

ST MATTHEW-IN-THE-CITY
AUCKLAND RAINBOW COMMUNITY CHURCH



CHRISTMAS READINGS AND CAROLS

16 DECEMBER 2018 8 pm

INTROIT

Matin Responsory (I looked from afar)

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1526-1594)

HYMN

**O come, O come, Emmanuel
and ransom captive Israel
who mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God draws near:
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, bright Daybreak, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
dispel the long night's lingering gloom
and pierce the shadows of the tomb:
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, strong Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O come, great Lord of might
who long ago on Sinai's height
gave all your tribes the ancient law,
in cloud and majesty and awe:
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*Words: based on Latin Antiphons, tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866)
Tune: Veni Emmanuel, plainsong melody (15th cent.)
harm John Henry Arnold (1887-1956). TIS 265*

BIDDING PRAYER

Advent is a time of waiting, waiting with hope.
While the world around us
has already arrived at Christmas, we wait.
We wait and listen,
to better prepare ourselves
for the great mystery of the birth at Bethlehem.
As we wait this year
we hear told the story of the birth of Jesus.
As we listen we remember the needs
of the world around us,
especially those who suffer from loneliness and loss,
poverty and illness, violence and war.
We pray this night
with hope for justice and peace and goodwill
for all God's people.
These prayers we offer,
in the words of Jesus who taught us 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 for ever. Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

ANTHEM

*Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme
(from Church Cantata BWV 140)*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

READING

The Annunciation

CAROL

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady, Gloria!**

**'for known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold;
most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!**

**Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,
'my soul shall laud and magnify His holy name':
most highly favoured lady, Gloria!**

**of her, Immanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
'most highly favoured lady'. Gloria!**

*Words: Basque Carol, paraphrased
by Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)*

*Tune: Gabriel's Message, Basque traditional carol melody
arr. Charles Edgar Pettman (1866-1943). TiS 302*

READING

The Visitation to Elizabeth

ANTHEM

Magnificat in C

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1954)

READING

The Birth of Jesus

ANTHEM

A babe is born

William Mathias (1934-1992)

READING

The Shepherds

CAROL

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

**'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind),
'glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind.**

**'To you in David's town this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:**

**'the heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling clothes
and in a manger laid.'**

**Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:**

**'All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
goodwill henceforth from heaven to all
begin and never cease.'**

*Words: Nahum Tate (1652-1715)
Tune: Winchester Old, later form of melody
from Thomas Este's 'Psalter', 1592. TIS 299*

READING

The Magi

ANTHEM

Bethlehem Down

Peter Warlock (1894-1930)

READING

The Flight to Egypt

CAROL ¹

**Away and in danger, no hope of a bed,
the refugee children, no tears left to shed
look up at the night sky for someone to know
that refugee children have no place to go.**

**The babies are crying, their hunger awakes,
the boat is too loaded, it shudders and breaks;
humanity's wreckage is thrown out to die,
the refugee children will never know why.**

**Come close, little children, we hold out our hand
in rescue and welcome to shores of our land -
in aroha, touching your fear and your pain,
with dreams for your future
when peace comes again.**

Words: Shirley Erena Murray

*Tune: Cradle Song, melody by William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)
arr. David Willcocks. Carols for Choir 1, #2*

¹ *The collection for today's service will go to support the Auckland Refugee Family Trust (www.arft.org.nz)*

*For electronic giving option: text **stmatthew** to **818** to make a fast one off or ongoing donation by credit card to St Matthew-in-the-City. Or you can download the PUSHPAY app from Apple Store or Google Playstore and search for St Matthew-in-the-City.*

READING

"First Coming" by Madeleine L'Engle

ANTHEM

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Jan Sandstrom

COLLECT AND BLESSING

CAROL

**Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

*Words: French trad., trans. James Chadwick 1860
Tune: Gloria, French Carol melody*

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Cover: The Nativity by Giotto di Bondone (c. 1270 - 1337), fragment*

ST MATTHEW'S VOICES

Celia Aspey-Gordon

James Butler

Nathan Hauraki

Matthew Howes

Paul Chan, organ

PLEASE STAY FOR SUPPER

Christmas Service times:

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|----------------------------|---|
| Monday 24 December | 7pm Nativity Service for Children |
| | 9.30pm Music with Brass Band |
| | 10.30pm Carols for Christmas |
| | 11.30pm Midnight Mass |
| Tuesday 25 December | 10am Christmas Sung Eucharist |
| | 5pm Christmas Day Service of
Auckland Rainbow
Community Church |