

St Matthew-in-the-City



Carols for Christmas

24 December 2020 10.30pm

Nau mai, haere mai;
a warm welcome to St Matthew-in-the-City.
We are glad you have come to celebrate Christmas
with this community.

We hope that you will find the Christmas spirit
of peace and love in tonight's celebrations.

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME Rev Cate Thorn

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

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

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
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 in us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

*Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)
Tune: Forest Green, English traditional melody. TIS 316*

READING: John 1:1-5, 14

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 Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou living Source of light,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: based on Latin Antiphons, tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866)

Tune: Veni Emmanuel, plainsong melody, harm John H. Arnold (1887-1956). TIS 265

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 worship and angels sing:
haste, haste to bring him praise
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
where ox and ass are feeding?
Come, have no fear, God's Son is here,
his love all loves exceeding:
nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you:
hail, hail, the Saviour comes,
the babe, the son of Mary

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
all tongues and peoples own him,
the King of kings salvation brings,
let every heart enthrone him:
raise, raise your song on high
while Mary sings a lullaby,
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

*Tune: Greensleeves, 16th century English melody,
harm. attrib. John Stainer (1840-1901). Voices United 74*

READING: Luke 1:26-35, 38

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the new-born King!
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th’angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”

Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the new-born King!”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin’s **womb.**
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th’incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing:
“Glory to the new-born King!”

Hail the heav’n-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!”

AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright:
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore your glory see.

As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to your lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
one who heaven and earth adore:
so may we with willing feet
ever seek your mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
at your cradle rude and bare:
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

*Words: William Chatterdon Dix (1837-1898) alt.
Tune: Dix, arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)
from a chorale by Conrad Kocher (1786-1872). TIS 314*

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold,
**“Peace on the earth, good will to all
from heaven’s all-gracious king!”**
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled;
and still their heavenly music floats
o’er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o’er its Babel sounds
the blessèd angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever-circling years
comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and all the world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

*Words: Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876)
Tune: Noel, English trad. melody,
adapted by Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900). Voices United 185*

READING: Luke 2:1-20

OFFERTORY

The Offertory will be shared with the Auckland City Mission, Christian World Service, and St Matthew-in-the-City.

Thank you for your contribution to the work of these organisations.

Text *stmatthew* to *818* to make a fast one off or ongoing donation by credit card to St Matthew-in-the-City.

Or you can download the PUSHPAY app from Apple Store or Google Playstore and search for St Matthew-in-the-City.

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.

Märie te pö, tapu te pö
Ka kite nga hepara
Te koröria o te rangi
Me nga ahera Hareruia
Kua whanau te tamaiti
E Ihu te Karaiti

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: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)
Tune: Melody by Franz X. Gruber (1787-1863). TIS 311*

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down
and glory shone around.

'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind),
'glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind.

'To you in David's town this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

'the heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling clothes
and in a manger laid.'

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

'All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
goodwill henceforth from heaven to all
begin and never cease.'

Words: Nahum Tate (1652-1715). Tune: Winchester Old. TIS 299

THE FIRST NOWELL

The first nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

They lookèd up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

This star drew nigh to the north-west;
over Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

Then entered in those wise men three
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world! The Lord has come;
let earth receive her king.
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns;
your sweetest songs employ.
While fields and streams, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

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), based on Psalm 98
Tune: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759). WOV 224*

READING: “24 December” by Joy Cowley

CAROL OUR CHRISTMAS

Carol our Christmas, an upside down Christmas;
snow is not falling and trees are not bare.
Carol the summer, and welcome the Christ Child,
warm in our sunshine and sweetness of air.

Sing of the gold and the green and the sparkle,
water and river and lure of the beach.
Sing in the happiness of open spaces,
sing a nativity summer can reach!

Shepherds and mustersers move over hillsides,
finding, not angels, but sheep to be shorn;
wise ones make journeys whatever the season,
searching for signs of the truth to be born.

Right side up Christmas belongs to the universe,
made in the moment a woman gives birth;
hope is the Jesus gift, love is the offering,
everywhere, anywhere, here on the earth.

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020).
Tune: Reversi, Colin Gibson. AA 9*

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.*

God from God, light from light,
lo, he abhors not the **virgin's womb!**
Very God, begotten, not created:

O come, let us adore him. . .

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with holy fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:

O come, let us adore him. . .

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God, glory in the highest':

O come, let us adore him. . .

*Words: possibly by John Francis Wade (c.1711-1786)
Tune: Adeste Fideles. TIS 304*

BLESSING

Midnight Mass at 11.30pm will follow this service

*Whatever your beliefs,
you are welcome to participate fully
and share in this midnight Christmas celebration*

Christmas Day
10am Christmas Sung Eucharist

If you want to know more about St Matthew's
take a look at our website <http://www.stmatthews.nz/>,
like us on Facebook,
follow our vicar on Twitter @RevHelenJacobi and @StMatthewsNZ .
Feel free to take photos during our services
and share them on Facebook and Twitter.
No video recording please.

Toilets are located down the stairs on the left hand side of the church.
An accessible toilet is located on the right hand side past the kitchen.

The Parish Office is now closed;
reopening Monday 11 January 2021.
Sunday services on 27 December, 3, 10 January at 10am only.
Sunday 8am services resume on January 17, 2021.
Wednesday 12.20pm services resume on February 3, 2021.

Vicar: Rev Helen Jacobi helen@stmatthews.org.nz

Priest for Community Engagement: Rev Cate Thorn
cate@stmatthews.org.nz

Parish Office phone: (09) 379 0625

The service is being live streamed -
the camera only shows the altar area, not the congregation.

*You are invited to keep this copy of the liturgy and take it home with you
to share with another member of your family, or with a friend.*

*Hymns reproduced with permission under CCLI licence 637264
Hymns and music livestreamed with permission under CCLI licence 148313*

SCAN HERE TO SIGN-IN WITH THE
NZ COVID TRACER APP



St Matthew in the City
132 Hobson Street Auckland City Auckland

Sign-in. Stop the virus.

Help protect yourself, your whānau, and your community with our contact tracing app.

Search NZ COVID Tracer app now:



Unite
against
COVID-19



MANATŪ HAUORA