



KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

growing in courage to live the Jesus way

10am – 11 December 2016

Third Sunday of Advent – The Lord's Supper

Pre service music *"Noel Une Vierge pucelle"*

"Infant Holy"

"God rest ye merry gentlemen"

Eustache du Caurroy (1549-1609)

Keith Chapman (1945-89)

Wilbur Held (b. 1914)

Welcome

Introit *"The Holly and the Ivy"*

English Traditional carol, arr. Reginald Jacques

Call to worship

Kia noho a Ihowa kia koutou. May God be with you.

Ma Ihowa koe e manaaki. May God bless you.

Our souls proclaim your greatness, O God. **And our spirits rejoice in you.**

We will praise you as long as we live. **We will sing praises to you our whole lives long.**

We will not trust in the powerful of this world,

But will trust in you—Creator of heaven and earth,

the One who gives food to the hungry, **the One who enacts justice for the oppressed.**

Let us worship God.

Hymn *"Womb of life and Source of Being"*

(8787D) GtG 3 - Ruth Duck

1 Womb of life, and source of being,
home of every restless heart,
in your arms the worlds awakened;
you have loved us from the start.
We, your children, gather 'round you,
at the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears, and laughter,
we are nurtured by your care.

2 Word in flesh, our brother Jesus,
born to bring us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us,
knowing weakness, knowing earth.
Priest who shares our human struggles,
Life of Life, and Death of Death,
risen Christ, come stand among us,
send the Spirit by your breath.

3 Brooding Spirit, move among us;
be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails, remind us
whose we are, what we intend.
Labour with us; aid the birthing
of the new world yet to be,
free of servant, lord, and master,
free for love and unity.

4 Mother, Brother, holy Partner;
Father, Spirit, Only Son:
we would praise your name forever,
one-in-three, and three-in-one.
We would share your life, your passion,
share your word of world made new,
ever singing, ever praising,
one with all and one with you.

Lighting of the Candle of Peace

... This candle is a symbol of the joy that comes when God is with us.

O God of Joy, you are at work amongst your people.

Help us to be people of joy, working with you.

May Christ the light of the world enable us to bring joy to the world.

Hymn *“While we are waiting come”*

(Waiting) GtG 92 - Claire Cloninger

1 While we are waiting, come;
while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting, come.

3 Come, Saviour, quickly come;
come, Saviour, quickly come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting, come.

2 With power and glory, come;
with power and glory, come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting, come.

Prayer of Praise and Confession, Assurance of Forgiveness

E te whanau ... all are God's beloved people. **Thanks be to God.**

Passing the Peace

Notices

Anthem *“Ka Waiata kia Maria”* (Sing of Mary who was faithful, Mother for the world)

melody Richard Puanaki,
music K Knudson

Conversation with young members

Hymn *“When out of poverty is born”*

(Kingsfold) CH4 291 - Kathryn Galloway

1 When out of poverty is born
a dream that will not die,
and landless, weary folk find strength
to stand with heads held high,
it's then we learn from those who wait
to greet the promised day,
'The Lord is coming; don't lose heart.
Be blest: prepare the way!'

2 When people wander far from God,
forget to share their bread,
they find their wealth an empty thing,
their spirits are not fed.
For only just and tender love
the hungry soul will stay.
And so God's prophets echo still
'Be blest; prepare the way!'

Reading Isaiah 35:1-10

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ Praise to Christ the Word

Sermon 'When Jesus does not measure up'

Affirmation of Faith

We trust the one God.

We trust the Love and Life, source and sustainer of all that was, is and will be.

We trust Jesus Christ, Love's Beloved, Life's Light, Eternal Wisdom, Israel's Messiah, God with us.

Sent from the very heart of God's love for the world, coming not to be served but to serve, Jesus became human in the womb of Mary.

Hailing from Nazareth, befriending outcasts, healing the sick, forgiving sinners, confronting falsehood, and showing mercy to enemies, Jesus proclaimed the long-promised reign of God.

We trust the Holy Spirit, the loving and lively breath of God, who blows where she wills: in, around and through the whole creation.

This same Spirit spoke through Israel's prophets, animated Jesus' ministry, and gathers a community, the church, which, like Jesus, is called to serve; it is an instrument through which Christ continues to command attention and awaken faith.

In this Triune God we trust.

Hymn "Lord Jesus Christ"

(Living Lord) WOV 451 - Patrick Appleford

1 Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
you are one with us, Mary's son;
cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in,
Jesus, our love for you we sing,
living Lord.

2 Lord Jesus Christ, now and every day,
teach us how to pray, Son of God,
you have commanded us to do
this, in remembrance, Lord, of you:
into our lives your power breaks through,
living Lord.

3 Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
born as one with us, Mary's son;
led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus help us see
you are Lord.

4 Lord Jesus Christ, I would come to you,
live my life for you, Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your power breaks through,
living Lord.

Offering and Dedication *"Torches, Torches"*

John Joubert (b. 1927)

*We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the table,
and those which wing their way electronically from our banks to the Church's account.*

Communion

Prayer

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.**

It is truly right ... place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy ... Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God ... now and forever. Amen.

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.

Distribution *"O Magnam Mysterium"* (O Great Mystery)

music David Childs (NZ composer)

Tanara Stedman soloist

Hymn *"It came upon the midnight clear"* (Noel) CH4 303 - Edmund Hamilton Sears (*alt*)

1 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.

2 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 blessed angels sing.

3 But with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not
the love-song which they bring;
oh, hush the noise and still the strife
to hear the angels sing.

4 For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet bards foretold,
when, with the ever-rolling years,
still dawns the Age of Gold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Benediction and Threefold Amen, then Postlude

"Festival Toccata"

Percy E Fletcher (1879-1932)

You are invited to morning tea after worship, in the Gathering Area.

Knox Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Hymns in the service are reproduced with permission under License #604850, Licensing – Copyright Cleared Music for Churches. Knox Church Dunedin is a registered charity #CC52318.

A copy of this week's sermon will be on the website and printed copies available in the church early this week.