



# KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

**Christmas:** *Peace on earth and goodwill to humankind*

**10am – Sunday 27 December 2020**

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Pre-service music *Preludes on "O little one sweet"* Georg Kauffmann (1679-1735) and Michael Fischer (1773-1829)  
*"In Dulci Jubilo"* Flor Peeters (1903-86)

*The service begins with a sung refrain during which the open Bible is processed in.*

**He hōnore, he korōria,  
maungārongo ki te whenua  
Whakaaro pai e  
ki ngā tāngata katoa  
Ake ake, ake ake amine  
Te atua, te piringa, toku oranga.**

## **Call to worship and welcome**

Glory to God, peace on earth, goodwill to humankind on this Christmas Day.  
Kia tau ki a tātou katoa te atawhai me te rangimārie o te Atua.  
Grace and peace to you from God.  
Let us worship God.

## **Hymn**

(tune: Antioch) CH4 320 - Isaac Watts

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature  
sing.

2 Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!  
let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 He rules the world with truth and  
grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

## Approaching the manger in prayer

*After the prayer, you are invited to offer the following italicised responses.*

You will no longer be called forsaken  
And the earth will no longer be desolate  
For God delights in you and is coming to be with you.  
E te whānau a te Karaiti, brothers and sisters in Christ, we are forgiven.

***Thanks be to God.***

Kia tau te rangimarie o te Karaiti ki runga i a koutou.  
May the peace of Christ be with you always.

***And also with you.***

## Lighting of the Christ Candle

### Hymn

(tune: Antioch) CH4 296 - Isaac Watts

1 While humble shepherds watched  
their flocks  
in Bethlehem's plains by night,  
an angel sent from heaven appeared,  
and filled the plains with light.

2 'Fear not' he said, for sudden dread  
had seized their troubled mind;  
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.

3 'To you in David's town, this day,  
is born, of David's line,  
the Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:

4 'The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swaddling-bands,  
and in a manger laid.'

5 Thus spake the seraph: and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God; and thus  
addressed their joyful song:

6 'All glory be to God on high,  
and to the earth be peace:  
good will is shown from heaven above  
and never more shall cease.'

### First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

*In this reading from the Old Testament, the prophet Isaiah expresses God's intention to live in intimate relationship with this world and all that is in it. The vivid metaphor of a marriage is used to describe how God has promised to be with us no matter what.*

### Gospel Reading: Luke 2:8-20

*Christians believe that God's intention to be with the world comes to ultimate fulfilment in Jesus Christ. In this well known passage from Luke's Gospel, a heavenly host of angels appear to the shepherds. In this scene, Luke articulates what he thinks God's coming in Jesus Christ means for humankind and for this world.*

# Sermon: Peace on earth and goodwill to humankind

## Hymn

(tune: 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.

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.

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.

## Dedication of offering

### Prayer for others and the Lord's Prayer

*The prayers will conclude with the Lord's Prayer*

**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 forever. Amen.**

## Hymn

1 Hark! the herald angels sing,  
'Glory to the new-born King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
with the angelic hosts proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'.

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
'Glory to the newborn King'.*

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see:  
hail, the incarnate Deity,  
pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel!

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
'Glory to the newborn King'.*

(tune: Mendelssohn (Bethlehem)) CH4 301 - Charles Wesley

3 Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth:

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
'Glory to the newborn King'.*

## Benediction

Postlude "*Fantasia- In Dulci Jubilo*" J S Bach (1685-1750)

### Serving

Associate Minister - Jordan Redding  
Organist and Choir Director - Karen Knudson  
Reader - John Elder  
Prayer for others - Janet Sim Elder  
Welcoming team - Helen Thew's team  
Counting team - Roy Somerville's team  
Sound - Frengky Jigibalom

*In relation to your monetary offering, you may:*

- *Make regular automatic payments (which are tax deductible) - contact Helen Thew at [plannedgiving@knoxchurch.net](mailto:plannedgiving@knoxchurch.net)*
- *Give online to the Church's bank account at 03 0903 0016425 00 - our charity number for tax rebate purposes is #CC52318*
- *Give at the conclusion of the service.*