We struggle, we grow weary, we grow tired.
We are exhausted, we are distressed, we despair.
We give up, we fall down, we let go.
We cry. We are empty, we grow calm, we are ready.
We wait quietly.

A small, shy truth arrives. Arrives from without and within. Arrives and is born.
Simple, steady, clear. Like a mirror, like a bell, like a flame. Like rain in summer.
A precious truth arrives and is born within us. Within our emptiness.

We accept it, we observe it, we absorb it.
We surrender to our bare truth. We are nourished, we are changed.
We are blessed. We rise up.
For this we give thanks. **Amen.**

The standing candles before the altar are lit during the following hymn

HYMN

The Angel Gabriel

- ALL 1 **The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady,' Gloria!**
- 2 **For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold;
most highly favoured lady,' Gloria!**
- Choir 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name':
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!
- ALL 4 **Of her, Immanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
'Most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!**

Words: Basque carol;
Paraphrase by Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)
Music: Malcom Archer (b.1952)

2. AT THE MANGER: Mary

Luke 1: 26-35, 38

Read by Jessie Klug

The Angel Gabriel announces to Mary the coming of Christ

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you."

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God". Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

CHOIR I sing of a maiden - Lennox Berkeley (1903-1989)

I sing of a maiden
That is *makèless*: (= *matchless*)
King of all kinges
For her son she *ches*. (= *chose*)

He came all so stillè
There his mother was,
As dew in Aprillè
That falleth on the grass.

He came as stillè
To his mother's bower
As dew in Aprillè
That falls on the flowr.

Mother and maiden
Was never none but she;
Well may such a lady
Godes mother be.

Words: 15th century English

Responsory:

Priest: The Lord himself will give you a sign.

ALL: **Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son.**

Priest: And they shall name him Emmanuel,

ALL: **Which means, God is with us.**

Isaiah 7:14

PRAYER

Read by Carol O’Ryan

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor and lowly.

Grant us grace to receive your Word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Altar candles are lit during the singing of the following hymn:

HYMN

**Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.**

**O that birth forever blessed,
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Spirit's power conceiving,
bore the Saviour of our race;
and the babe, the world's redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!**

**In the heights of heaven, adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
All dominions bow before him,
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice together sing,
evermore and evermore.**

Words: Prudentius (348 - c. 410),
trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66)
Music: Trad. vv1-2 arr. Richard Lloyd;
v3 arr. David Iliff

Read by Dr Chris Andrews

The story of Joseph

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Responsory:

Priest: A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse.

All: **And a branch shall grow out of his roots.**

Priest: The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him.

All: **The spirit of wisdom and understanding.**

Priest: The spirit of counsel and might.

All: **The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.** *Isaiah 11:1-2*

PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, who from the family of your servant David raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the spouse of his virgin mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Chapel Altar candles are lit during the singing of 'People Look East'

CHOIR **People, look east - Barry Ferguson (b.1942)**

People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

4. THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Luke 2: 1, 3-7

Read by Jessica Chong

The story of Jesus' Birth

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Nave Altar candles are lit during the following hymn

HYMN

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

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
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 Emmanuel.

Words: Bishop Phillips Brooks (1835-93)
Trad. arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
v4 arr, David Hill

Read by Karen Sundar

The Magi are led to Christ by the star

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

CHOIR

Torches - John Joubert (b.1927)

Torches, torches, run with torches
All the way to Bethlehem!
Christ is born and now lies sleeping;
Come and sing your song to Him!

Ah, Roro, Roro, my baby,
Ah, Roro, my love, Roro;
Sleep you well, my heart's own darling,
While we sing you our Roro.

Sing, my friends, and make you merry,
Joy and mirth and joy again;
Lo, He lives, the King of heaven,
Now and evermore. Amen.

Trans. J.B. Trend (from the Galician)

Responsory:

Priest: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

All: **And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Priest: For darkness shall cover the earth,
All: **And thick darkness the peoples.**
Priest: But the Lord will arise upon you,
All: **And his glory will appear over you.**

Isaiah 60:1-2

PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Paschal candle is lit during the following carol

CHOIR

The silver stars are in the sky,
The red-gold moon goes riding high,
O, sleep my little one sleep!

Once long ago, against her breast,
A mother rocked a babe to rest,
Who was the Prince of Heav'n above,
The Lord of gentleness and love.
O, sleep my little one sleep!

The boobook calls a cross the night
The brown moths flutter in the light,
O, sleep my little one sleep!

In Bethlehem long, long ago,
When roads and paddocks gleam'd with snow;
On this same night, that mother mild,
Lull'd into dreams Her Royal Child.
So, sleep, my little one, sleep!
My little one sleep!

Words: John Wheeler
Music: William James

Read by Tim Reid

The shepherds go to see the Christ-child

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours.

HYMN

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flights o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night
God with us is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light:
Gloria in excelsis Deo ...

Wise men, leave your contemplation,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star:
Gloria in excelsis Deo ...

Though an infant now we view him,
He will share his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
ev'ry knee shall then bow down:
Gloria in excelsis Deo ...

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854)

Music: French traditional melody, arr. Robert Ampt (b.1949)

Responsory:

Priest: Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings.

All: **Lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings.**

Priest: Lift it up, do not fear.

All: **Say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"**

Isaiah 10:9

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world.
We pray that his birth as a human child
will set us free from the old slavery of our sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

ORGAN What is that lovely Fragrance - Paul Manz (1919-2009)

HOMILY

The Venerable Michael Faragher
Rector of Christ Church & Archdeacon of Oxley

CHOIR Jul, jul, strålande jul - Gustaf Nordquist (1886-1949)

Jul, jul, strålande jul, glans över vita skogar,
himmelens kronor med gnistrande ljus,
glimmande bågar i alla Guds hus,
psalm, som är sjungen från tid till tid,
eviga längtan till ljus och frid!
Jul, jul, strålande jul, glans över vita skogar!

Kom, kom, signade jul! Sänk dina vita vingar
över stridernas blod och larm,
över all suckan ur människobarm,
över de släkten, som gå till ro,
över de ungas dagande bo!
Kom, kom, signade jul! Sänk dina vita vingar!

Translation:

Christmas, Christmas, shining Christmas, lustre over white forests,
Heaven's crowns with sparkling lights, glimmering arcs in God's houses
Psalm that is sung from time to time, eternal longing for light and peace!
Christmas, Christmas, shining Christmas, lustre over white forests.

Come, come blessed Christmas! Lower your white wings
over the battles' blood and alarm, over all the sighs of human chests,
over the generations who go to rest, over the young one' dawning nest.
Christmas, Christmas, shining Christmas, lower your white wings.

Text: Edvard Evans

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION:

Bruce Prewer 'Australian Prayers'

If we have arrived at a time in our lives
when the Christmas story no longer excites or renews us:

Have mercy upon us, O God.

If, in the midst of the riches of the gospel,
of the Word made flesh, we live like paupers:

Have mercy upon us, O God.

If the coming of Jesus fails to challenge us
and the song of the angels ceases to enthrall us:

Have mercy upon us, O God.

If, in the face of the world's greatest need,
we hoard the good news like misers:

Have mercy upon us, O God.

Silent meditation

So that we may be forgiven and renewed:

Restore to us the joy of salvation.

So that we may be a loving community:

Restore to us the joy of salvation.

So that we may cloth our good intentions

With the garment of action:

Restore to us the joy of salvation,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Distribution of the Light:

During the reading of the 'Gospel of the Light' votive candles will be lit in the body of the church as a symbol of the passing of the light amongst the gathered community.

7. THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

John 1: 1-14

Read by The Venerable Michael Faragher (Rector of Christ Church & Archdeacon of Oxley)

The hope of Christ for the world

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

HYMN

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:
O come, let us adore him...

CHOIR only See how the shepherds
 summoned to his cradle,
 leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
 we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:
 O come, let us adore him...

ALL **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!

Words & Melody by J.F. Wade (c.1711-1786)
trans. F Oakeley, W.T. Brooke & others
v3 arr. C. Wrench, v4 arr. David Hill

CLOSING PRAYER & BENEDICTION

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you have made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light.
Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence
and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory;
through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Almighty and Incarnate God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Organ Voluntary:

In dulci júbilo, BWV 729

Johann Sebastian BACH

**AS WE DEPART, please remember that
we are still required to maintain a 1.5m distance from others
where possible and avoid any touching other than an elbow tap.**

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

at Christ Church, St Lucia

Christmas Eve

Thursday 24th Dec

6.00pm

Family Christmas Eucharist

Children are encouraged to dress up

10.40pm

Musical Prelude

11.00pm

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Fri 25th Dec

7.00am

Holy Eucharist (with Carols)

9.00am

Sung Eucharist (with Choir)

Attendance at Christmas services, as for **all upcoming** services of worship **MUST** be **booked** in advance – by emailing the [Parish Office](#) or phoning **3870 8887**.

If the office is unattended please leave a message.

Material is printed under CAL Licence No. 5264.
CCLI Licence No. 78392 TIS Licence No. AUS20-10069E-6416S4.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from
ONE LICENSE. License #C-736129-A. All rights reserved.

CONTACT US:

Parish Office - 3870 8887 or
Fr Michael Faragher – 0424-344 273
email: stlucia@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

www.anglican-stlucia.org