

A warm welcome to St Peter's Cathedral as we gather for worship this morning.

St Peter's Cathedral resides on the lands of the Kurna people. We give thanks for their ancestors and acknowledge the ongoing right and responsibility of their elders to care for this Country. We are committed to work and pray towards a more just settlement for all Indigenous people and pay our respect to First Nations people with us.

St Peter's Cathedral is a Christ-centred, sacramental, inclusive, thinking, mission-oriented faith community.

Has God gone to sleep; we often wonder? Have we been abandoned? Does God even care? These thoughts are not just ours, but the people of Judah during the time of Isaiah were wondering the same thing. Isaiah chapters 40 – 66 are generally believed to come to us from the time of Cyrus of Persia (539 B.C.E), and the author(s) are looking forward to the time of restoration and return after deportation to Babylon. The people of the time, however, needed convincing. Isaiah meets them with a word of promise. The people will return and 'they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord ... they will build up the ancient ruins ... they shall repair the ruined cities ...' (Isaiah 61: 3 – 4).

The Advent theme of waiting is an important one. Salvation has come to us, but we wait for its completion. Patience is needed. We live by faith because God is who God promises to be, and we are who God says we are. We wait in joyful expectation for 'the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing ... and sorrow and sighing shall flee away' (Isa 51: 11). These are wonderful words of promise and hope, and they are ours!

Blessings,

The Rt Rev'd Chris McLeod
Dean

Celebrant: The Rev'd Joan Claring-Bould

Preacher: The Right Rev'd Chris McLeod

Readers: Ian Clarke, Ros Clarke

CEREMONY OF THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Celebrant Today is the third Sunday in Advent. We light a candle each week to remind us that Jesus brings light into the dark places of the world.

The first candle (purple, the Candle of Hope) is lit

Reader We light the candle of hope to proclaim that God's light is coming into the world.

The second candle (purple, the Candle of Peace) is lit

Reader We light the candle of peace to proclaim that God's promises will be fulfilled in the birth of Jesus – Prince of Peace.

The third candle (rose-pink, the Candle of Joy) is lit

Celebrant We rejoice and sing out with gladness at the message of God's salvation.

Reader We light the candle of joy to celebrate that God's saving power is coming into the world.

All **God of joy, we rejoice as we look forward to your breaking into human history, revealing in person your justice and your love. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O LORD Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 61.1-4, 8-11

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Please respond with the phrases in bold

PSALM 126

When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion: then were we like those restored to life.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter: and our tongue with singing.
Then said they among the heathen: 'The Lord has done great things for them.'
Truly the Lord has done great things for us: and therefore we rejoiced.
Turn again our fortunes, O Lord: as the streams return to the dry south.
Those who sow in tears: shall reap with songs of joy.
They that go out weeping, bearing the seed:
shall come again in gladness, bringing their sheaves with them.

SECOND READING

1 THESSALONIANS 5.12-28

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them.

See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. Beloved, pray for us. Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all of them. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 1.6-8, 19-28

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The Holy Gospel is written in the 1st Chapter of the Gospel according to John beginning at verse 6.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said,

'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

"Make straight the way of the Lord",

as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptising if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.



Thank you for worshipping with us today. The life and work of this Cathedral is made possible through the generosity of individuals like you. Your gift helps us to maintain this iconic building for all people to enjoy, to continue a strong music and liturgy tradition, and to support the mission of the Church. You can donate in these ways:

- Envelopes and/or cash in the Collection plates or the Donation Boxes around the Cathedral.
- Electronic Funds Transfer: BSB 705-077 Account Number 00040056 (include your name as reference)
- Use the \$10/\$20/\$30/\$50 Tap & Go machine to make an instant donation.
- Debit/Credit card: Scan the QR code to be taken directly to our online donation page.



St Peter's
nurturing spirit and mind
CATHEDRAL

NOTICES

Sunday Night with Lynn Arnold (7 pm on 1079Life)

Lynn Arnold's program this week will feature Astra Fleetwood from Anglicare as they talk about responding to need in the Christmas season.

Tea/coffee after regular services: Our community offer hospitality at the following times:

- The Wednesday 10 am community have tea & coffee after the first Wednesday each month. The next gathering will take place on Wednesday 3 January.
- The Sunday 8 am community have tea & coffee after the first Sunday of each month. The next gathering will take place on Sunday 7 January.
- After the 10.30 am Eucharist, there is tea and coffee provided every week *other than on 24 December (10 am) and 31 December.*

Music Foundation performances of Handel's Messiah – The final Music Foundation Concert for the year is the performance of Messiah on 22 and 23 December. Tickets for the Friday night are sold out, but some tickets for Saturday are still available. Tickets can be purchased via the QR code or website, or at the door, if available.



Donate a star for the Cathedral Christmas tree supporting the ABM AID Al-Ahli Hospital Emergency Appeal – During December special envelopes will be available for donating a star for this ABM AID Emergency Appeal. Cash donations of any amount can be made in the envelopes or Eftpos donations can be made at the Cathedral Shop. Every star represents a donation to this vital appeal. Please help make our Cathedral Christmas tree shine with an abundance of stars, guiding the whole world into the way of peace this Christmas.

Flowers for Christmas – The current abundance of beautiful blooming agapanthus in Adelaide gardens is a joyful sight and a sign that the season of Advent is here. Julie and Elspeth from the Cathedral flower team are seeking parishioners support in providing flowers for Christmas. Following our garden theme from last year we are seeking blue or white agapanthus and holly. We are particularly keen to have some holly!

In these times of financial constraints rather than buying flowers we want to use what is in our gardens. If you are able to help with these flowers please bring them to the Cathedral on Thursday 21 December where buckets will be available for you to place them in. Thank you in anticipation.

Blue Christmas Service tonight – Christmas can be a time when we struggle with the loss of loved ones, with loneliness, with pain as we witness the violence in the world, with questions about whether our lives have meaning and purpose. A Blue Christmas service of candle lighting, music, readings, and prayers will take place in the Cathedral tonight at 6pm. The service led by Cathedral clergy, Syntony Chamber Choir and organ will be a place to ponder the love of God when we are in a place of grief and struggle. We do hope you will join us.

Lent Study 2024 – A Truth Universally Acknowledged - advance notice – Lent studies will take place on Mondays at 10am and 7pm and on Tuesdays at 5pm. Ash Wednesday is February 14 and our studies will commence in the following week. The Lent Study is based on a book A Truth Universally Acknowledged by Venerable Rachel Mann. Rachel Mann introduces Jane Austen, her world and her ideas, and for each day of Lent offers commentary on a short excerpt from her writing to explore how her faith can illuminate ours. The themes explored include: The triumph of Love, Learning wisdom, Seeing beyond the surface to the truth, Knowing where your treasure lies, The temptation to be prideful and prejudiced, The pomposity of religion, Privilege and its limitations, Duty and good manners and much more.

We have ordered 50 copies of the book which will be sold through the Cathedral shop for \$25. You might like to add Jane Austen novels and TV programmes to your holiday reading and viewing!

Please contact Canon Jenny at jwilson@stpeters-cathedral.org.au for more details.

Farewell Collection for the Rev'd Sally Sanford-Morgan – please place cash in an envelope marked 'Gift for Sally' and place in the offertory bowl or donations box. If you are using bank transfer enter in the reference section 'Collection – Sally'.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For the Church

International O Sapientia The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea
Primate Bishop Nathan Ingen

National North Queensland: Bishop Keith Joseph

South Australia

Diocese of Adelaide St Barnabas College: principal Joan Riley (Andrew)

Diocese of Willochra Port Augusta - Quorn: Sheridan Brand (Anthony)

Diocese of The Murray Tatiara (Bordertown, Keith): Robert Hupfeld (Gerri)

For the People

We hold before God all those who have asked for our prayers, particularly:

Immediate Prayer: Audrey Ball, Heather Scott.

Long Term Prayer: Francis Brooks, Peter Garland, Max Lennard, Chris, Bridie Maxwell, Meredith Chesterman, Vernon Lewis, Pauline Van Buren, Alisha Coe-Fox, Anne Hogben, Matilda Lane, Helena Fernandes, Cricket Fox, Daniella, Peter Black, Jean Arnold, Martin Reece, Norton & Judy Schenscher, Joseph Burgess (WCH), John Hankin, Brooke Garry, David, Christine Chomel, Oliver (WCH), Sarah Boorman, Stephen Lane, Sandra Morrison.

Those whose year's mind occurs at this time:

- 17th Reginald William Mathews
Alan Hayward
- 19th Geoffrey Tremayne Sambell
Kenneth William George Treagus
- 20th Hazel Shirley Whittney
- 21st Kate Abel Smith
Richard Frederick Haselgrove
- 22nd Daniel Ditmar-Jansse
Kathleen Moyle
Jean Douglas McNicol
- 23rd Priscilla Mary Gilbert Brown

The Cathedral is compiling a database of the lives of those whose names appear on the Year's Mind list. If you have any biographical details of any of the people remembered today, please contact Stuart Langshaw - langshawstuart@gmail.com

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHEDRAL

For some services, the West Doors of the Cathedral are not opened. Please make your way to the northern (carpark) side of the Cathedral and enter through the St Barnabas Porch.

MON 18 DEC	7:30am	Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
	9.15am	Morning Prayer (St Barnabas College)
	10:30am-1pm	Open for visiting and private prayer
TUES 19 DEC	7:30am	Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
	8:45am	Morning Prayer (Dean's Chapel)
	10:30am-3:30pm	Open for visiting and private prayer
WED 20 DEC	7:30am	Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
	8:45am	Morning Prayer (Dean's Chapel)
	10:00am	Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
	10:30am-2:30pm	Open for visiting and private prayer
THURS 21 DEC ST THOMAS, APOSTLE AND MARTYR	7:30am	Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
	8:45am	Morning Prayer (Dean's Chapel)
	10:30am-3:30pm	Open for visiting and private prayer
FRI 22 DEC	7:30am	Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
	8:45am	Morning Prayer (Dean's Chapel)
	10:30am-3:30pm	Open for visiting and private prayer
	7:00pm	Handel's Messiah (<i>sold out</i>)
SAT 23 DEC	7:00pm	Handel's Messiah
SUN 24 DEC FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE	10:00am	Choral Eucharist Preacher – The Rev'd Canon Jenny Wilson
	4:00pm	Children's Crib Service
	7:00pm	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
	11:00pm	Midnight Mass Preacher – The Archbishop of Adelaide

CATHEDRAL STAFF

Dean	The Right Reverend Chris McLeod
Canon Precentor	The Reverend Canon Jenny Wilson
Assistant Priest	The Reverend Sally Sandford-Morgan
Honorary Assistant Priest	The Reverend Dr Lynn Arnold AO
Honorary Assistant Priest	The Reverend Joan Claring-Bould
Cathedral Administrator	Peter Burdon
Cathedral Office	Marco Callisto, Robyn Shilcock, Emma Simpson-Smith
Director of Music	Anthony Hunt
Cathedral Organist	David Heah
Dean's Warden	Rijke Mellor
People's Warden	Reuben Jacob