

St Matthew-in-the-City



Christmas Eve 2022
8pm

Nau mai, haere mai;
a warm welcome to St Matthew-in-the-City,
a spirited place where people stand, connect,
and seek common ground.

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.

Presider: Rev Helen Jacobi, Vicar

Preacher: Rev Cate Thorn

Organist: Nicholas Forbes

St Matthew's Voices

*At any time in the service when we invite you to stand
you are welcome to remain seated if you need to.*

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.*

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 . . .

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born for our salvation,
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father
now in flesh appearing:

O come, let us adore him . . .

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

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.

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...

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...

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...

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...

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord
that hath made heaven and earth of naught
and with his blood humankind hath bought:

Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell...

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, Collin Gibson. AA 9

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay;
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.

*Words: verses 1-2: Trad. Carol (19th century); verse 3: attr. to J. T. McFarland
Tune: Cradle Song, melody by William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)
arr. David Willcocks. Source: Carols for Choir 1, #2*

7.30pm-8pm we sing the carols

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, G. F. Handel (1685-1759), arr. by L. Mason (1792-1872). WOV 224*

*At any time in the service when we invite you to stand
you are welcome to remain seated if you need to.*

PROCESSIONAL 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;
with the poor, and meek, and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.

**And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honour and obey,
love and watch the loving mother
in whose gentle arms he lay.
Christian children all should be
mild, obedient, good as he.**

For he is our childhood's pattern;
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.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him: but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
where like stars his children crowned,
all in white shall wait around.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Tune: Irby, H. J. Gauntlett (1803-1876), harm. by A. H. Mann; Carols for Choirs I 3

WELCOME

Son of God, light that shines in the dark,
Child of joy and peace,
help us to come to you
and be born anew this holy night.

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,
the love at our beginning and without end,
in our midst and with us.

God is with us, here we find new life.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Liturgist:

Tonight we light the Christ Candle.
God of hope, peace, joy and love,
we celebrate your gifts of life and justice in Jesus' birth.
Give us a sense of wonder and grace
so that all people can rejoice
in your transforming words and actions.

Amen.

Please be seated.

GLORIA

from Mass in C major, K. 220 "Sparrow Mass"

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

SENTENCE AND PRAYER FOR THE DAY

In the beginning there was the Word ...
and the Word was God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us ...
full of grace and truth.

John 1:1, 14

God of grace and truth,
whose word brings light to birth
in the heart of a darkening world,
which fears a love it cannot name:
may flesh be blessed and born anew
by a truth which leaves the heavens
and walks the waiting earth;
through Jesus Christ, the Word incarnate.
Amen.¹

PSALM 98

Setting by Gerald Knight

GRADUAL HYMN

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.

Mārie te pō, tapu te pō
Ka kite nga hepara
Te korōria o te rangi
Me nga ahera Harerua
Kua whanau te tamaiti
E Ihu te Karaiti

¹ *Steven Shakespeare*

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), tr. J. F. Young (1820-1885)
Tune: Silent Night, melody by F. X. Gruber (1787-1863). TIS 311*

We turn to face the Gospel reader.

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to John,
chapter one, beginning at verse one.



Shine on our path - ways.

John 1:1-14

This is the Gospel of Christ.



May we hear wis - dom. 2

DRAMATIC READING AND REFLECTION 3

THE ANTHEM

O magnum mysterium

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

² Music by Michael CW Bell

³ Reading adapted from "The Incarnation", "Cloth for the Cradle", Iona Community, Wild Goose Worship Group (2000)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us be still and mindful of the world,
the Church, this nation,
our communities, and ourselves.

THE PEACE

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace
who breaks down the walls that divide.

The peace of God be always with you
and also with you.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN ⁴

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?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

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

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Words: French trad., trans. James Chadwick 1860

Tune: Gloria, French Carol melody. Source: The New Century Hymnal 125

Please be seated.

⁴ During this hymn no collection will be taken up. There is a donation bowl on the back table.

For electronic giving option:

- text **stmatthew** to **818** to make a fast one off or ongoing donation by credit card to St Matthew-in-the-City or
- download the PUSHPAY app from Apple Store or Google Playstore and search for St Matthew-in-the-City.

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Glory be to God who flows through all creation,
blessing us with gifts to share.

Blessed be God forever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Spirit is here.

God's hope is in us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the God of Peace.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

All life is holy, sacred; worthy of respect and dignity.

Let us give thanks for the power of the heart
to sense the holy in the midst of the simple.

Power and possibility of Love,
we praise you and give you thanks,
for on this night Jesus was born among us,
a baby needy and naked,
born into poverty and oppression,
in order to proclaim the gift
of your transforming grace and justice.

Therefore with all the faithful, living and dead,
with Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, Magi, and angels,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
forever praising you and singing:

Sanctus from Mass in C major, K. 220 "Sparrow Mass"

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

On the night before he died Jesus took bread;
when he had given you thanks, he broke it,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you,
for this is my blood which brings new life;
do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

With this bread and wine we answer the call of God.

Benedictus from Mass in C major, K. 220 "Sparrow Mass"

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Empower our celebration, Spirit of promise,
feed us with your life, fire us with your love,
confront us with your justice,
and make us one with all who share your gifts of love.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kua akona nei tātou e to tātou Ariki, ka waiata tātou:

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi,

kia tapu tōu Ingoa.

Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.

Kia meatia tāu e pai ai ki runga ki te whenua,

kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.

Hōmai ki a mātou āiane

he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.

Murua ō mātou hara,

me mātou hoki e muru nei,

i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.

Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;

engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:

Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha, me te korōria,

Āke, ake, ake. Āmine.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the life of Christ.

We who are many are one body,

for we all share the one bread.

“Hodie Christus natus est”

Plainchant

TE POWHIRI THE INVITATION

Haere mai e te kahui a te Atua,
Tangohia enei kai rangatira a te Karaiti.

Come bringing your varied faiths and backgrounds,
for all are welcome to share in this act of communion.

We will receive Communion in front of the Altar Table.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Te Taro o te Ora. The Bread of Life.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Agnus Dei from Mass in C major, K. 220 "Sparrow Mass"

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Nativity Carol

John Rutter

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Welcome, welcome,
Jesus Christ our infant Saviour,
baby who makes every birth holy.

May we, who like the shepherds
have witnessed in the stable a new kind of love
return to our work with joy.

May we, for whom the heavens have opened
to proclaim that God is with us,
we who have fed on living bread
and drunk the wine of heaven,
go out to be instruments of your peace,
day by day. Amen.

THE BLESSING

FINAL HYMN

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!”

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Tune: Mendelssohn, from a chorus by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

adapted by William Hayman Cummings (1831-1915). TIS 303

Deacon from the rear of the church:

Go now, so the world may know
the wonder and mystery of grace.

Amen. We go in the power of Love.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude on 'God rest you merry, gentlemen'

John Rutter

*We invite you to keep this copy of the Service and take it home with you
to share with another member of your family, or with a friend
OR put in a recycling bin provided at the back of the church.*

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If you want to know more about St Matthew's
take a look at our websites:

www.stmatthews.nz, www.stmatthewsdigital.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.

Christmas Day Service:

10am Christmas Sung Eucharist

The Parish Office is now closed;
reopening Monday **16** January 2023.

There is no service on 1 January 2023

Sunday services on 8, 15, 22, 29 January at 10am only.

Sunday 8am services resume on 5 February 2023.

Wednesday 12.20pm services resume on 1 February 2023.

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.