

## AA 23 Come now, Lord Jesus

1. Come now, Lord Jesus,  
enter our Christmas,  
be to us no stranger  
in this new-made manger.
2. Come, small and human,  
born of a woman,  
yet a Son much greater  
of our own Creator.
3. Come, cold and crying,  
comfort denying,  
no place to receive you,  
few yet to believe you.
4. Come, poor and simple,  
our flesh your temple  
in your body feeling  
hurt as well as healing.
5. Come, gift and token,  
bread to be broken -  
star and sign still point you,  
myrrh will yet anoint you.

©Zulu Melody Arr. Stanley Glasser  
/Guy Jansen Words Shirley Murray

**Annual Carol Service on Sunday 17 December at 7pm** at the Church of Christ Annual Carol Service, 415 Parawai Road, Thames. Offering to Bible in Schools.

**Assistance is needed by the Thames Inter-Church Foodbank on Monday 18 December from 10am to pack up the annual Christmas food hampers for families who have had their name forwarded by social service agencies. An opportunity to work together with other believers in a real helping situation at Thames Baptist community Ministries, 305 Mary Street, Thames.**

### This week 17-24 December 2017

**Wed:** 9:30-12pm Selwyn Group, Hall. MT/Hostess Lynne Mounsey

**Thurs:** Office open 9am-12pm. 10am Holy Com. (1662), St George Chapel (Brendon)  
2-3pm Prayer Group meet at Rosemary Levesque home 704 Tararu Rd

**Fri:** Office attended 9am-12pm

**Sun:** 9am service at St George NZ Eucharist

First Testament: **2 Samuel 7 v 1-11, 16** Psalm: **89 v 1-4, 19-26**

Epistle: **Romans 16 v 25-27** Gospel: **Luke 1 v 26-38**

Presider/Preacher: Rev Brendon Wilkinson Intercessions: Margaret MacKay

Music Ministry: Finlay Clements Morning Tea: Kate Jones

Welcome Team: Ray Deed, Denise Norris

Sanctuary Guild: Margaret MacKay, Denise Norris

#### Inspire Roster:

Mon Catherine Mackereth

Tues *Volunteer needed*

Wed Lyn Chamley

Thurs Stephanie du Plessis

Fri Claire Twentyman

Sat Margaret MacKay

**Vicar:** The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson.

**Assistant Priest** The Rev'd Brenda Deed.

**Vicar's Warden:** Kate Jones

**Peoples Warden:** Paul Jennings

**Ph:** (07) 868 626

**Mob:** 021 556 710

**Email:** vicar@thamesanglicanchurch.co.nz

**Website:** <http://www.thamesanglicanchurch.co.nz>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/thames.anglican.1>



## THE PARISH OF THAMES

*Welcomes you to*

# St George Anglican Church Thames



**Sunday 17 December 2017**  
3rd Sunday in Advent

### Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

*(Each candle has a meaning)*

**This Third candle is Joy.**

*(Light two blue and one rose pink advent candle)*



#### **Prayer:**

As we light the candle of joy,  
we remember the stories of God's loyalty to all creation.  
We give thanks for the messengers – the apostles, prophets, artists, sages,  
faithful ones – present in every age, who bring us the good news  
of God's restoring love; and we shout with joy, trusting that God is with us  
and before us, and that joy will be born anew in us. **Amen**

**Liturgist:** Fiona Sayer **Server:** Margaret MacKay

**Prayers:** Brenda Deed (page 418) **Organist:** Stuart du Preez

**Welcome Team:** Max & Vivienne Baggaley, Winnie Sheehan

**Presider:** The Rev'd Brenda Deed **Preacher:** The Rev'd Arthur Mead  
**Sanctuary Guild:** Fiona Harden, Celia Newby **Morning Tea:** Denise Norris

### Prayer Needs

Someone will be available in the front during communion  
if you wish to receive prayer for yourself, family or others.



### Call to Worship

Grace and peace to you from God

**God fill you with truth and Joy**

The Lord be with you

**The Lord bless you**

This is the day which the Lord has made

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it**

### Opening Prayer

**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, so that we may truly love you and worthily praise your Holy Name; through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

### Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done.**

**We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you.**

**Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake and renew our lives to the glory of your name, Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

Through the cross of Christ, God have mercy on us, pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal, Amen.

### Sentence of the Day

Bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, the day of vengeance of our God.

Isaiah 61:1-2

### Collect of the Day

**Almighty God, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son; grant that those who proclaim your word may so guide our feet into the way of peace, that we may stand with confidence before him when he comes in his glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer. Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 61 v 1-4, 8-11 (Kate Jones)

Psalm: 126

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

2 **Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

**then it was said among the nations,**

"The LORD has done great things for them."

3 **The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.**

4 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

5 **May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

6 Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.



Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5 v 16-24

(Peter Philip)

Gradual Hymn:

Come, thou long expected Jesus

Gospel Reading: John 1 v 6-8, 19-28

(George Haffenden)

Then turn to page 418 in your NZ prayer book

Offertory Hymn: Come now, Lord Jesus

(on rear page)

Closing Hymn: Take my gifts

### Sending Forth

Go now to love and serve the Lord,

go now in peace.

**We go in the name of Christ, Amen.**

### **AM 28 Lo, he comes with clouds descending**

1 Lo! He comes, with clouds descending,

once for our salvation slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of His train.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign.

2 Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at naught and sold Him,  
pierced, and nailed Him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, 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 Yes, amen! Let all adore Thee,  
high on Thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the pow'r and glory,  
claim the kingdom for Thine own:  
Alleluia!  
thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

*Charles Wesley (1707-88)  
& John Cennick (1718-55)*

*Christmas flowers - It is nearly time to pick the white hydrangeas and the white agapanthus to decorate the church for Christmas! We need a team effort on the afternoon of December 24th at 1pm, which is a Sunday, but if Sunday does not suit an arrangement could be done on Saturday and left in the flower room for Monday. Please contact Fiona Harden 8681136 if you can help, if you can come later to help clean up at 3pm that would also be much appreciated.*

### **AM 31 Come, thou long expected Jesus,**

*Charles Wesley*

1. Come thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
2. Israel's strength and consolation hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
3. Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a king; born to reign in us for ever; now thy gracious kingdom bring.
4. By thy own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone; by thy all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne

### **AA 127 Take my gifts**

1. Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me, gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free. Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away; now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply.
2. Take the fruit that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed, harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God; spiced with humour, laced with laughter flavour of the Jesus life, tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.
3. Take whatever I can offer -- gifts that I have yet to find, skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind, things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be: take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.