



ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

THE PARISH OF THAMES

Welcomes you to

ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Sunday 16th December 2018

The 3rd Sunday in Advent

Candle Lighting

Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope. He brings hope to every heart.
He comes! He comes!

. . . peace . . . peace . . . peace

. . . joy . . . joy . . . joy

Grace and peace to you from God.

God fill you with truth and joy.

Commissioning of Wardens and Members of the Vestry

I present to you these persons to be admitted to the ministry of Vestry in this congregation.

The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity.

V. I am your servant; grant me understanding:

R. That I may know your decrees.

Let us pray. (Silence)

O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten with your grace the Wardens and Vestry of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Carol: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

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 Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

1st Reading Genesis 3 : 8-14 , 17-19 Beth Philip

Prayer:

Lord of mercy, despite our sinfulness, You never stopped loving us.
Fill our hearts with Your mercy, that we may forgive others. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer - *we sing*

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 for ever. Amen.**

2nd Reading Isaiah 9:2-7 Alan Hartley

Prayer:

God, You are always with us.

May we always trust in Your presence and share it with those around us. **Amen**

3rd Reading Micah 5:1-5 Lyn Wilson

Prayer:

Lord, we wait for the day of Your peace. May we help to bring this peace in our families, our communities, and our world. **Amen.**

Carol: O Little town of Bethlehem

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see you lie!
Above your deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in the dark streets shining is everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in you tonight.

2. 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, the Lord Emmanuel!

4th Reading Luke 2 1-7 Allan Judd

Prayer:

Lord, You came to us in humility and vulnerability. May we always show loving care to those around us, especially those in most need. **Amen.**

Prayers Denise Norris

Carol: Away in a manger - we sing verse 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.



PRAYERS

Father God, as we sing “Away in a manger” we think of the many people who are away from home - not with their families this Christmas, those who are sick in hospital, those who are in prison, those not at home because of work commitments and all those who are travelling ... *(pause)*

As we sing “the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head” we think of those needing rest - those fearing what lies ahead, those who cannot sleep because of pain, those who are struggling to make ends meet, and those who work today for health and safety needs of our community... *(pause)*

As we sing “the stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay” we pray for the light of your love to touch all those who have lost faith, those who need their confidence and hope restored, those who face an uncertain future, the leaders of our church and country, and for ourselves ... *(pause)*

We sing verses 2 and 3

1. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes
but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from on high.
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.
2. Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask You to stay
close by me for ever and love me I pray;
bless all the dear children in Your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with You there.

5th Reading Luke 2:8-20 Winnie Sheehan

Prayer:

Lord, You were revealed to the lowly shepherds who hurried to share the news of this child. May we always be willing to share the good news that came with the birth of Jesus. **Amen.**

Carol : While Shepherds Watched their flocks by night.

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night
all seated on the ground
the angel of the Lord came down
and glory shone around.

2. "Fear not" said he - for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind -
"Good news of greatest joy I bring
to you and all mankind.

3. All glory be to God on high
and to the earth be peace!
Goodwill henceforth from highest heaven
begin and never cease."

6th Reading Matthew 2: 1-2, 7-11 Paul Jennings

Prayer:

Lord, You are the giver of all good gifts.
May we always remember to share our gifts with others
for the glory of Your name .. **Amen.**

Your offering will be received during the singing of the carol.

Carol: We Three Kings

1. We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
*O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

2. Glorious now behold Him arise; King and God and sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia, earth to the heavens replies
O star of wonder, star of night ...

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here. **God's Spirit is with us.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to offer thanks and praise.

God, You made us and the world and everything in it.
All the good we see comes from You.
You have always loved us but people have not always loved You.
You sent Jesus to show us how to live
and to bring us back to You again.
He died for us on the cross so that through Your Spirit
we can all be Your people.
And so with thanks we praise You saying.



**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.**

We are here because on the night He died
Jesus shared a meal with His friends.
There He took some bread and gave thanks to You, God.
He broke it into pieces, and gave it to them.
'This is my body,' He said,
'Do this, and know that I am with you.'

Later, He took a cup of wine and gave thanks to You.
He shared it with them, and said
'This is My blood, which brings new life.
Do this, and know that I am with you.'
And so, remembering Jesus, who died was raised to new life by You, and is alive
forever, we are glad to share that life and live in Him and proclaim the mystery of
our faith

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.**



Send Your Holy Spirit so that this bread and wine
can be for us the body and blood of Jesus,
and through this food give us strength to live as Your people.
Help us to care for Your world and for each other
in the way that Jesus showed us.
Until He comes again, with all Your people in every time and every land we
worship You in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing, honour and glory be Yours, here and everywhere,
now and for ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

7th Reading John 1:1-14 Sharon Cordery

Prayer:

God of power and might, You are beyond all time and space.

May we never fail to recognize Your majesty

and give praise to You in all we do. **Amen**

Blessing (Please stand)

Carol: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all you 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!"

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 us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail! the heaven born Prince of peace!

Hail! the Son of Righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings
mild He lays His glory by born that we no more may die:
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Ministry Team for 16th December

Presider The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson. **Liturgist:** The Rev'd Brenda Deed.
Preacher: 7 Lesson & Carols. **Server:** Kate Sayer . **Intercessor/Prayers:** Denise Norris.
Organist: John Mounsey. **Welcome Team:** Steve Darwell, Rex Geary.
Sanctuary Guild: Lois Robinson & Diane Stanfield. **Te Puru 9:30:** The Rev'd Lillian Barrett.
Tararu Rest Home 11:00: The Rev'd Catherine Mackereth.

Parish Community News

We are having a Parish Lunch BBQ after the service. There will be NO morning tea!
Please join us in this lovely time of friendship and fellowship over an informal BBQ and enjoy all the food provided by the goodness of the Lord.

Thursday 20th December 10:00 am - healing service in the church.

Prayer Needs

"To all in Thames who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 1: 7

Please keep in your prayers all our elderly parishioners who cannot be with us today.
Please also pray for David Juby and Ken Hayhurst.

This week 16th – 23rd December

Wed: 9:30-12pm Selwyn Group, Hall. MT/Hostess
Thurs 20th, 10am Holy Communion (1662), St George's Chapel (Healing Service)
Office Open: Tues, Wed & Frid - 9am—1pm
Sun: 9:30am service at St George's - NZ Eucharist

Sunday 23rd December

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a	Raewyn Grey
Psalm: 80: 1-7	
Second Reading/The Epistle: Heb 10: 5-10	Lyn Wilson
Third Reading/The Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45	Christine Neilson
Presider & Preacher:	The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson
Intercessor/Prayers:	Christine Neilson
Liturgist:	Allan Judd
Server:	Margaret MacKay
Music Ministry/organist:	Lynne Mounsey
Sanctuary Guild/Flowers:	Anna Juby, Fiona Sayer
Morning Tea:	Ien Chu & Lyn Wilson
Welcome Team:	Dorothy McRoberts, Denise Norris

