

Anglican Parish of Gisborne



Christmas I

December 30th 2018

St John's Riddells Creek

10 am

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 recall Jesus's presentation in the Temple as a young man. It is his, in modern terms, bar mitzvah, akin to our confirmation. Slightly out of sequence, this reading is placed ahead of the story of Jesus's Naming and Circumcision in our Christmas journey, placing context into the prophecy of Simeon and Anna. Like the child Samuel, Jesus begins to speak with words of wisdom and interpretation of the scriptures at such a depth that is astounding.

For Mary and Joseph, hearing Jesus say that he was in his Father's house may well have jarred, but they knew that it pointed to the bigger picture that they were told about his birth.

And Mary, all the while, continued to ponder all these things in her heart.

We too, are called to "ponder anew what the Almighty can do." As we do, grace enlivens our hearts in the same manner that heaven and earth touch: lightly, but with power.

This Sunday: Who is this Child? I Samuel 2.18-20, 26; Psalm 148;
Colossians 3.12-17, Luke 2.41-52

Next Sunday: Epiphany Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

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 other 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.

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The Gathering of God's People

Let earth and heaven combine,
their voices all agree,
to praise in songs divine
the incarnate deity,
our God contracted to a span,
incomprehensibly made Man.

He deigns in flesh to appear,
widest extremes to join;
to bring our vileness near
and make us all divine:
and we the life of God shall know,
for God is manifest below.

Unsearchable the love
that has the Saviour brought;
the grace is far above
our own or angels' thought:
enough for us that God, we know,
our God, is manifest below.

Made perfect first in love,
and sanctified by grace,
we shall from earth remove,
and see his glorious face:
then shall his love be fully showed,
and we shall then be lost in God.

Charles Wesley
1707-88 alt

Blessed be God: ✠ Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Presider welcomes the people

Let us attend to our own worthiness to come into God's house with joy and praise.

Christ, made visible in the flesh –
we acknowledge our sins of deed and omission.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, justified by the Spirit –
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts and minds

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, proclaimed to the nations –
empower us to take your message of love to all the world.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
✠ forgive us our sins,
and lead us into the eternal light of salvation. **Amen.**

All stand.

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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 (prayer) of the Day

Let us pray:

God of all grace,
you have chosen us in Christ to be your people.
Teach us the ways of your wisdom,
that the word of Christ may dwell in us,
the peace of Christ rule our hearts
and the love of Christ bind us together
in a harmony of gratitude and praise.
We ask this in the name of Christ,
who is one with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

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 Reading from the Old Testament or as appointed.

I Samuel 2.18-20, 26

After each reading the reader may say,

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

The Reading from the New Testament (other than from the gospels).

Colossians 3.12-17

Gradual Hymn (please stand)

Glory to God above!
Heavens declare his love;
praise him, you angels,
praise him all you high and heavenly host.
Worship him sun and moon;
stars complement their tune
grounded in God's good purpose let his grace become your boast.
O sing hallelujah, and praise God for ever more!

Glory to God below,
let depths of ocean show,
lightning and hail, snow, wind
and cloud perform at his command!
Let every mountain range,
forest and grove and grange,
creatures of earth and air and sea
praise God in every land.
O sing hallelujah, and praise God for ever more!

'Glory to God your King!'
leaders and people sing;
women and men of every age unite to praise the Lord.
Worship God's holy name
and let your lives proclaim
God's saving power extends
to those who love and serve his word
O sing hallelujah, and praise God for ever, evermore!

Please remain standing for the Gospel Reading.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
And we have seen his glory.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The deacon or other reader may say

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.
Luke 3.41-52

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

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

This is our faith, the faith of the Church.

We believe in one God:

✠ Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

At the end of the prayers, we are invited to pray together:

**Gracious God,
bestir your people
to sing the angels' song of glory
and actively to seek
the peace which they proclaimed,
so that you may be truly glorified.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The prayer folder may be placed on the altar as a sign of our prayers offered to God.

The Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

And also with you.

We share a sign of peace with one another.

The Offertory

Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
listen well 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,
Christ is born today.

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 you are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this.

Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now you need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save,
calls you one and calls you all,
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save;
Christ was born to save.

John Mason Neale 1818-66

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.

**Eternal God,
in the Word made flesh
you joined together heaven and earth.
Make us holy by sharing in this table
and make us joyful in giving you praise.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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 direct our Prayers to God in Jesus's name.

We lift our hearts to you,
God eternal, good and faithful;
to you we offer thanks and praise
in the name of Jesus Christ.

We celebrate the wonder of the Incarnation,
by which our human state
is freed from its ancient earthly destiny
and raised up in Christ to a new and heavenly birth.

And so with boundless joy,
your Church is untied to the praises of heaven
as we praise your holy name and sing:

**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.**

Our thanksgiving continues

God of the feast, your household is hungry
for the bread of heaven and the cup of life.
Send your Spirit on us and on our celebration,
so that we may eat at this table and be satisfied
with the sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

With this bread:

On the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with the people he loved.
He took the bread, gave you thanks,
broke it to share with them, and said:
"Take and eat this: it is my body."

With this cup:

Then he took a cup of wine.
Again he thanked you and told them:
"Drink this, all of you: it is my blood,
shed for you and for many
so that sins may be forgiven.
Whenever you do this, do it in memory of me."

Let us proclaim the Mystery of Faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We remember Jesus:

So we delight to remember Jesus:
the faithfulness of his life,
the victory of his cross,
the glory of his resurrection,
the joy of the Holy Spirit poured out for the Church.

We dedicate ourselves to service:

O God, holy Wisdom, merciful and generous,
accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.
Make us good stewards of creation,
with justice in our hearts,
courage in our actions
and power in our speech
to bear witness to the truth.

Protect us with your glory,
unite your church in loyalty and love,
and bring us home with all your saints
to feast with you for ever.

Doxology

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
and in the Spirit's grace,
with heart and soul and mind and strength
we love and worship you alone, O God,
in songs of never-ending praise:

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

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to 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.
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 the Communion

The priest breaks the bread. One of the following may be said.

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.

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed 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.**

Come, this is not the table of the Church, but of the Lord.
All are welcome at his supper. Come.

Post Communion Prayer

God of glory,
you have revealed your Christ
as the light of the world.
By this communion,
renew us in the love of Christ
and in witness to his Gospel.

**Take our hands and work through them;
take our lips and speak through them;
take our minds and think through them;
take our hearts and set them on fire with love for you.**

Post Communion Hymn

On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring;
on Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad?
Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place;
when sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place;
angels and men with joy may sing,
all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
all out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God and peace descend
now and for evermore. Amen.”

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Dismissal

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
gladden your hearts at his coming;
and the blessing of God Almighty: ✠ Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier
be with you all, and ever more. **Amen.**

The Word became flesh and dwells amongst us:

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen.