

CHRISTMAS DAY!

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

AT ST PAUL'S ASHGROVE



Stand as you are able

Carol: Once in Royal David's City TIS 312

The procession stops at the stable

We meet to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world.

The word was made flesh and dwelt among us
and we beheld his glory.

The Advent candles and the Christmas candle are lit.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
a light no darkness can quench.

The shepherds kept watch by night,
and your glory shone round about them.

The darkness is not dark to you,
the night is as bright as the day.

Let your light scatter the darkness
and illuminate your church with your glory.

Sentence:

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10-11

Prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Kneel or sit as able. A short silence is kept for reflection

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness to stand in your presence.

We have sinned: **Forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus. Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned. **Forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned: **Forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned: **Forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

We have sinned: **Forgive and heal us.**

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Stand as you are able for The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Almighty God, who gave your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of the virgin Mary: grant that we being born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit, ever one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Please sit for the Readings

Isaiah 9.2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

1 O sing to the Lord a new song:
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

2 **Sing to the Lord and bless his holy name:**

- proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations:
and his wonders among all peoples.
 - 4 **For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised:
he is more to be feared than all gods.**
 - 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are mere idols:
it is the Lord who made the heavens.
 - 6 **Majesty and glory are before him:
beauty and power are in his sanctuary.**
 - 7 Render to the Lord, you families of the nations:
render to the Lord glory and might.
 - 8 **Render to the Lord the honour due to his name:
bring offerings and come into his courts.**
 - 9 O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness:
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
 - 10 **Say among the nations that the Lord is king:
he has made the world so firm that it can never be moved;
and he shall judge the peoples with equity.**
 - 11 Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad:
let the sea roar, and all that fills it:
 - 12 **Let the fields rejoice, and everything in them:
then shall all the trees of the wood
shout with joy before the Lord;**
 - 13 For he comes, he comes to judge the earth:
he shall judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.

Titus 3.4-8a

⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water^{of} of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶ This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ This saying is sure.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Carol: Hark the Herald Angels Sing TIS 303

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Reading

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, chapter 2,
beginning at verse 1

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 2.1-20

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 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. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 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.

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 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: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,^[a] the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,^[a] praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"^[a]

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

For the Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Christmas Reflection

The Creed

Let us stand and say together

**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 salvations
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 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.**

Please be seated or kneel as able.

We bring before God our needs and the needs of the whole world.

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.

Wonderful Counsellor,
give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations.
Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Mighty God,
make the whole world know
that the government is on your shoulders.
Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Everlasting Father,
establish your reign of justice and righteousness for ever.
Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Prince of peace,
bring in the endless kingdom of your peace.
Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Pause for a time of quiet prayer for those things that are in your heart and for your family, friends and departed loved ones.

Almighty Lord,
**Hear our prayer,
and fulfill your purposes in us,
as you accomplished your will
in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Stand as you are able

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
And his name is called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Share words of peace with those around you.

Carol: O Come All Ye Faithful TIS 304

Presentation of the gifts.

Response: **Blessed be God for ever.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

In your Word made flesh
you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,

to give knowledge of your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ.

By his death on the cross
and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
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.**

And now we thank you
for these gifts of bread and wine;
may we who receive them,
as Jesus said, share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends,
and said,
'Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks.
He shared the cup with them and said,
'This is my blood poured out
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

You have gathered us together
to feed on Christ
and to remember all he has done for us:

Let us therefore proclaim the mystery of faith
**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Fill us with your Spirit
that we may follow Jesus
in all we do and say,
working for justice and bringing your peace
to this world that you have made.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Blessing and honour and glory and power

are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray.

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together
and made one bread:

**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come let us take this holy sacrament
of the body and blood of Christ
in remembrance that he died for us,
and feed on him in our hearts by faith
with thanksgiving.

All who place their faith in Christ this morning are welcome to receive the sacrament. We are able to share bread only at present because of Covid restrictions. Please maintain 1.5m separation as you come forward for communion.

If you do not wish to receive communion you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – just hold your hands behind your back.

Carol: Silent Night TIS 311

Please Stand as you are able.

God of heaven, dwelling among us,
we thank you for feeding us with this holy food.
By your grace keep us ever faithful
to your Word made flesh

that as his body in the world
we may bring your presence to all people.

Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen

Carol: Joy to the World TIS 268

Thank you for joining us this morning. We would love to see you again!

Our usual meeting times are:

7.30am
9.00am

Until the end of January we will have ONE combined service at 8.30am.

www.stpaulsahgrove.org.au

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*Copyright 1995, The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation,
From the text of A Prayer Book for Australia 1995, The Anglican Church of Australia
and published under the imprint of Broughton Books. Reproduced with permission.*

*Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, 1989
by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ
in the USA. Used by permission.*