

Season of Advent

First Sunday of Advent

Church Year A
Cycle II



First Sunday of Advent

Harvesting hope in Zimbabwe

Hope is scarce for mothers like Nyevero, who couldn't feed her family after losing her crops to merciless drought. Your gifts help women like Nyevero to farm through the toughest seasons, lifting their families out of poverty and giving them hope for the future. Please give today.

CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ASN 85-619 WU 188



November 30th
St John's Riddells Creek
5.30 pm

December 1st
St Paul's Gisborne 9 am
Church of the Resurrection 10.30 am

*The Parish of Gisborne acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land,
the peoples of the Kulin Nations,
and we pay our respects to their elders, living, past and emerging.*

Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who joins us for worship. Whether you are a visitor or a regular parishioner of the Anglican Church, you are invited to join us in Holy Communion. Please make yourself known to us and if you would like more information about our community and ministry, then please take a copy of our welcome brochure, visit our website or ask one of our sidespersons.

Today's worship:

Today, we begin Year A on the three year lectionary cycle. The main thinking behind the lectionary is to enable the entire New Testament to be read over a three year cycle, with a particular emphasis on each of the Gospels. In Year A, the focus is on Matthew. Matthew is named for the tax collector and apostle. The gospel is directed towards a Jewish based community, many of whom would have been displaced after the Siege of Jerusalem (70 CE). Like the Gospel of Luke, Matthew relies heavily on the Gospel of Mark as the main source. The writer assumes a fair degree of understanding of the Hebrew scriptures, where as Luke, writing to a Gentile audience, sets out to explain some of the customs.

In the midweek lectionary, we begin Year 2. This is a two year cycle, and also works on the understanding of reading the entire Bible over the period. The entire book of Psalms is read over a 3 month repeated cycle.

If you would like to purchase an app for your phone (any species!) that has the entire lectionary, visit <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/app/lectionary>

Scripture readings: Isaiah 2.1-5 Psalm 122
Romans 13.9-14 Matthew 24.36-44

Wednesday: 10 am at St Paul's
Isaiah 25.6-10; Psalm 23; Matthew 15.29-37

NEXT WEEK:

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11.1-10 Psalm 72.1-7, 18-21
Romans 15.4-13 Matthew 23.1-12

Parish Fire Policy:

If a **CODE RED** day is declared [this is the most extreme rating] and this occurs on a Saturday or Sunday – then please note that all services and/or parish activities will be cancelled on that day.

This policy will also apply during the week and to all our centres. For all fire danger ratings, it is important that everyone implement their own fire plan.

Your own fire plan must always take precedence even if you are on a rostered duty.

Texts from A Prayer Book for Australia © Broughton Publishing 1995 Reproduced with permission. Other liturgical material from Common Worship © The Church of England, and Celebrating the Christian Year, Alan Griffiths (2004). Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, NCCA (1990), used by permission.

The Gathering of God's People

The ministers may have already entered in silence.

Advent is a time for waiting and preparing.

Our liturgical colour today is BLUE. It signifies the Advent night sky.

We sit in silence.

After a while, a bell will ring.

A member of the congregation prepares to light the first of the blue candles.

As a sign of our stewardship over creation, and our responsibility to care for the world, our candles in the Advent Wreath are recycled. Vines and leaves remind us of the fragility and rhythm of life that is our journey.

A minister begins:

We begin the season of Advent,
a time of preparation and anticipation.

**We hold silence and make space,
to sense the presence of God in our midst.**

A silence is kept.

We begin the season of Advent,
aware of the brokenness in our lives,
and in our world.

**We make space for Jesus the Christ
who longs to bring healing and wholeness.**

A silence is kept.

We begin the season of Advent,
hopeful, expectant, longing.

**We make space for God's Spirit weaving in
and through our lives.**

A silence is kept.

**Hope, hope, hope -
The light of Christ is hope.
In all our darkness Christ is shining,
Leading upward, faith refining.
Hope, hope, hope -
The light of Christ is hope.**

Tune: Stille, stille, stille

Words by Ken Bible

© 2006 by LNWhymns.com.

CCLI Song #4663940.

The presider greets the people.

✠ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

cf 1 Corinthians 4.5

Lord Jesus, you come to gather the nations
into the peace of your kingdom.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you come in word and sacrament
to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you will come
in glory
with salvation for your people.
Renew us in faith and love.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Presider pronounces The Absolution

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Let us pray:

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness,
and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility;
that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge both the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

As we prepare to hear God's holy word through the scriptures:
open our hearts and minds, Lord. Amen.

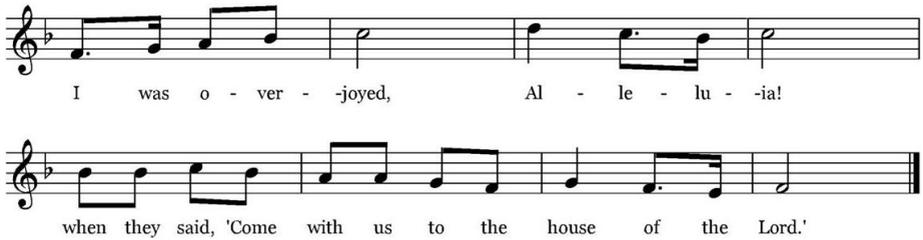
All sit for the Readings.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 2.1-5

May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

Psalm 122



I was o - ver - joyed, Al - le - lu - ia!
when they said, 'Come with us to the house of the Lord.'

Jerusalem our home, Alleluia!
there God's people go to bow before his throne.

For Israel's law, decreed by God eternal,
calls us to his temple, Alleluia!
there to praise and bless his name for evermore.

My prayer for Jerusalem
is that peace may reign within her walls, Alleluia!
and I pray for love of you
that you her peace may share.

TIS 78

Albert McPherson (1927-2011)

Michael Wentzell (1939-73)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Romans 13.9-14

May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

All stand for the Gospel Reading.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Matthew 24.36-44

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel, the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord,:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Breaking Open the Word

An Affirmation of Faith

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.

(Philippians 2:5-11)

Jesus Christ is Lord

(Uniting in Worship People's Book - page 128)

The Prayers of the People

The minister says

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

The prayers may be offered by a deacon and/or other members of the congregation.

Periods of silence may be kept.

For your love and goodness
we give you thanks, O God.

The prayers will conclude with a Prayer from our Partner Churches in Zimbabwe, as we prepare our Christmas Bowl:

We pray for Zimbabwe,
a country where the reversal of wealth and poverty
has brought hardship to millions,
where peace and security has given way to conflict,
and the fecundity of the land has given way
to food-aid and dependency.
We pray for those living with despair,
that their eyes may lift to hope on the horizon.
We pray for those supporting innovative
new projects for sustainability.

Come, Lord Jesus:

**fill us with your hope and give us new courage
as we continue to trust in your love.
As we prepare for your coming
and the glimpse of your kingdom
may we be raised into that joy which is complete in you,
and the Father, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The intercessions may be placed on the altar as a symbol of our prayers being offered.

The Greeting of Peace

The God of peace make us holy in all things
that we may be ready at the coming of our Lord Jesus.

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Offertory and Offertory Hymn

TIS 265 O come, O come, Emmanuel

*The gifts of the people are brought to the Lord's Table.
They may be presented in silence or a suitable prayer.*

With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.
With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.
Bread for his body,
wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.

**We long for a time when all may live in peace,
when those who hunger
and thirst for justice will be satisfied.
We make our offerings in the confident hope
that evil will not have the last word,
and that now is always the time
when more good can be done.
May it be so. Amen.**

Act for Peace

The Great 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.

We begin our praise

We love to praise you, holy God,
for your beautiful world
and your wonderful ways.
You are the shepherd of your people.
You gave us good commandments
and you sent your messengers to guide us.

The story of God with us

When first he came to us
in the lowliness of our human body,
he accomplished the work you planned so long ago
and opened for us the way to salvation;
so that when he comes again in majesty and glory
your work may be completed
and we who now dare to wait in hope
may receive in its fullness
the salvation you have promised.
So we praise you, living God,
singing our song with angels and saints
and Christians everywhere:

Cantor:
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho _____ ly Lord, God of pow'r and God _____ of might.

2
 All:
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho _____ ly Lord, God of pow'r and God _____ of might.

3
 Cantor:
 Heav - en and earth _____ are full _____ of your glo _____ ry.

4
 Ho-san - na in the high - est, hos-an-na in the high _____ est.

5
 All:
 Ho-san - na in the high _____ est, hos-an-na in the high _____ est.

6
 Cantor:
 Bless - ed is he _____ who comes in the _____ name _____ of _____ the Lord.

7
 Ho-san - na in the high _____ est, hos-an-na in the high _____ est.

8
 All:
 Ho-san - na in the high _____ est, hos-an-na in the high _____ est.

With this bread that we bring

And now, Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you
 for the meal you shared with us
 on the night before you died.

You took the bread
 and blessed it
 and broke it
 and gave it to your friends. You said:
 "This is my body.
 Take it and eat it
 in memory of me."

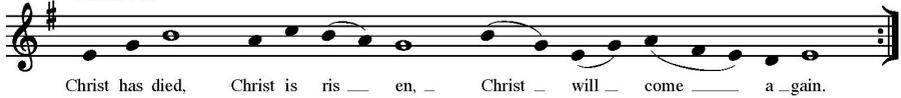
With this wine that we bring

Then you took the cup of wine,
and blessed it,
and gave it to your friends to drink.
You said:
“This is my blood.
It is God’s guarantee that sins will be forgiven.
Every time you drink it,
do this in memory of me.”

We remember Jesus

So we do what you command us,
and we remember:
you lived and died,
you rose in glory,
you sent your Holy Spirit,
and you will come again at the end of time
to bring us home to God.

Cantor/All



Epeclisis: the Sending of the Holy Spirit

Now, Holy Spirit, we praise you
because you help us pray.
Come to us in this celebration,
and make us your holy people.
Feed us at this table
with the body and the blood of Christ.
Make our faith grow.

Commissioning:

Send us to be your messengers to the world.
Spread the Good News of Jesus
by our words, our actions and our love.
Teach us to praise the living God,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
with every breath you give us.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Cantor/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.

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.

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
 We who are many are one body
 for we all share in the one bread.

Cantor:



Je-sus, wis - dom and might - y Lord: you take a way the sins of the
 Je-sus, true branch of Jes _____ se's tree:
 Key of Da - vid and Day - spring from on high:
 De-sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el:

7 | 1,2,3. All:



world, have mer - cy on us; have mer - cy on us.

12 | 4. All:



world, grant us _____ peace, _____ grant us _____ peace.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
 Happy are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
 but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**
 This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.
 All are welcome at his supper. Come

At Church of the Resurrection, an anthem may be sung
Creator of the stars of night.
Plainsong, arr. John Scott

Post Communion Prayer

Friends, go out from this place
knowing you are the beloved of God,
and offer that love to others.
Your life may be the only gospel
that your neighbour reads this week.
In all you say and do, spread the grace of God,
the love of Jesus
and the friendship of the Holy Spirit.

**Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope.
Bring us at the last
to that pure life for which we long.**

Post Communion Hymn

269 Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes

Blessing and Dismissal

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
in the name of Christ. Amen

Postlude at Church of the Resurrection

Nun Komm, der heiden Heiland
(Saviour of the nations, come),
Theme and 3 variations. Anton Heiller.

NOTICES

Appeal for Anglicare Broadmeadows Women's Charity House

For underwear and socks (new) for children under the age of 5. Please give me a ring and I will arrange collection from the Church of the Resurrection, Macedon. Thank you and God Bless, Rosemary Homewood, Ph. 54287152.

Grand Charity Raffle!

The Proceeds of this raffle will be for both Asylum Seekers and Refugees at Broadmeadows and also at the Thai-Burma border. There are nine prizes including a Christmas hamper donated by Neal Street Medical Centre Doctors. Tickets are \$5.00 for 3 and are available from Elaine Millar (Gisborne), Margaret Poyser (Riddells Creek) and Popsy Colquhoun and Rosemary Homewood (Macedon). The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 22nd December at the Church of the Resurrection, following the service. Please support this special effort for the end of the year. God Bless, Rosemary Homewood.

December 10

On December 10th, Fr Dennis will be celebrating his 25th anniversary of priestly ordination. Prior to the Parish Council meeting at Church of the Resurrection, you are invited to share in the Eucharist at 6.30 pm, followed by a light 'finger-food buffet'. This will also mark the end of his second year with us.

The Bus Excursion for next week is cancelled.

A new program is already being put together for 2020, and your ideas are welcome!

Christmas Program

Christmas Eve	5.30 pm	St John's Riddells Creek
	11.00pm	Carols, followed by
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass at Church of the Resurrection
Christmas Day	9.00 am	Christmas Eucharist at St Paul's, Gisborne
Sundays in the Holidays:		
December 29	10 am	Church of the Resurrection
January 5	10 am	St John's, Riddells Creek
January 12	10 am	St Paul's, Gisborne
January 19	10 am	St Paul's, Gisborne (post Bric'a'brac)
January 26	10 am	Church of the Resurrection

CODE RED DAYS: no services. Please implement personal fire plan.

Wednesday 10 am

December 30, January 20 and 27	St Paul's, Gisborne
January 6	Church of the Resurrection
January 13	St John's Riddells Creek

St Paul's Guild

Christmas Lunch break-up will be held at the Telegraph Hotel on Monday 2 Dec at 12 noon

Vision Australia

Large and extra large print calendars for 2020 are for sale priced at \$15.00 each, available from Elaine Millar 5428 2522.

God's Love in Action: from the Act for Peace Christmas Bowl Appeal

The prophet Isaiah told people who had lost their homeland and who had been through enormous suffering that they could live in peace again. His message resonates this Christmas Bowl, as we support Sri Lankan refugees to return home and build peaceful new lives after years of bloody civil war.

After years of living in a refugee camp, Vijayakanth and his family returned to Sri Lanka with few belongings. They had to live in an unsafe area, in a run-down rental home that flooded in the rainy season.

But thanks to your compassion, they were supported through their difficulties by Act for Peace's partners, like OfERR (Organisation for Eelam Refugees Rehabilitation).

OfERR is helping returnees like Vijayakanth's family to find new livelihoods and start their lives over in a country that has been shattered by war.

"I am so thankful to OfERR. They have ensured my family's safety and security, particularly my children's. This has paved a new dawn for our children."

For further information, please visit www.actforpeace.org.au

Archbishop Philip to stand down as Australia's Primate in March, 2020

The Anglican Primate of Australia, Melbourne Archbishop Philip Freier, has announced that he will step down on March 31, 2020, before his term was due to expire, and will not seek re-election.

Archbishop Freier, who has served a six-year term as head of the Anglican Church in Australia, will continue as the Archbishop of Melbourne, a role he has held since 2006.

Archbishop Freier wrote to all Australian Anglican bishops to say he would not accept a further term, and that he would conclude on March 31 to allow his successor to prepare for the next national synod (parliament). This will take place in Maroochydore, Queensland, from May 31 to June 5 next year.

This week in the Parish

Sunday December 1st ADVENT 1

9.00 am	Holy Communion	St Paul's, Gisborne
10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	Church of the Resurrection, Macedon
3.30 pm	EfM	Church of the Resurrection, Macedon

Monday December 2nd

9.30 am	Play Group	Parish Hall
12.00 pm	St Paul's Guild	Lunch at Telegraph
1.00 pm	Play Group	Parish Hall
1.30 pm	Card Group	Parish Centre

Tuesday December 3rd

9.30am	Play Group	Parish Hall
1.30 pm	Ladies Guild	Picnic at Malmsbury

Wednesday December 4th

10.00 am	Eucharist	St Paul's, Gisborne
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Thursday December 5th

	BUS MINISTRY CANCELLED TODAY	
10.00 am	DEADLINE PEW BULLETIN	
6.00 pm	Meeting AA	Parish Centre, Gisborne

Friday December 6th St Nicholas' Day

Saturday December 7th

9.00 am	KYB4M	McDonald's, Gisborne
2.00 pm	Eucharist/Home Communion, The Oaks (to be confirmed)	
5.30 pm	Eucharist	St John's, Riddells Creek

Sunday December 8th ADVENT 2

9.00 am	Eucharist	St Paul's, Gisborne
10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	Church of the Resurrection

Parish Office: 32A Fisher Street, Gisborne PO Box 325, Gisborne 3437
 Phone: (03) 5428 4038 gisborneparish@bigpond.com
 Vicar: Fr Dennis Webster (03) 9012 3365 (will relay to a mobile service)
 Wardens: Alison Kitching, Tony Woodgate, Mary Duggan

ANGUS DAY

THIS PASSAGE
STRESSES ME *OUT!*
WHAT IF I GET
LEFT BEHIND?



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

ACTUALLY, IF
YOU READ IT
CAREFULLY...

YOU'LL NOTICE THAT "IN THE DAYS OF
NOAH" THE PEOPLE THAT "WERE
TAKEN" WERE THE ONES WHO WERE
SWEEP AWAY BY THE FLOOD. YOU
ACTUALLY *WANT* TO BE LEFT BEHIND.



WAIT! ALL THESE YEARS
I'VE BEEN PRAYING FOR
THE *WRONG THING!?*



MATTHEW 24:36-44