

THE PARISH OF THAMES

Welcomes you to

ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Sunday 29th December, 2019

1st Sunday Of Christmas

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 Hymn: How Great Thou Art

O, Lord, my God!

When I in awesome wonder

consider all the works Thy hands have made,

I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder;

Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,

'How great Thou art, how great Thou art!'

(repeat)

When through the woods and forest glades I wander

and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,

when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,

and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,

sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in

that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,

He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, 'My God how great Thou art!'

@ 1963 by Stuart K. Hine/Adm worldwide by Thankyou Music

Collect For Purity

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 *(Please sit or kneel)*

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 us and set us free. Know that we are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in life eternal, Amen.

Sentence of the Day

Because Jesus Himself was tested by what He suffered, He is able to help those who are being tested.

Hebrews 2:18

Collect of the Day

Jesus,

You saw the world through the eyes of a child.

Save us from the pride

**that would refuse Your command to live like You
in simplicity and joy.**

Hear this prayer for Your love's sake.

Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9

Read by Winnifred Sheehan

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

Praise and Prayer

I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD, the deeds for which He is to be praised, according to all the LORD has done for us - yes, the many good things

He has done for Israel, according to His compassion and many kindnesses. He said, "Surely they are My people, children who will be true to Me"; and so He became their Saviour. In all their distress He too was distressed, and the angel of His presence saved them. In His love and mercy He redeemed them; He lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Psalm: 148

Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights above.

Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His heavenly hosts.

Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars.

Praise Him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for at His command they were created, and He established them for ever and ever - He issued a decree that will never pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,

lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do His bidding,

you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,

wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds,

kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth,

young men and women, old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted;
His splendour is above the earth and the heavens.

**And He has raised up for His people a horn, the praise of all His faithful servants, of Israel, the people close to His heart.
Praise the LORD.**

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

2nd Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18

Read by George Haffenden

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for Whom and through Whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what He suffered. Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. He says, "I will declare your name to My brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises."

And again, "I will put my trust in Him."

And again He says, "Here am I, and the children God has given Me."

Since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity so that by His death He might break the power of him who holds the power of death - that is, the devil - and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels He helps, but Abraham's descendants. For this reason He had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that He might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

Praise and Glory to God

The Escape to Egypt And The Return to Nazareth

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the Child and His mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the Child to kill Him."

So he got up, took the Child and His mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my Son."

When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the Child and His mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the Child's life are dead."

So he got up, took the Child and His mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³ and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that He would be called a Nazarene.

This is the gospel of Christ

Praise to Christ, the Word

Sermon:

The Rev'd Arthur Mead

Intercessions:

Given by Stephen Williams

Peace:

Please turn to page 419 in the Prayer book.

Offertory Hymn: What A Friend We Have In Jesus

What a friend we Have In Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear;
what a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations,
is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness -
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
burdened with a load of prayer?
Jesus is our mighty Saviour:
He will listen to our prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
take it to the Lord in prayer;
in His arms He will enfold you
and His love will shield you there.

J.M. Scriven (1819-1886)

Communion — prayer is available at the High Altar during communion

Closing Hymn: My Jesus, My Saviour

My Jesus, my Saviour Lord there is none like You.
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter tower of refuge and strength,
let every breath, all that I am never cease to worship You

Chorus:

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hand
forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

My Jesus, my Saviour Lord there is none like You.
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.
You're my comfort (My comfort) and my shelter (My shelter).
You're my tower of refuge and strength let every breath, all that I am
never cease to worship You...

Hillsong Worship. Source: [LyricFind](#)

Sending Forth: Go now to love and serve the Lord; go now in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.



Ministry Team For 29th December, 2019

Liturgist: Ruth Kowalewicz **Server:** Raewyn Grey

Intercessor/Prayers: Stephen Williams

Music: Brendon and Pip on guitars

Presider: The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson

Preacher: The Rev's Arthur Mead

Welcome Team: Kate Jones, Christina Philip, Leslie Wilkinson

Morning Tea: Margaret MacKay & Helpers

Te Puru: **The Rev'd Liam Phillips**

Parish Community News

The office is closed until 14th January

Prayer Needs

*"Here is My servant, Whom I uphold, My chosen One in Whom I delight;
I will put My Spirit on Him and He will bring justice to the nations." Isaiah 42:1*

Give help to persecuted Christians through: Voice of the Martyrs, PO Box 5482, Papanui, Christchurch 8542 OR Barnabas Fund, PO Box 27618, Manukau City, Auckland 2241

Sunday 5th January, 2020, 9:30am

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Beth Philip

Psalms: 72:1-7, 10-14

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

Margaret MacKay

3rd Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Raewyn Grey

Presider & Preacher:

The Rev'd Lilian Barrett

Liturgist:

Sue Lewis O'Halloran

Server:

Leslie Wilkinson

Music Ministry/organist:

Brendon, Pip & Sharon

Intercessions:

Denise Norris

Sanctuary Guild/Flowers:

Winnie Sheehan, Natalie Geary

Morning Tea:

AnneMarie Hartley, Allan Judd

Welcome Team:

Vivienne Baggaley, Winnie Sheehan

Vicar: The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson **Assistant Priest:** The Rev'd David Cooper

Curate: The Rev'd Liam Phillips **Vicar's Warden:** Kate Jones

People's Warden: Lynne Mounsey **Office Administrator:** Sharon Cordery

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