

FESTIVE CHORAL *Eucharist*

10AM - CHRISTMAS DAY

25th December 2018

Celebrant & Preacher

The Very Reverend Frank Nelson
Dean of St Peter's Cathedral

Deacon: The Reverend Wendy Morecroft

Subdeacon: Carol Sim

Master of Ceremonies: Dr Rijke Mellor

Cathedral Clergy: The Reverend Canon Jenny Wilson,
The Reverend Dr Lynn Arnold AO

Mass Setting: Jackson in G

Director of Music: Leonie Hempton OAM

Choir: The St Peter's Cathedral Choir

Organist: David Heah

St Peter's Cathedral, North Adelaide

St Peter's Cathedral is a Christ-centred, sacramental, inclusive, thinking, mission-oriented, faith community. The Cathedral resides on the lands of the Kaurna people whom we acknowledge as the original custodians of the Adelaide Region.

Welcome from the Dean

This morning, as we gather in St Peter's Cathedral, to worship God in this Festive Choral Eucharist, and join together to sing the great Christmas hymns of our faith, we do so in the company of countless millions of people the world over who are touched by the birth of this tiny child.

Welcome to you all. If this is your first experience of Christmas worship, may you know something of the sheer mystery of God's love in your life.

To everyone here, God bless, enfold and keep you in the humility and love of the holy family, the joy of the Bethlehem shepherds, and the awe of the worshipping sages.

A happy and blessed Christmas.

The Very Reverend Frank Nelson, Dean

St Peter's Cathedral - a place to call home

- Whether you are one of those who comes only at Christmas, or are here for the first time, welcome. What about making the Cathedral 'your place' of regular worship?
- Children are well catered for on Sundays in the Cathedral Kids programme at 10.30am; and our trebles take their place alongside the adult choristers in the Choir.
- If you are wanting to be baptized or married here, or simply interested in finding out more about "*Your Cathedral*" please visit our website: www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au

Please stand when the handbell rings for the start of the service

The Choir enters in procession followed by the Altar party

1. **O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:
 *O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord!***
2. **God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
 *O come, let us adore him...***
3. **See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks,
draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps
 *O come, let us adore him...***
4. **Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest:
 *O come, let us adore him...***
5. **Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
 *O come, let us adore him...***

Music: ADESTE FIDELES att. J. F. Wade (1711-1786), Descant: P. Ledger (1937-2012)

Words: Latin 18th Century trans F. Oakely, W.T. Brooke and others

from A&M #78

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; for to us a child is born, to us a son is given. *Isaiah 9.2, 6*

Let us pray (*please kneel/sit*)

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, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Choir sings the Kyrie

Kyrie eleison

Christe eleison

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Christ the grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all. Let us bring our weakness and infirmities to God, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith; pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand as the Choir sing the Gloria

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Please remain standing for the Collect

God Most High, whose eternal Word chose a dwelling among us, that we might live in your presence: grant us a spirit of wisdom to know how rich is the glory you have given us, and how great is the hope to which we are called in the Word made flesh; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please sit for the reading: Isaiah 52.7-10 (Read by Henry Sawers, Head Chorister 2018)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has

redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing the Gradual Hymn:

- 1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
let earth receive her King
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and heaven and nature sing.**

- 2. Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns
let all their songs employ
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

- 3. He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.**

Words: I Watts (1674-1748)
Music: W. Holford c.1834
from A&M #72

Please sit

Children are invited to join the Dean at the Crib

Prayer at the Crib

O God the Son, highest and holiest,
you humbled yourself to share our birth and our death:
bring us with the shepherds and the wise men
to kneel before your holy cradle,
that we may come to sing with your angels
your glorious praises in heaven;
where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign,
God, world without end. **Amen.**

**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.**

After we have sung the first verse of "Away in a manger" the children may go to the Cynthia Poulton Hall for some special Christmas craft activities, re-joining their parents later in the service. They are also welcome to remain in the Cathedral if they prefer

The Sermon: The Very Reverend Frank Nelson, Dean

Please stand to sing the Hymn:

1. **Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice!
Listen now to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now!
Christ is born today;
Christ is born today!**
2. **Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice!
Hear the news of endless bliss,
Jesus Christ was born for this:
he has opened heaven's door,
and we are blessed for evermore!
Christ was born for this;
Christ was born for this!**
3. **Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save:
come at his most gracious call
to find salvation, one and all!
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!**

Words: J. M. Neale (181-1866)

Music: J. Stainer (1840-1901)

from A&M #65

Please remain standing for the Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of
the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten,
not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For
us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy
Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was
crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third
day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to
judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the
Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son, is worshipped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy
catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the
world to come. Amen.**

Please kneel or sit for the prayers of the Church, led by The Rev'd Canon Jenny Wilson

Let us bring before God our needs and the needs of the world.

We keep silence for a moment

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.

Wonderful Counsellor,
give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Mighty God,
make the whole world know that the government is on your shoulders.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, establish your reign of justice and righteousness for ever.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Prince of peace, bring in the endless kingdom of your peace.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,

People

Our Fath - er in heav'n, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the pow'r and the glo - ry are yours
now and for ev - er. A - men.

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace

A child has been born for us, a son given to us:

And his name is called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

During the next hymn a collection is taken to support the costs of the Cathedral. Many choose to make regular donations electronically (BSB 305-122, Ac No. 0256051) or by using envelopes. Complete a Planned Giving form to become a regular and faithful financial supporter of the ministry of the Cathedral.

1. **O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.**
2. **O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to all on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.**
3. **How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.**
4. **Where children pure and happy
Pray to the blessèd Child,
Where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching
And faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
And Christmas comes once more.**
5. **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,
Our Lord Emmanuel.**

Words: Bishop P. Brooks (1835–1893) Music: FOREST GREEN, English Traditional
Harmony: R. V. Williams (1872-1958) Descant: T. Armstrong (1898-1994)
from A&M #79

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Please remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first staff is for the Priest, with lyrics: 'The Lord be with you. And also with you.' The second staff is for the People, with lyrics: 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff is for the Priest, with lyrics: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff is for the People, with lyrics: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music is simple, using quarter notes and half notes with slurs.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God. We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us. In your Word made flesh you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Choir sings: Sanctus & Benedictus

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:



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

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

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Please kneel/sit as the Choir sings: Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Baptised and communicant Christians of all denominations are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Communion will be administered at the Nave platform, the main entrance and in the Sanctuary. Please follow the guidance of stewards and servers. Gluten free bread is available at the Nave platform only; please ask for this from the priest giving communion. If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion, you may like to come forward and receive a blessing (simply bow your head as a signal)

During the administration of Holy Communion the Choir will sing carols.

Prayers after Communion (please kneel/sit)

God of heaven, dwelling among us, we thank you for feeding us with this holy food. By your grace keep us ever faithful to your Word made flesh that as his body in the world we may bring your presence to all people.

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.

*The Dean leads the congregation
in praying the Festival 150 prayer*

God of all time:

**Alpha and Omega,
beginning and end.**

**We praise and thank you
for what has been,
what is and
what is to be.**

**In this year of celebration
we give you thanks
for those who have gone before us
in faith, courage and generosity.**

**Give us
imagination, purpose and grace
to step into the future with you,
our Creator, Redeemer, and Life-giver.**

Amen



Please stand to sing the Post-Communion Hymn

1. **Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye 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.***
2. **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 man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
*Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.***

3. **Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings:
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
*Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King***

Words: C. Wesley (1707-88) and others

Tune: MENDELSSOHN Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

Descant: D. Willcocks (1919- 2015)

from A&M #66

Please remain standing for the Blessing

May Christ our infant saviour give you the joy of the Bethlehem shepherds, the awe of the worshipping sages and the humility and love of the holy family: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please remain standing as the Choir and Clergy depart in procession.

You are invited to listen reflectively to the postlude:

Widor – Toccata from Symphony No 5

2018 – A Momentous Year

2018 has been a momentous year in the life of St Peter's Cathedral. Not only have the congregations (particularly the Sunday 10.30am) continued to grow and flourish, but significant long term conservation work has been done.

At the start of the year an access-way was built along the south side of the building, making it possible to bring in a crane for high level cleaning and maintenance and, in the process, giving us a new and delightful gathering space in the Memorial Garden.

Immediately after Easter, work began on the replacement of roof slates, installation of seismic bracing, and detailed masonry repair work – all on that section of the Cathedral which houses the organ. This first of seven stages of high-level conservation work was completed on time and under budget.

In the latter part of the year the Cathedral Organ returned from Durham UK and, under the skilled organ builders of Harrison & Harrison Ltd, was made ready in time for a magnificent First Chords service on Advent Sunday.

A few months ago, after St Peter's Cathedral Music Foundation pledged up to \$200,000 from its own accumulated funds to help us to meet any shortfall in fundraising, we had a pipe dream (pun intended!) to “bring the organ home debt free by Christmas”. It is a great thrill to be able to announce that not only has the Organ, complete with new casework, been fully restored, but that the fund-raising has gone so well (with some pledges still to come) that we are now confident there will be **no need to borrow any money to fund the project**. Further donations are still being sought to reduce the shortfall to be funded from the Music Foundation's capital.

Festival 150

The St Peter's Cathedral sesquicentenary celebrations began on Advent Sunday (four weeks ago). It promises to be a year of festival events with something to suit a wide range of people and interests. If you do not already have one, please collect a Festival 150 brochure from the Stewards and join us in celebrating the past and imagining the future.

*Wishing you a blessed,
holy and happy Christmas.*

St Peter's Anglican Cathedral
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North Adelaide

Phone (08) 8267 4551
Email office@stpeters-cathedral.org.au
Website www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au

The Cathedral is open to visit and to pray:
Mon 9.30am-1.00pm
Tues-Sat 9.30am-4.00pm
Sun 12.00pm-3.00pm
(Free Public Tours Wed 11.00am, Sun 12.30pm)

Sunday Services:
8.00am Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Choral Eucharist
6.00pm Choral Evensong



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