



# KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

*growing in courage to live the Jesus way*

10am – Sunday 24 December 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

---

Pre service music *“Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her” (From Heaven High, I Come to Here)*

*“In dulci jubilo”* BuxWV 197

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau (1663-1712)

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Welcome

Introit *“God rest ye merry gentlemen”*

English traditional carol, arr. David Willcocks

Call To Worship

Rev Stephen Fearing (stephenmfearing.com)

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

**Ma Ihowa koe e manaaki. May God bless you.**

Our souls magnify the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Saviour.

**God has looked with favour on the lowliness of God's servant.**

God's mercy is for those who revere God from generation to generation.

**God has shown strength with God's arm.**

**God has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.**

God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

**God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.**

Come, for God is doing a new thing!

Come, let us worship God!

Hymn *“Come now, Lord Jesus”*

(Zulu melody) WOV 645 - Shirley Murray

1 Come now, Lord Jesus,  
enter our Christmas,  
be to us no stranger  
in this new-made manger.

4 Come poor and simple,  
our flesh your temple,  
in your body feeling  
hurt as well as healing.

2 Come, small and human,  
born of a woman,  
yet a Son much greater  
of our own Creator.

5 Come gift and token,  
bread to be broken –  
star and sign still point you,  
myrrh will yet anoint you.

3 Come, cold and crying,  
comfort denying,  
no place to receive you,  
few yet to believe you.

# Prayer, Assurance of Forgiveness and Passing the Peace

E te whanau, in Christ we are forgiven. All are God's beloved people.

**Thanks be to God.**

Kia tau tonu te rangimarie o te Ariki ki a koutou;

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

## *"Hey Mary"*

Sam and Malcolm Gordon

1 Hey Mary, there's an angel in your house!  
Said, 'Mary have I got some news for you.  
You seem to think you're nothing much,  
but, Heaven's coming close enough to touch, yeah!  
Hey Mary, God is coming here through you.'  
There is no such thing as ordinary now  
God is here  
Every life and breath is blessed  
you never know when God might appear.

2 Hey \_\_\_\_\_, there's an angel in your house!  
Said, ' \_\_\_\_\_ have I got some news for you.  
You seem to think you're nothing much,  
but, Heaven's coming close enough to touch, yeah!  
Hey Mary, God is coming here through you.'  
There is no such thing as ordinary now  
God is here  
Every life and breath is blessed  
you never know when God might appear.

## Opening the Advent box

### **Anthem** *"Glory to God" from 'The Messiah'*

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Soloists: Grace Togneri and Calla Knudson-Hollebon

### *"Refugee hymn"*

(Cradle Song CH4 - 312) Shirley Murray

1 Away and in danger,  
no hope of a bed,  
the refugee children,  
no tears left to shed  
look up at the night sky  
for someone to know  
that refugee children  
have no place to go.

3 Come close, little children,  
we hold out our hand  
in rescue and welcome  
to shores of our land -  
in aroha, touching  
your fear and your pain,  
with dreams for your future  
when peace comes again.

2 The babies are crying,  
their hunger awakes,  
the boat is too loaded,  
it shudders and breaks;  
humanity's wreckage  
is thrown out to die,  
the refugee children  
will never know why.

## Reading Romans 16: 25-27

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

## Gospel Luke 1:26-38, 46-55

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

## Sermon 'Mary today'

### Hymn "All poor folk and humble"

(Olwen) WOV 641 - Welsh carol

1 All poor folk and humble,  
all you lame who stumble  
come haste you, nor feel you afraid;  
for Jesus our treasure,  
with love past all measure,  
in lowly, poor manger was laid.

3 Then haste we to show him  
the praises we owe him;  
our service he will not despise:  
whose love still is able  
to show us that stable  
where softly in manger he lies.

2 Though wise men who found him  
laid rich gifts around him,  
yet oxen they gave him their hay;  
and Jesus in beauty  
accepted their duty;  
contented in manger he lay.

### Prayer for others, then ...

*Anglican prayer book*

**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.**

**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.  
Āua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;  
Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:  
Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha,  
me te korōria, Āke āke āke. Āmine.**

# Notices

## Offering and Dedication *"Infant Holy"*

Polish carol, arr. David Willcocks

*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.*

## Hymn *"Not the powerful, not the privileged"*

(8787) TIS 288 - John L Bell

1 Not the powerful, not the privileged,  
not the famous in the land,  
but the no-ones and the needy  
were the first to hold God's hand.

4 God, determined to be different  
from the standards we think best,  
in God's choice of friends and family,  
lets forgotten folk be blessed.

2 Not a well-established family  
with an heirloom christening shawl,  
but a homeless, wandering couple  
parented the Lord of All.

5 Not obsessed by our achievements,  
worldly wealth or family tree,  
may we, in and with God's chosen,  
find our fondest pedigree.

3 Not, at first, to little children,  
nor to those whose faith burned bright,  
but to adults, stalled in darkness,  
angels brought God's love and light.

## Benediction, then Postlude *"God rest ye merry gentlemen"* /Toccat

John Rutter (b. 1945)

## **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.