

Welcome to

ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL

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



Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571—1610): *Adoration of the Shepherds* (detail) 1609

Christmas Day High Mass

Friday 25th December 2020

10.00am

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S

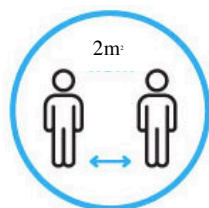
COVID-19 restrictions have eased, but clearly the virus has not yet been eradicated, and we must still remain vigilant. If you prefer, do join us online: www.facebook.com/stpeterseasternhill or www.youtube.com/c/StPetersEasternHill.

Please read carefully and observe all the requisite COVID-Safe guidelines below. If you have any questions, a sidesperson at the door 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.
- If you have booked a pew, a sidesperson 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 just give us your first name and phone number.
- **Masks are now optional in church. It is obligatory, however, to wear a mask for congregational singing if you wish to join in.**
- 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).
- Please continue to sanitise your hands as you enter or leave church.
- Communion will continue in one kind only, with no common cup.
- **If you are feeling unwell, especially with COVID-19-type symptoms, you must 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.

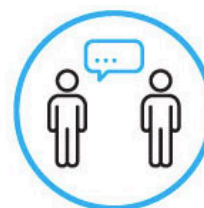
We have a COVID-Safe Plan and are committed to keeping you safe



Physical Distancing



Sanitising and washing hands



Please be kind and care for one another in these stressful times of change



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Please stand for the beginning of the Mass. The people's responses are printed in bold.

Prelude: J. Clokey (1890-1960) *Meditation on an Old Carol*

Mass setting: Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548—1611) *Missa O Magnum Mysterium*

Deacon:

Let us proceed in peace

In the name of Christ. Amen

Processional Carol. During the procession a station is made to bless the crib.

**1. Once in Royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that Mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.**

**2. He came down to earth from
heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall:
With the poor and mean and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.**

**3. And through all his wondrous
childhood
Day by day like us he grew
He was little weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.**

**5. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him: but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high,
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.**

**4. And our eyes at last shall see him
Through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle.
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.**

NEH 34

Words: C. F. Alexander (1818-95)

*Music: H. J. Gauntlett (1805-76); rev. A. H. Mann
(1850-1929)*

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 sings the collect for purity. Please kneel as the choir sings:

Kyrie eleison *Lord have mercy*

Christe eleison *Christ have mercy*

Kyrie eleison *Lord have mercy*

The deacon introduces the confession:

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. Please stand for the Gloria:

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus bonae
voluntatis. Laudamus te,
benedicimus te,
adoramus te,
glorificamus te
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam
gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe,
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius
Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis;
qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe
deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus
Dominus, tu solus Altissimus,
Iesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu:
+ in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen

*Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace to men of good will,
We praise you,
We bless you,
We adore you,
We glorify you.
We give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty
Father, Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten
Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father. You take away the Sins of the
world, have mercy on us,
You take away the Sins of the world, receive
our prayer
You are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.
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 celebrant chants the Christmas collect. Please then sit for the readings.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

ISAIAH 52:7—10 *read by Lynn James*

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98



O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought him victory. **R**

The Lord has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love
and faithfulness to the house of Israel. **R**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises. **R**

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. **R**

HEBREWS 1:1—6 *chanted by the sub-deacon*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gradual carol:

**1. Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down
His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
Looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
asleep on the hay.**

**2. The cattle are lowing,
The baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
No crying he makes;
I love thee, Lord Jesus!
Look down from the sky,
And stay by my bedside
'Till morning is nigh.**

**3. Be near me, Lord Jesus;
I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever,
And love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children
In thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven
To live with thee there.**

NEH 22

*Words: anonymous; Philadelphia 1883
Music: W. J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)*

Please remain standing for the Gospel.

The cantor leads the Alleluia. Please join in the response:



Deacon:

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1:1-18)

+ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon:

Fr Hugh Kempster

Please stand for the Credo.

Celebrant *All*

v 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 hea - ven,
 and 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, cath - o - lic 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 - rect - ion of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. A - - -
 - - - men.

Please kneel for the Prayers of the People, led by Craig Wilson. 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.**

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

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 is taken during the offertory carol.

**1. God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ, our Saviour,
Was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:**

Refrain:

*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;*

O tidings of comfort and joy!

**2. From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name: *Refrain***

**3. And when they came to
Bethlehem,
Where our dear Saviour lay,
They found him in a manger
Where oxen fed on hay;
His mother Mary, kneeling down,
Unto the Lord did pray: *Refrain.***

**4. Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love
and brotherhood
Each other now embrace.
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth efface: *Refrain.***

NEH 25

Words: London Carol, eighteenth century

Music: God rest you merry (English traditional)

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Celebrant:

Blessed are you, Lord God . . . **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, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Please kneel. The celebrant continues the prayer, leading to:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

Dominus Deus Sabaoth

Lord God of Hosts

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory

Hosanna in excelsis.

Hosanna in the highest

+ Benedictus qui venit in nomine
domini

*+Blessed is he that comes in the name of the
Lord*

Hosanna in excelsis

Hosanna in excelsis

The celebrant continues the prayer, leading to: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith

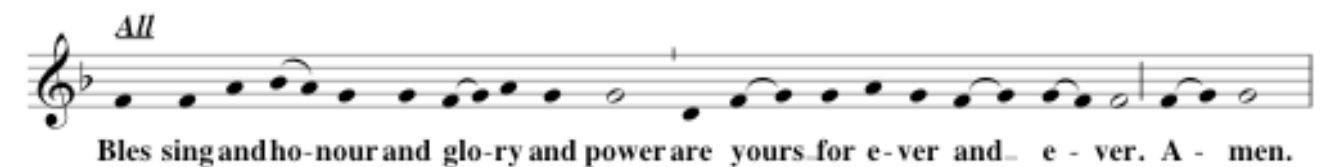
All



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

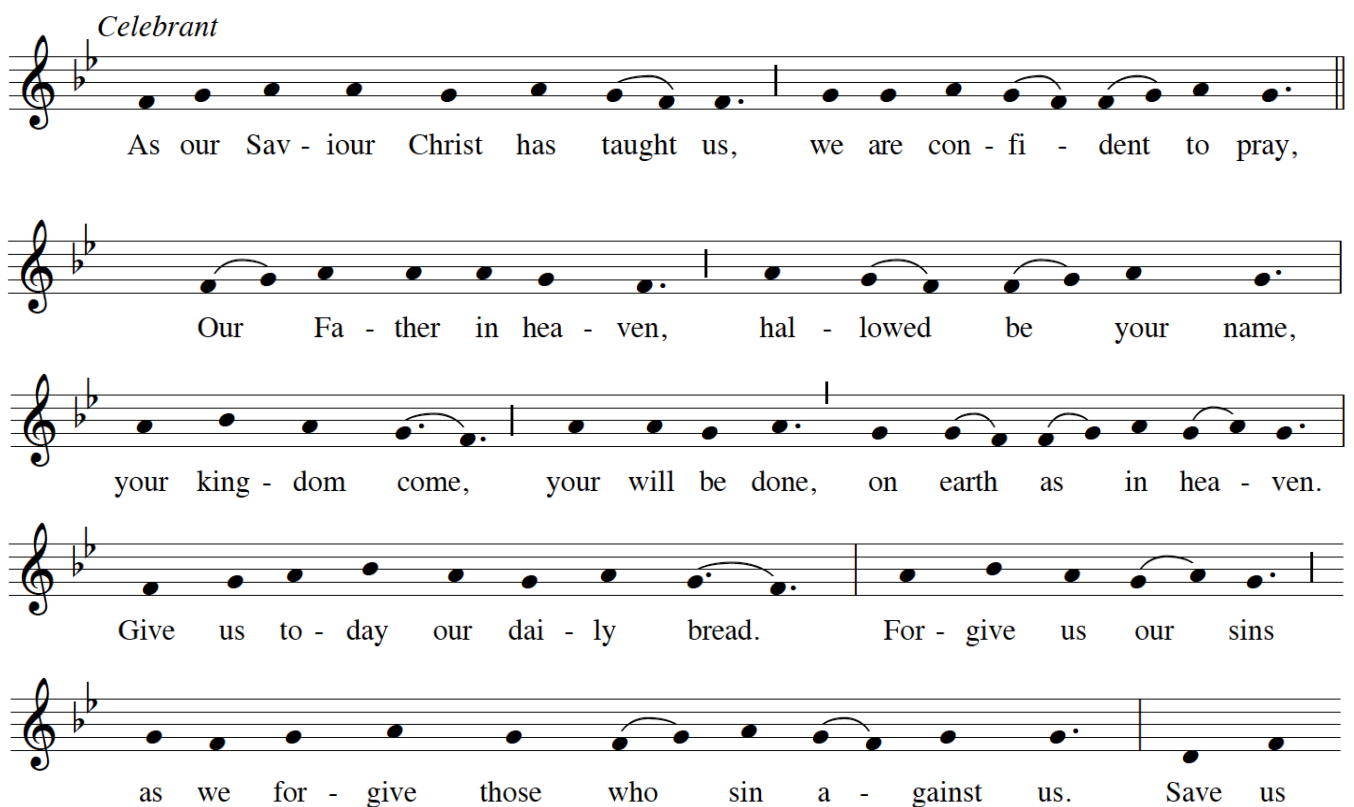
The celebrant continues the prayer, ending with:

All



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

Celebrant



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 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 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.**

All remaining kneeling as the choir sings:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
miserere nobis.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
miserere nobis.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant:

Behold 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.

Communicant members of any Christian church are invited to receive the sacrament. All others are very welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Communion motet:

“Gaudete” (Piæ Cantiones 1582).

At the conclusion of the communion of the people, there is a time of silent prayer.

Please stand for the final carol.

**1. Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem:
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.**

**2. Christ, by highest heaven
adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail, the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel:
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.**

**3. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of
Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth:
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King**

NEH 26

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Music: Felix Mendelssohn-Barthody (1809-47)

SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The celebrant sings the final prayer, leading to:

**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 celebrant offers a Christmas blessing and the deacon dismisses the congregation:

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

Please stand as the sanctuary party departs.

Organ postlude: Postlude: J. S. Bach (1685-1750) Prelude in C (BWV 547)

Mass Times

Next week the St Peter's weekday Masses will be held at **9.00am** each day. From Thursday 2nd January the usual weekday Mass time of 7.15am will resume.

Our regular Sunday Mass time during the summer is **10.30am** with Children's Church – do join us.

Sunday 27th December Holy Family

Morning Mass: 10.30am

In the evening, come to the St Peter's Carol Service:

A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
7.00pm

Children's Church & Baptism

Each Sunday there is a Children's Church ministry during the 10.30am Mass at St Peter's. You are very welcome to join us.

There are also regular Baptism services. If your child is not yet Baptised (or Christened) and you would like to explore this possibility with the Vicar, please call 0488 960 022 or email: vicar@stpeters.org.au to arrange a time to meet.