



KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

alive to God's Spirit

10am – Sunday 9 December 2018

Second Sunday of Advent

Quarterly Communion

Pre service music "*Sleepers wake/Wachet Auf*"

J S Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome

Introit "*Hosanna, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*"

music Luc Jakobs (b. 1956)

Call to Worship

Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. The Lord be with you.

Ma Ihowa koe e manaaki. The Lord bless you.

A voice cries out in the wilderness ... **prepare the way of the Lord.**

A messenger prepares the way, transforming us like the refiner's fire ... **cleansing us in Christ.**

The prophets announce the breaking open of the dawn ... **guiding our feet in the way of peace.**

Let us worship God.

Hymn "*O come, o come Emmanuel*" (Veni Emmanuel) CH4 273 - trans. John Mason Neale

1 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.*

2 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe: [*Refrain*]

3 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave:
[*Refrain*]

4 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:
[*Refrain*]

Prayer, Assurance of Forgiveness and Passing the Peace

E te whanau, in Christ we are forgiven. **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.

Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace – remembering Palestine

For those whose lives are disrupted by conflict, for those whose lives are overwhelmed by despair, for those whose lives are crushed by busyness, we light the candle of peace.

You, Lord Jesus, give us the peace we long for. May this light signal a breakthrough, a brighter future, a new order and a better way.

We watch as the Advent candle of Peace gleams within the wreath.

Let us watch and wait together. Let us watch and wait for peace.

We yearn for peace in our time while summer sun shines down all around.

Like Mary and Joseph we yearn for peace.

The Early Word

Hymn "Who would think that what was needed"

CH4 295

Graham Maule & John L. Bell

1 Who would think that what was needed
to transform and save the earth
might not be a plan or army,
proud in purpose, proved in worth?
Who would think, despite derision,
that a child should lead the way?
God surprises earth with heaven,
coming here on Christmas Day.

2 Shepherds watch and wise men wonder,
monarchs scorn and angels sing;
such a place as none would reckon
hosts a holy helpless thing.
Stable beasts and by-passed strangers
watch a baby laid in hay:
God surprises earth with heaven
coming here on Christmas Day.

3 Centuries of skill and science
span the past from which we move,
yet experience questions whether,
with such progress, we improve.
While the human lot we ponder,
lest our hopes and humour fray,
God surprises earth with heaven
coming here on Christmas Day.

Reading Malachi 3:1-4

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

Gospel Luke 3:1-6

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

Sermon 'Detox'

Affirmation of faith

(Philippians 2:5-11)

We believe in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Hymn “*Wild and lone the Prophet's voice*”

(Aberystwyth) GtG 163 – Carl P Daw, jr

1 Wild and lone the prophet's voice
echoes through the desert still,
calling us to make a choice,
bidding us to do God's will:
"Turn from sin and be baptized;
cleans your heart and mind and soul.
Quitting all the sins you prized,
yield your life to God's control."

3 With such preaching, stark and bold,
John proclaimed salvation near,
and his timeless warnings hold
words of hope to all who hear.
So we dare to journey on,
led by faith through ways untrod,
till we come at last like John
to behold the Lamb of God.

2 "Bear the fruit repentance sows:
lives of justice, truth, and love.
Trust no other claim than those;
set your heart on things above.
Soon the Lord will come in power,
burning clean the threshing floor:
then will flames the chaff devour;
wheat alone shall fill God's store."

Notices, then Offering and Dedication “*I sing of a maiden*”

music Martin Shaw
Patricia Haden/ soloist

*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.*

Great Prayer of 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.**

How can we thank you, O God? ...

... With saints, with angels, and with the whole creation, we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

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.

We give you thanks, Holy God, for Jesus, who came to be your living Word, ...

... With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you, sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising, and praying: Come, Lord Jesus!

Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us— this bread, this cup, these people— Christ's body and blood, given in love for the world...

... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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 āianei
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.**

Hymn "*Love divine all loves excelling*"

(Hyfrydol) CH4 519 - Charles Wesley

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Sending forth

We travel together towards the new birth, towards the new start. We follow the signs which show us the way. **To do what is right, to seek justice, to walk humbly with God. We go in peace.**

The Blessing

Postlude *"Sleepers wake" (a voice is calling)*

Miles I'A Martin (1888-1949)

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