

Welcome to St Peter's Eastern Hill

*Diocese of Melbourne - Anglican Church of Australia
Parish Church of the City since 1846*



“St. John the Baptist” illumination from *Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry* (c.1412)

Third Sunday of Advent

13th December 2020

Parish High Mass with Children's Church

10.30am

Also live-streamed on the St Peter's FaceBook page & YouTube channel

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S

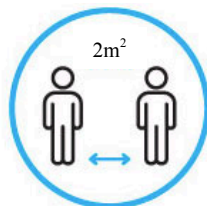
COVID-19 restrictions have considerably eased, but the virus has not yet gone, and we must still remain vigilant. If you are not feeling confident about returning to worship, then please feel free to remain at home and join us through FaceBook (www.facebook.com/stpeterseasternhill) or YouTube (www.youtube.com/c/StPetersEasternHill).

Please read carefully and observe all the requisite COVID-Safe guidelines below. If you have any questions, the sidespeople will be able to help you:

- *our density quotient at St Peter's allows for up to 110 people in the pews, and a total congregation (including choir, servers, children's church, overflow etc) of up to 174 people.*
- *We are now allowed to have refreshments again after church, and will recommence these today. The main body of the Hall has a density quotient of a maximum of 99 people.*
- *If you have booked a pew, the sidespeople will tick off your name on arrival.*
- *If you have not booked, that's fine, you can scan the QR Code on your smart phone, or give your first name and phone number to the sidespeople.*
- *Masks are now optional, but we strongly encourage you to still bring your mask to church, and especially to wear it for congregational singing.*
- *The new 2sqm spatial distancing essentially means keeping an elbow's distance from others at all times (other than partners and immediate family members, of course).*
- *There will be an Offertory collection once again, in the usual place (rather than the retiring collection of recent weeks).*
- *Please continue to sanitise your hands as you enter or leave church.*
- *Communion will continue in one kind only.*
- *If you are feeling unwell, especially with COVID-19-type symptoms, you should not be at church; please go home and get tested immediately.*
- *Do not to shake hands, hug, or kiss others beyond your immediate family.*
- *All service booklets are single-use only, so please take yours home.*

Please note: we have a busy program of worship and social service at St Peter's Eastern Hill, seven days a week, but the church and hall are cleaned and sanitised daily, under WorkSafe pandemic guidelines, so you can be assured of the cleanliness of our buildings and furnishings.

We have a COVID-Safe Plan and are committed to keeping you safe



Physical Distancing



Sanitising and washing hands



Being kind and caring for each other in these times



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Mass setting: F. Guerrero (1528-99) *Missa: Surge propera.*

Prelude: J. Langlais (1907-91) *Prélude sur une antienne.*

Please stand for the beginning of the Mass. The choir sings the Introit.

Celebrant: In the name of the Father, + and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The celebrant chants the collect for purity.

Let us pray: 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.**

The choir sings:

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

The deacon introduces the confession. Please sit or kneel.

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in
darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

Silence.

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing
our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge,

We have sinned against you

In thought, word, and deed,

And in what we have failed to do:

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;

We repent and are sorry for all our sins.

Father, forgive us.

Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The celebrant pronounces the absolution:

Almighty God,
Who has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those 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 celebrant chants the collect for the day:

Eternal God, you sent John the Baptist
To prepare the way for the coming of your Son:
Grant us wisdom to see your purpose
And openness to hear your will,
That we too may prepare the way for Christ
Who is coming in power and glory
To establish his rule of peace and justice;
Through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

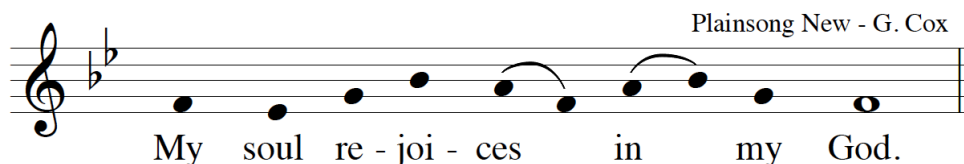
Please be seated.

FIRST TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11 *read by Anne Scott-Pendlebury.*

The servant of the Lord said: "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations."

Hear the word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

MAGNIFICAT: Luke 1:47-50, 53-54 *led by the cantor. Please join in the response.*



My soul magnifies the Lord
 And my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
 For he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
 Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed. **R.**
 For the Mighty One has done great things for me,
 And holy is his name.
 His mercy is for those who fear him
 From generation to generation. **R.**
 The Lord has filled the hungry with good things
 And sent the rich away empty.
 He has helped his servant Israel,
 In remembrance of his mercy. **R.**

THE EPISTLE: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 *chanted by the sub-deacon.*

My brothers and sisters, rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Hear the word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the gradual hymn.

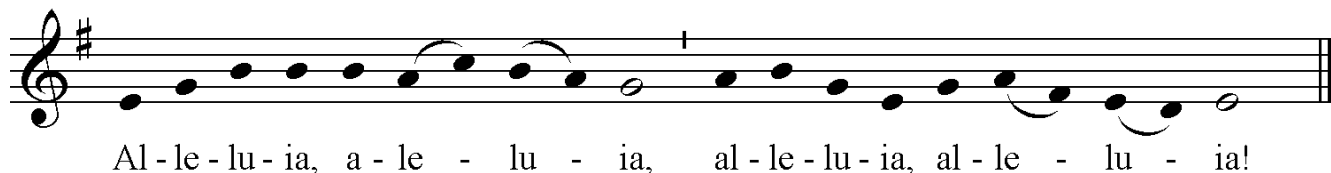
- 1. Ye servants of the Lord
 Each for your Master wait,
 Observant of his heavenly word,
 And watchful at his gate.**
- 2. Let all your lamps be bright,
 And trim the golden flame;
 Gird up your loins, as in his sight,
 For awful is his name.**
- 3. Watch! 'tis your Lord's command,
 And while we speak, he's near;
 Mark the first signal of his hand,
 And ready all appear.**
- 4. O happy servant he,
 In such a posture found!
 He shall his Lord with rapture see,
 And be with honour crowned.**

**5. Christ shall the banquet spread
With his own royal hand,
And raise that faithful servant's head
Amidst the angelic band.**

NEH 8 (tune 128 ii)
Words: P. Doddridge (1702-51)
Music: P. Buck (1871-1947)

THE GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

The cantor leads the singing of the antiphon. Please stand and join in the response.



The celebrant: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you + Lord Jesus Christ.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan

This is the Gospel of the Lord; **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

A short children's address and lighting of the Advent Candles follows.

Sermon: Fr Hugh Kempster

Please stand for the Nicene Creed.

Celebrant **Choir or All**

We be - lieve in one God, the Fa - ther, the Al - might - y, mak - er of
hea - ven and earth, of all that is, seen and un - seen.
We be - lieve in one Lord, Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God,
e - ter - nal - ly be - got - ten of the Fa - ther, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God, be - got - ten, not made,
of one be - ing with the Fa - ther; through him all things were made.
For us and for our sal - va - tion he came down from heav'n,
was in - car - nate of the Ho - ly Spi - rit and the Vir - gin Ma - ry
and be - came tru - ly hu - man. For our sake he was cru - ci - fied
un - der Pon - tius Pi - late; he suf - fered death and was bur - ied.
On the third day he rose a - gain in ac - cord - ance with the Scrip - tures;

he as- cend - ed in - to hea - ven and is seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther.

He will come a - gain in glo - ry to judge the liv - ing and the dead,

and his king - dom will have no end. We be - lieve in the Ho - ly Spi - rit, the Lord,

the giv - er of life, who pro - ceeds from the Fa - ther and the Son,

who with the Fa - ther and the Son is wor - shipped and glo - ri - fied,

who has spok - en through the pro - phets. We be - lieve in one ho - ly ca - tho - lic

and a - po - sto - lic Church. We ac - know - ledge one bap - tism

and a - po - sto - lic Church. We ac - know - ledge one bap - tism

for the for - give - ness of sins. We look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. A - men.

Text: English Language Liturgical Consultation (1988)
Music: Sarum Chant, adapted by G.Cox (1984; rev. 2015)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please sit or kneel. The intercessions are led by Stephen Duckett.

Celebrant: Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

And at the end: Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,
and let light + perpetual shine upon them.

Celebrant: Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREETING OF THE PEACE

Please stand.

Celebrant: We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**
The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

A collection will be taken during the Offertory hymn.

**1. Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train: Alleluya!
God appears, on earth to reign.**

**2. Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.**

**3. Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture, gaze we on those glorious scars!**

**4. Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory:
Claim the kingdom for thine own: O come quickly!
Alleluya! Come, Lord, come!**

NEH 9

Words: C. Wesley (1707-88)

Music: T. Olivers (1725-99)

Celebrant: Blessed are you . . . **Blessed be God forever.**

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.
May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands to the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please sit or kneel.

Celebrant: 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.

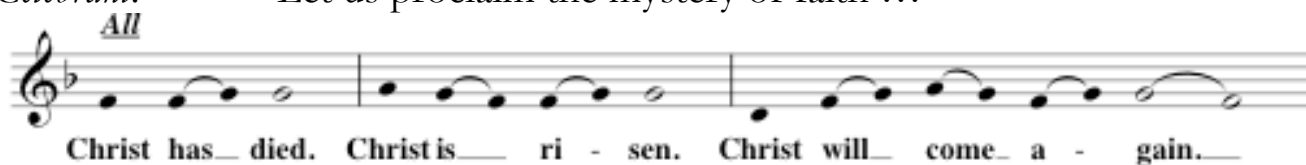
The celebrant continues the prayer of Great Thanksgiving, leading to:

Celebrant: ... forever praising you and saying:

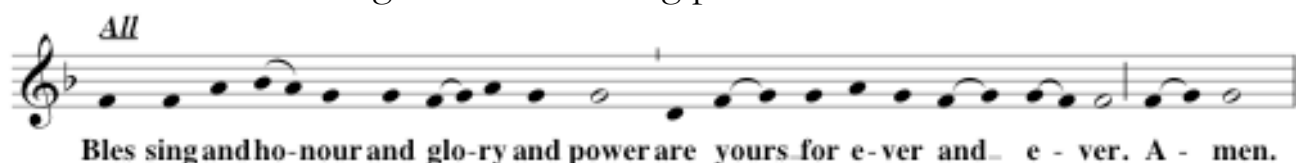
<i>Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus</i>	Holy, holy, holy
<i>Dominus Deus Sabaoth.</i>	God of power and might,
<i>Pleni sunt caeli et terra</i>	heaven and earth are full
<i>gloria tua.</i>	of your glory.
<i>Hosanna in excelsis.</i>	Hosanna in the highest.
<i>+ Benedictus qui venit</i>	+ Blessed is he who comes
<i>in nomine domini.</i>	in the name of the Lord
<i>Hosanna in excelsis</i>	Hosanna in the highest.

The celebrant continues the prayer, leading to:

Celebrant: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith ...



Celebrant: We worship you, Father Almighty,
in songs of never-ending praise.



Please remain kneeling or seated for the Lord's Prayer.

Celebrant

As our Sav - iour Christ has taught us, we are con - fi - dent to pray,
 Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your name,
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins
 as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us
 from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
 For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours
 now and for ev - er. A - men.

Celebrant: We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

All remaining kneeling as the cantor sings:

<i>Agnus Dei,</i>	Lamb of God,
<i>qui tollis peccata mundi:</i>	you take away the sin of the world:
<i>miserere nobis.</i>	have mercy on us.
<i>Agnus Dei,</i>	Lamb of God,
<i>qui tollis peccata mundi:</i>	you take away the sin of the world:
<i>dona nobis pacem.</i>	grant us your peace.

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God,
 who takes away the sins 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.**

The Blessed Sacrament is shared.

Motet: W. Byrd (1543-1623) Rorate cæli.

Translation (from Isaiah 45:8): Drop down ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: Let the earth open and bring forth a Saviour.

Lord, thou hast blessed thy land: Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

At the conclusion of Holy Communion there is a short time of silent prayer.

Please stand for the post-communion hymn.

**1. Lo, in the wilderness a voice
'Make straight the way' is crying:
When men are turning from the light,
And hope and love seem dying,
The prophet comes to make us clean:
'There standeth one you have not seen,
Whose voice you are denying.'**

**2. God give us grace to hearken now
To those who come to warn us,
Give sight and strength, that we may kill
The vices that have torn us,
Lest love professed should disappear
In creeds of hate, contempt, and fear,
That crush and overturn us.**

**3. When from the vineyard cruel men
Cast out the heavenly powers
And Christendom denies its Lord,
The world in ruin cowers.
Now come, O God, in thy great might!
Unchanged, unchanging is thy right,
Unswayed thy justice towers.**

NEH 170 (i)

Words: P. Dearmer (1867-1936)

Music: Luther's Hymn 'Nun freut euch'

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The celebrant chants the post-communion prayer:

God for whom we wait, we thank you that you have fed us
With the bread of life and the cup of salvation;
As we joyfully await your Son, keep us ever watchful,
That we may be ready to stand before him
On the day of his coming.

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

The blessing: Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
And make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
And the blessing of God ...

The deacon dismisses the congregation:

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

Postlude: O. Messiaen (1908-92) *Les Enfants de Dieu 'La Nativité du Seigneur'*

As you leave the church, please continue to observe spatial distancing of 2sqm per person.

This week for the first time since March, government easing of restrictions permits us to share in a time of refreshments in the Hall together. You will notice some changes to the set-up of the Hall since you were last there. The arrangement of furniture is designed to support the ongoing requirements for limited spatial distancing.

There is now air-conditioning in the Hall, thanks to a bequest from Gina Macpherson, given specifically towards building maintenance and upgrades. God bless her! May she rest in peace ... and rise in glory. Please note: do not sit (or allow children to sit) on the new air-conditioning units, or place drinks or other items on them, as this could cause significant damage.

Thank you for keeping yourself and others safe in these times of ongoing pandemic.

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