



KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

called to be a community following Jesus

9:30am – Wednesday 25 December 2019

Christmas Day

Pre service music *“Walking in the air”* Howard Blake (b. 1938)

“Toccata- Veni Emmanuel” Andrew Carter (b. 1939), *“Prelude on Irby-Once in Royal”* David Willcocks (b. 1919)

“Joseph the Dreamer”

Welcome

Introit *“Sussex Carol”*

English traditional carol, arr. David Willcocks

Call to worship

We light the Christ candle.

Behold, I bring you good news of great joy: for to you is born in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord!

Jesus has arrived in grace mystery, renewing our hopes, announcing peace to a weary world.

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those who find favour with God.

Jesus comes among us in power and glory to inspire fresh Christmas joy and call us to lives that are full of God’s love.

Jesus, the light of the world is born.

Let Christ’s light shine in the darkest corners of our lives.

Let Christ’s light shine in the darkest corners of our world.

Luke 2:1-7

Hymn

(Stockport) TIS 306 - John Byrom

1 Christians, awake, salute the happy morn
whereon the Saviour of the world was born;
rise to adore the mystery of love,
which hosts of angels chanted from above;
with them the joyful tidings first begun
of God incarnate and the virgin's Son.

2 Then to the watchful shepherds it was
told,
who heard the angelic herald's voice,
'Behold,
I bring good tidings of a Saviour's birth
to you and all the nations here on the earth;
this day has God fulfilled his promised word,
this day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord!'

3 He spoke; and straightaway the celestial choir
in hymns of joy, unknown before, conspire.
The praises of redeeming love they sang,
and heaven's whole orb with hallelujahs rang:
Gods highest glory was their anthem still,
peace upon earth to people of good-will.

Young Joseph

Hymn

1 Good Christians, all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now give heed to what we say,
Jesus Christ is born today:
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christians, all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now you hear of endless bliss,
Jesus Christ was born for this:
he has opened heaven's door,
and all are blessed for evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Matthew 1:18-25

Anthem *"In Dulci Jubilo"*

Old German carol, arr. R L Pearsal

Older Joseph

Hymn

1 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.*

(The First Nowell) CH4 323

2 They looked 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.
[Refrain]

3 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.
[Refrain]

4 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 our life has bought.
[Refrain]

Offering *"We wish you a merry Christmas"*

Traditional Welsh carol, arr. Arthur Warrell

*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.*

Unison Prayer

O God, we don't have gold and frankincense in our pockets but we offer to you what we have to share. Bless the gifts we give this season so that they may bring the love of the Christ Child into the cold and dark places in the world. And bless our lives, too. May we become the gift that others need because we have seen the wonder of your love in Jesus on this holy day. Amen

Matthew 2:12-14

Old Joseph

Prayer

Hymn

1 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.*

2 God of God, Light of Light
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created;
[Refrain]

(Adeste Fideles) CH4 306 - John Francis Wade

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God in the highest':
[Refrain]

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy
morning;
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
[Refrain]

Blessing

Postlude *“The Power of life”*

Christian Ritter (~1645-1727)