



**ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
24 DECEMBER 2022**

PRELUDE (Organist)

Stand

WELCOME (Canon Lewis Lew)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (Choir)

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

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, goodwill to men,
from heaven's all gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing

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

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low
Who toil along the climbing way

with painful steps and slow
Look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing
O rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing

For lo, the days are hastening on,
by prophet bards foretold
When with the ever-circling years
comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth,
its ancient splendours fling
And the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing

WELCOME (Revd Christopher Chan)

‘Do I not fill heaven and earth?’ says the Lord.
Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.
From eternity to eternity you are God,
and now we see you as a new-born child.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Kneel

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE (Revd Christopher Chan)

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the
darkness of our hearts.

In his light, let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.
Silence is kept

God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour, you were born in poverty and laid in a
manger: forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of love, your servant Mary responded joyfully to
your call: forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION (Bishop Titus Chung)

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to
himself, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the
Word made flesh, and be cleansed from all your sins,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Stand, Sung

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (Choir)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

(Revd Christopher Chan)

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly
remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant
that, as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, we may
with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to
be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Sit

NEW TESTAMENT READING (Miss Emily Chong)

Acts 13:16-26

¹⁶ So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said: 'Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. ¹⁷ The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. ¹⁸ And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. ¹⁹ And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. ²⁰ All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. ²¹ Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. ²² And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, "I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will." ²³ Of this man's offspring God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised. ²⁴ Before his coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. ²⁵ And as John was finishing his course, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie." ²⁶ Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation.'

Stand

GRADUAL HYMN (Choir)

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin, mother and child
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born

Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord at thy birth
Jesus, Lord at thy birth

GOSPEL READING (Canon Lewis Lew)

Luke 1:67-79

⁶⁷ And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, ⁶⁸ 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people ⁶⁹ and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, ⁷⁰ as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹ that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; ⁷² to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, ⁷³ the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. ⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, ⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

Sit

SERMON (Bishop Titus Chung)

A Man After God's Heart

Stand

NICENE CREED (Revd Christopher Chan)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he
suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Kneel

INTERCESSION (Mrs Janice Lim)

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Father, in this holy night, your Son our Saviour was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.
Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.
Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, Mary, in the pain of labour,
brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in
pain or distress.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, your Christ came as a light shining in the
darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of
our world.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, the angels sang, 'Peace to God's people
on earth.' Strengthen those who work for peace and justice
in all the world.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, shepherds in the field heard good tidings
of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's
redemption.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, strangers found the Holy Family, and
saw the baby lying in the manger.

Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, heaven is come down to earth, and earth
is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all those who have
passed through death
in the hope of your coming kingdom.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, Christians the world over celebrate
Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us
today.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

Father, in this holy night, angels and shepherds
worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we
offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph, and the saints
through him who is your Word made flesh, our Saviour
Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Stand

THE PEACE (Canon Lewis Lew)

This holy night the angels sang,
'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.'
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN (Choir)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight

O morning stars,
together proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth
For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of
wondering love

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive him still
the dear Christ enters in

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels,
the great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE (Canon Lewis Lew)

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
**All things come from you, and of your own do we give
you.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (Canon Lewis Lew)

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord.
For he is your living Word; through him you have created
all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own
image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born as man and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right
hand on high. Through him you have sent upon us your
holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your
own possession.

And now we give you thanks because,
in the incarnation of the Word,
a new light has dawned upon the world;
you have become one with us
that we might become one with you in your glorious
kingdom.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
forever praising you and saying:

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Kneel

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit

these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

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

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
and proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension.

As we look for his coming in glory,
we celebrate with this bread and this cup
his one perfect sacrifice.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts

in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love,
and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting
praise:

Sung

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE COMMUNION (Canon Lewis Lew)

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:
**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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now
and for ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Sung

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

**We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs
under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to
drink his blood
that we may evermore dwell in him
and he in us. Amen.**

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave
for you, and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and
feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

AFTER COMMUNION (Canon Lewis Lew)

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and
brought us home.

Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a
living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Revd Christopher Chan)

Kneel

BENEDICTION (Bishop Titus Chung)

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Stand

RECESSIONAL HYMN (Choir)

Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this Jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the new-born King
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

See him in a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heaven and earth
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid
With us sing our Saviour's birth
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

POSTLUDE (Organist)