

St. Andrew's by the Sea Uniting Church

Christian Community in the Heart of Glenelg

Rev. Christine Gilbert



Third Sunday in the Season of Advent
15th December 2019

“Nothing in all creation is so like God as stillness.
The best and noblest of all that one can come to in this life
is to be silent and let God work and let God speak.”

—Meister Eckhart

From age to age, to all who fear,
 such mercy love imparts,
 dispensing justice far and near,
 dismissing selfish hearts.

Love casts the mighty from their thrones,
 promotes the insecure,
 leaves hungry spirits satisfied,
 the rich seem suddenly poor.

Praise God, whose loving covenant
 supports those in distress,
 remembering past promises
 with present faithfulness.

Words: Miriam Therese Winter
 Tune: MORNING SONG

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Lighting of the Advent Candle

In this season, we hear visions of the new creation
 and, just as summer light increases across our land,
 our yearning for what might be grows stronger in our hearts.
(two Advent candles are lit)

As we wait, may we find encouragement
 in these words from the Letter of James:

*Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord.
 The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being
 patient with it until it received the early and the late rains.
 You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the
 coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against
 one another, so that you might not be judged. As an exam-
 ple of suffering and patience, my friends, take the prophets
 who spoke in the name of the Lord.* (James 5:7–10)

RESPONDING

We Sing "O come, O come Emmanuel"

O come, O come Emmanuel
 the waiting heart is calm and still.
 We search the desert's timeless sky
 for signs of holy mystery.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us
a star shall be the sign.

O come, O come the time is near
 we yearn to know your presence here.
 Creation stirs: the time is full.
 Be born in us, Emmanuel.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us
a child shall be the sign.

O come, O come Emmanuel
 the source of dreaming, now our dreams fulfil.
 Let peace descend like gentle rain
 and justice flood this earth again.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us
and hope shall be the sign.

O come, O come Emmanuel
 in pain of birth our work reveal.
 To share your struggle to be born
 in all whose lives are desolate and torn.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us
and love shall be the sign.

Prayers of the People

The Disciple's Prayer

*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 forever. Amen.*

Christmas Bowl Presentation

Collection and Offering Song

(TiS 271)

Praise to the incarnate Son
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever one
to all eternity.

Words: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749

Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, with joy, we make this offering.
We give freely and generously,
in the same way we ourselves have received from you.
We give with thankfulness,
for you have shown us mercy and compassion.
*May our offerings assist in bringing
joy to those who are despairing,
protection for those who are vulnerable,
and comfort to those who are distressed. Amen.*

(from the Christmas Bowl resources)

JOURNEYING**We Sing**

“O bless the God of Israel”

(TiS 284)

1

O bless the God of Israel
 who comes to set us free;
 who visits and redeems us,
 with love for all to see.
 The prophets spoke of mercy,
 of rescue and release:
 God shall fulfil his promise
 and bring our people peace.

2

He comes! the Child of David,
 the Son whom God has given;
 he comes to live among us
 and raise us up to heaven:
 before him goes his servant
 forerunner in the way,
 the prophet of salvation,
 the herald of the Day.

3

Where once were fear and darkness
 the sun begins to rise
 the dawning of forgiveness
 upon the sinner's eyes.
 He guides the feet of pilgrims
 along the paths of peace:
 O bless our God and Saviour
 with songs that never cease.

Word: Benedictus, Michael Perry
 Tune: MERLE'S TUNE

Sung Benediction

“May the kindness of our Lord, Jesus”

May the kindness of our Lord, Jesus
 And the love of our God
 And the friendship, and the unity
 of the Spirit be with you.
 Be with you.

Words and music: Andrew Dutney

You are invited to gather for morning tea in the hall.

Readings for Sunday 22 December 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

Rostered Duties:

Prayers of the People:

Sean Gilbert

Scripture Reader:

Avril Noy

Morning Tea:

Elaine and Barry Mesecke

Birthday Cake—December

Adeline & Andrew

Welcomer:

Lyn Anesbury

Side Door after Worship

Chris Croucher

This Week at St Andrews:

The Church is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.30 am to 3.00 pm.

Sunday:

10:30 am

Fellowship in the Hall

11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Arts By The Sea

Summer Solace

6:30 pm

Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Monday:

Tuesday:

12:00 pm- 2:30 pm

Community Aid

Wednesday

Thursday:

12:00 pm- 2:00 pm

Community Aid

Friday:

12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Community Aid Final Day

Contact Information:

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