ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL

NEAR'S EVE

C O V E N A N T
S E R V I C E
W I T H
HOLY COMMUNION

31 Dec 2022 10.30pm **PRELUDE** (Organist)

WELCOME (Revd Canon Dr Lewis Lew)

Stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN - O God, our help in ages past (Choir)

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home;

> Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure; sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame, from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home!

THE PREPARATION (Revd Moses Israeli)

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

THE COLLECT OF PURITY (Revd Moses Israeli)

All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE (Revd Moses Israeli)

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Minister Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: "The Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.

All Amen. Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these laws in our hearts.

KYRIE ELEISON

Minister Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Minister Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Minister Lord, have mercy

All Lord, have mercy

CONFESSION OF SINS (Revd Moses Israeli)

Minister God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins, in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all men.

Kneel

All

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our fellow men, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry; and repent of all our sins.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

Bishop Almighty God,

who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

Stand

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (Choir)

All 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.

THE COLLECT (Revd Moses Israeli)

All God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose years never fail and whose mercies are new each returning day: let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives, warming our hearts and giving light to our minds; that we may pass the coming year in joyful obedience and firm faith; through him who is the beginning and the end, your Son, Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Sit

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING (Selena)

1 Thessalonians 1:6-7

⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Stand

THE GRADUAL HYMN - CP 543 Great is thy faithfulness (Choir)

All Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed thy hand has provided Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest Sun, moon and stars in their courses above Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

GOSPEL READING (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

Matthew 5:14-16

All Glory to Christ our Saviour

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

This is the Gospel of Christ

All Praise to Christ our Lord

Sit

THE SERMON (Called to be Light - Revd Canon Dr Lewis Lew)

THE COVENANT PRAYER AND RENEWAL OF BAPTISM VOWS (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

Bishop

God made a covenant with the people of Israel, calling them to be a holy nation, chosen to bear witness to his steadfast love by finding delight in the law.

The covenant was renewed in Jesus Christ our Lord, in his life, work, death and resurrection. In him all people may be set free from sin and its power, and united in love and obedience.

In this covenant God promises us new life in Christ. For our part we promise to live no longer for ourselves but for God. We meet, therefore, as generations have met before us, to renew the covenant which bound them and binds us to God. We come also to renew the promises made at our baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ and our rejection of all that is evil. In our baptism, we died with Christ and were buried with him, so that we might rise with him to a new life within the family of his church. Let us first seek forgiveness for the sin by which we have denied God's claim upon us. Let us pray.

God of mercy, hear us as we confess our sins.

For the sin that has made us slow to learn from Christ, reluctant to follow him, and afraid to bear the cross:

Lord, have mercy,

All Lord, forgive.

For the sin that has caused the poverty of our worship, the formality and selfishness of our prayers, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, and our hesitating witness for Christ:

Lord, have mercy,

All Lord, forgive.

For the sin that has led us to misuse your gifts, evade our responsibilities, and fail to be good stewards of your creation:

Lord, have mercy,

All Lord, forgive.

For the sin that has made us unwilling to overcome evil with good, tolerant of injustice, quick to condemn, and selfish in sharing your love with others:

Lord, have mercy,

All Lord, forgive.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

Do you turn to Christ?

All I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

All I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce the devil and all his works; the empty show and glory of the world, with all the covetous desires of it; and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that you will not follow nor be led by them?

All I renounce them all.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, to all who truly repent, this is his gracious word: 'Your sins are forgiven.'

All Amen. Thanks be to God.

Stand

And now I ask you to declare before God and his Church the Christian faith into which you were baptised, and in which you live and grow. Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

All I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, Jesus Christ, as your only Saviour and Lord?

All I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, the giver of life?

All I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us again accept our place within this covenant which God has made with us and with all who are called to be Christ's disciples.

This means that, by the help of the Holy Spirit, we accept God's purpose for us, and the call to love and serve God in all our life and work.

Christ has many services to be done: some are easy, others are difficult; some bring honour, others bring reproach; some are suitable to our natural inclinations and material interests, others are contrary to both; in some we may please Christ and please ourselves; in others we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves.

Yet the power to do all these things is given to us in Christ, who strengthens us.

Therefore, let us make this covenant of God our own. Let us give ourselves to him, trusting in his promises and relying on his grace.

All I am no longer my own but yours.

Your will, not mine, be done in all things, wherever you may place me, in all that I do and in all that I may endure;

when there is work for me and when there is none; when I am troubled and when I am at peace.

Your will be done when I am valued and when I am disregarded;

when I find fulfilment and when it is lacking; when I have all things, and when I have nothing. I willingly offer all I have and am to serve you, as and where you choose.

Glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours.

May it be so for ever.

Let this covenant now made on earth be fulfilled in heaven.

Amen.

Silence is kept

Announcement (Revd Moses Israeli)

Stand

THE PEACE (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

Bishop We are the Body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN - CP 496 Lead us heavenly Father lead us (Choir)

All

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us o'er the world's tempestuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee; yet possessing every blessing, if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us: all our weakness thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth before us, thou didst feel its keenest woe; lone and dreary, faint and weary, through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending, fill our hearts with heavenly joy, love with every passion blending, pleasure that can never cloy: thus provided, pardoned, guided, nothing can our peace destroy.

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

All 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 (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

Bishop The Lord is here

All His Spirit Is with us.

Bishop Lift up your hearts

All We lift them to the Lord.

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Bishop 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 lifegiving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

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

All 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

Bishop

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.

All Christ has died: Christ Is risen: Christ will come again.

Bishop 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

All Blessing and honour and glory and power

be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COMMUNION (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

The Lord's Prayer

Bishop As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

All 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 forever. Amen.

Bishop We break this bread

to share in the body of Christ.

Sung

All Though we are many, we are one body,

because we all share in one bread.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

All 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.

Bishop 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.

Kneel

AFTER COMMUNION (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

Bishop 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.**

All 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.

THE DISMISSAL (Bishop Dr Titus Chung)

Bishop May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Bishop Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Stand

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN - CP 513 God is working his purpose out (Choir)

All

God is working this purpose out, as year succeeds to year;

God is working this purpose out, and the time is drawing near;

nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be:

when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

What can we do to work God's work, to prosper and increase

The brotherhood of all mankind, the reign of the Prince of Peace?

What can we do to hasten the time, the time that shall surely be,

When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea?

March we forth in the strength of God with the banner of Christ unfurled,

That the light of the glorious gospel of truth may shine throughout the world;

Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin, to set their captives free,

That the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth unless God blesses the deed;

Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide till God gives life to the seed;

Yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,

When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.