

Welcome to

ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL

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



Doménikos Theotokópoulos (1541—1614): *The Nativity* circa 1603

Midnight Mass

With Carols & Blessing of the Christmas Crib

Thursday 24th December 2020
11.00pm Carols—11.30pm Mass

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S

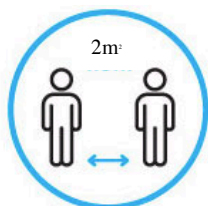
COVID-19 restrictions have eased, but clearly the virus has not yet been eradicated, and we must still remain vigilant. If you are not feeling confident coming to worship remain at home and join us online: FaceBook (www.facebook.com/stpeterseasternhill) or YouTube (www.youtube.com/c/StPetersEasternHill).

Please read carefully and observe all the requisite COVID-Safe guidelines below. If you have any questions, the sidesperson 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, 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 just give your first name and phone number to the sidespeople.
- **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 for the time being.
- **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.

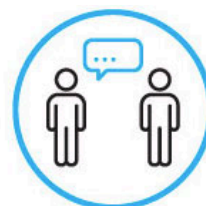
We have a COVID-Safe Plan and are committed to keeping you safe



Physical Distancing



Sanitising and washing hands



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



CONGREGATIONAL CAROLS BEFORE MIDNIGHT MASS

(Carols will be sung from 11pm. The Order for Midnight Mass begins on p. 6)

NEH 34

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.
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.
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.

Text: C. F. Alexander (1818-95)
Melody: H. J. Gauntlett (1805-76); rev. A. H. Mann (1850-1929)

NEH 25

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.
The holy tide of Christmas
All others doth efface. *Refrain*

Text: London Carol, eighteenth century
Melody: God rest you merry (English traditional)

NEH 36

1. The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their
sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

2. They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

3. And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

Refrain

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain

5. Then entered in those wise men three
Fell reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Refrain

6. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of
nought,
And with his blood mankind hath bought.

Refrain

Text: traditional English carol, seventeenth century
Melody: The First Nowell (English traditional)

NEH 22

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.

Text: anonymous; Philadelphia 1883
Melody: W. J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)

NEH 33

1. Of the Father's heart begotten,
Ere the world from chaos rose,
He is Alpha: from that Fountain,
All that is and hath been flows;
He is Omega, of all things
Yet to come the mystic Close,
Evermore and evermore.

2. By his word was all created;
He commanded and 'twas done;
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,
Universe of three in one,
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,
All that breathes beneath the sun,
Evermore and evermore.

3. He assumed this mortal body,
Frail and feeble, doomed to die,
That the race from dust created
Might not perish utterly,
Which the dreadful Law had sentenced
In the depths of hell to lie,
Evermore and evermore.

4. O how blest that wondrous birthday,
When the Maid the curse retrieved,
Brought to birth mankind's salvation,
By the Holy Ghost conceived,
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
In her loving arms received,
Evermore and evermore.

5. This is he, whom seer and sybil
Sang in ages long gone by;
This is he of old revealed
In the page of prophecy;
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;
Let the world his praises cry!
Evermore and evermore.

6. Let the storm and
Summer sunshine,
Gliding stream and sounding
shore,
Sea and forest, frost and zephyr,
Day and night their Lord adore;
Let creation join to laud thee
Through the ages evermore,
Evermore and evermore. Amen.

7. Sing, ye heights
Of heaven his praises;
Angels and Archangels sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring,
Every tongue his name confessing,
Countless voices answering,
Evermore and evermore.

Text: from the Latin *Prudentius* (348-413);
Tr. R. F. Davis (1866-1937)
Melody: from *Piae cantiones*,
Theoderici Petri Nylandensis (1582)

NEH 26

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.*

4. Come, Desire of nations, come,
Fix in us thy humble home;
Rise, the woman's conquering Seed,
Bruise in us the serpent's head;
Now display thy saving power,
Ruined nature now restore,
Now in mystic union join
Thine to ours, and ours to thine:

*Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.*

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-88)
Melody Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-47)

MIDNIGHT MASS

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Please stand for the processional carol; the people's responses are printed in bold.

Mass setting: Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643—1704) Messe de Minuit

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. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels:**

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord.

**2. God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created: Refrain**

**3. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps: Refrain**

**4. Lo! Star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring,
Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;
We to the Christ Child
Bring our heart's oblations: Refrain**

At the crib. Celebrant:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us

And we beheld his glory.

The glory of the Lord has been revealed

And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

The procession continues.

5. Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? *Refrain*

6. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, in the highest: *Refrain*

7. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

NEH 30
Text John Francis Wade (1711-1786), circa 1743
Melody: ADESTE FIDELIS

Please remain standing.

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 sit for the readings.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

ISAIAH 9: 2—4, 6—7 *read by Daniel Ferguson*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96

G. Cox



To - day__ is born_____ our Sa- viour, Christ_ the Lord.

O sing to the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless His holy name:

Proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. **R.**

Declare His glory among the nations: and His wonders among all peoples.

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad:

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it **R.**

Let the fields rejoice, and everything in them:

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout with joy before the Lord; for He comes,

He comes to judge the earth: He shall judge the world with righteousness

And the peoples with His truth. **R.**

TITUS 2: 11—14 *chanted by the subdeacon.*

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gradual Carol:

1. O little one sweet, O little one mild, thy Father's purpose thou hast fulfilled; thou cam'st from heav'n to mortal ken, Equal to be with us poor men, O little one sweet, O little one mild.

2. O little one sweet, O little one mild, with joy thou hast the whole world filled; thou camest here from heav'n's domain, to bring men comfort in their pain, O little one sweet, O little one mild

3. O little one sweet, O little one mild, in thee Love's beauties are all distilled; then light in us thy love's bright flame, that we may give thee back the same, O little one sweet, O little one mild.

NEH 31

Text: S. Scheidt; Trans. Percy DREAMER
Music: O JESULEIN SÜSS

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 Luke (2:1-16)

+ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Please be seated for the 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 Ian Thornton. 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. O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears
Of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.**

**2. O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep,
The angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.**

**3. How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him,
still, the dear Christ enters in.**

**4. Where children pure and happy
Pray to the blessed Child,
Where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching
And faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes,
The glory breaks,
And Christmas comes once more.**

**5. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!**

NEH 32

Text: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Melody: English traditional melody
descant by Thomas Armstrong (1898-199)

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 as the celebrant continues the prayer and the choir sings the Sanctus and Benedictus:

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

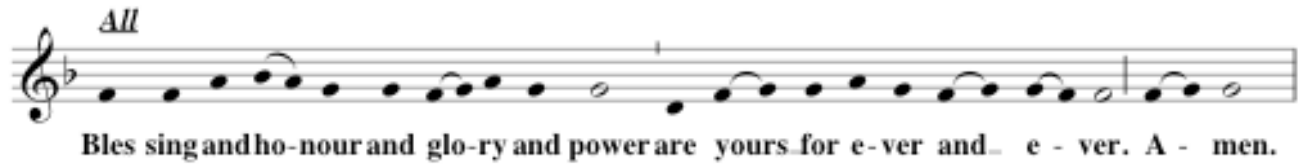
All



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

The celebrant continues the prayer, ending with:

All



Blessing and honor 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 trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

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 motets:

A. Vivaldi (1678—1741) *Gloria: Gloria in excelsis Deo & Cum Sancto Spiritu.*

A. Adam (1803—1856) *O Holy Night*

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

Please stand for the final carol:

**1. Joy to the world! The Lord is
come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing, and
heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and
nature sing**

**2. Joy to the world!
The Saviour reigns;
Let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills
and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**3. He rules the world
With truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders,
Wonders of his love.**

TIS 268

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Music: G.F. Handel, (1685-1759)

arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

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.

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