

The Anglican Parish of Gisborne



Anglican
Christmas

**Midnight Eucharist
2019**

**Christmas Eve | 1.30 pm
The Church of the Resurrection Macedon**

Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who joins us for worship. Whether you are a visitor or a regular parishioner of the Anglican Church, you are invited to join us in Holy Communion. Please make yourself known to us and if you would like more information about our community and ministry, then please speak to one of our welcomers or visit our website anglicanparishgisborne.org.au.

From the Parish Priest

As the time arrives for us to gather as one body to remember the birth of our Lord, it is good for us to be here, and to allow ourselves to enter into the joyous peace that only Jesus can bring to the world. Often, we overlook the need for quiet and reflection at this time of year. Today, let the busyness of the past few weeks, and all the preparations for this Holy Feast give way to the Prince of Peace, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus.

Please also be mindful of not only those in our community who find this a difficult time of year, but also, those living in areas where there is much hardship. I commend to your generosity the Christmas Bowl appeal.

To those of you who will be travelling during this holiday time, I wish you a safe journey and a time of renewal and refreshment. My thanks to everyone who has contributed to our worship this Advent/Christmas season.

A joyful and blessed Christmas to you all.

Fr Dennis

The choir will sing an anthem prior to the service.

Jesu, of a maiden Gustav Holst,
arranged by Dianne Gome

The bell rings and we stand for the Introit hymn, procession and blessing of the crib.

**Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
of all things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore.
O that birth for ever blessèd
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Spirit's power conceiving
bore the saviour of our race,**

**and the babe, the world's redeemer,
first revealed His sacred face,
evermore and evermore.**

**This is He whom seers and sages
sang of old with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now He shines, the long-expected:
let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore.**

The hymn pauses for the blessing of the crib.

The Blessing of the Crib

The glory of the Lord has been revealed:
And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

The Lighting of the Christ-Candle

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
a light no darkness can quench.
The shepherds kept watch by night,
and your glory shone round about them.
The darkness is not dark to you,
the night is as bright as the day.
Let your light scatter the darkness
and fill your Church with your glory. **Amen.**

The hymn concludes

**In the heights of heaven adore him,
angel hosts his praises sing,
all dominions bow before him
and extol our God and king;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice together sing
evermore and evermore.**

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius 348-c.413

Gathering in God's Name

✠ Blessed be God: Father Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's Kingdom now and for ever.

f *p*
Glo-ry, glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

5 *f* *p*
Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-migh-ty God and Fa-ther. We

9 *f*
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry, we

13 *f*
praise you for your glo-ry. Lord, Lord, Jes-sus Christ,

17 *p* *f*
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther. Lord, God, Lamb of God, you

21 *p*
take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us, You are sea-ted

25 *f*
at the right hand of the Fa-ther, re-ceive our prayer, re-ceive our prayer.

29 *f* *p*
For you a-lone are the ho-ly one, you a-lone are the Lord.

33 *f*
You a-lone are the most high, Jes-sus Christ,

37 *p*
with the Ho-ly Spi-rit in the glo-ry of God the

40 *f*
Fa-ther. A-men, A-men.

The prayer of the day is sung by the Presider

Let us pray:
Eternal God,
in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

As we prepare to hear God's Holy Word through the scriptures
open our hearts and minds, Lord.

The people sit for the reading from the scriptures

First Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

After the lesson

May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

The following response is said or sung

Response : Today is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless the Lord's name.

Response

Proclaim God's mercy day by day.
Tell the Lord's glory among the nations,
and wonders among the peoples.

Response

Let heaven and earth rejoice and be glad,
the sea and its creatures thunder praise,
the land and its fruit show forth its joy.

Response

Let trees and forests shout for joy
at the presence of God, for the Lord is come,
at the presence of God who rules the earth.

Response

Second Lesson Titus 3.4-8a

After the lesson

May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

The people stand and sing the Gradual hymn

**Silent night, holy night:
All is calm, all is bright.
Round the Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night:
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia';
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.**

**Silent night, holy night:
Wondrous star, lend your light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King,
Christ our saviour is born,
Christ our Saviour is born.**

Joseph Mohr 1792-1848

We remain standing for the Gospel Reading.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

Luke 2.1-14

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel, the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Breaking Open the Word
Fr Dennis Webster

Affirmation of Faith

Let us stand and together affirm the faith of the Church.

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

The people may stand or sit for the prayers

Let us pray for the world and the church.

Intercessor
People

For your love and goodness
we give you thanks, O God.

At the conclusion of the prayers the intercession book may be placed on the altar as a sign of our prayers being offered as we pray:

**Almighty Lord,
hear our prayer
and fulfil your purposes in us,
as you accomplished your will
in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.

Silence may be kept.

In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

**Father God,
we are sorry
for the things we do and say and think
which make you sad,
and for not thinking of others
before ourselves.
Please forgive us,
and help us to love you and other people
more and more. Amen.**

The Presider pronounces God's forgiveness

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
✠ forgive us our sins
and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Greeting of Peace

All stand for the Greeting of Peace with these words

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.
We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

All exchange a greeting of peace

An offertory hymn may be sung during which the gifts of the people – bread, wine, and money are collected and brought forward

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the new-born king,
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful all you 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.**

**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 in human flesh to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born King.**

**Hail! The heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Son of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings:
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that we no more need die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new born King.**

Charles Wesley 1707 –8 and others
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy 1809-47

The gifts of the people are presented

With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body,
wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.

**Heavenly child,
born as one of us yet still one with God,
bless us and our gifts we share
to the greater glory of your Holy Name. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We offer our praise on this Holy Night.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, ever-living God.

You created light out of darkness
and brought forth life on the earth.

You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away from you, and our love failed,
your love remained ever steadfast.

You made a covenant to be our God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

The Story of Jesus begins

In the fullness of time
you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ
to be our saviour,
and at his birth the angels sang
glory to you in the highest
and peace to your people on earth.

Therefore with the angels and archangels,

and with all the company of heaven,
 we proclaim your great and glorious name,
 for ever praising you and singing:

The Sanctus and Benedictus is sung

5 *mp*
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 5
 God of pow'r and might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 13
 God of pow'r and might. *f* Hea - ven and earth are full,
 21 *mf*
 full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
 29 *f*
 san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes
 37 *mp*
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high -
 44
 est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

God is with us:

Blessed are you, merciful God,
 and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ.
 As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem
 and there found no room,
 so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem
 and was despised and rejected.

As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born,
so, by the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.

With this bread that we bring:

As your Word became flesh,
born of woman on that night so long ago
so 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.'

With this cup that we bring:

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'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.'

We remember Jesus:

And so, in remembrance of his birth,
his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and exaltation,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice.

United to God and one in love,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

mp

Dy-ing you des-troyed our death, Ri-sing you re-stored our life.

mp *mf*

Lord Je-sus come in glo-ry, Lord Je-sus come in glo-ry.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats. The first staff begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and contains the lyrics 'Dy-ing you des-troyed our death, Ri-sing you re-stored our life.' The second staff begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, followed by a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, and contains the lyrics 'Lord Je-sus come in glo-ry, Lord Je-sus come in glo-ry.' The music consists of a single melodic line with various note values and rests.

**Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus come in glory,
Lord Jesus come in glory,**

We pray for the presence of the Holy Spirit

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and our celebration:
may these gifts of bread and wine
be for us the body and blood of Christ.
Make us one with him and with each other,
and one in service to all the world,
until the day of final glory comes
and we feast at his heavenly banquet
with all your saints for ever.

The Doxology

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, heavenly Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in 3/4 time, written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men.' written below the notes. The first staff begins with a fermata over the first note, and the second staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. Both staves end with a double bar line and repeat dots.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are confident 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

mp

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

5

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mcr - cy on us.

mf

9

Jc - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

mp

13

give us your peace, Give us your peace.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.
All are welcome at his supper. Come!

Music during Communion at Church of the Resurrection

Of a Rose - Colin Brumby

Ding dong merrily on high - harm. Charles Wood

The Sending Out of God's People

God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him
until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.

To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

The people sing the post-communion hymn

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
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!*

**True God of true God, Light of Light eternal,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created: O come ...**

**See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with holy fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps: O come ...**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God, glory in the highest': O come ...**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing: O come ...**

John Francis Wade c.1711-1786

The Presider gives the blessing over the people

May the Father,
who has loved the eternal Son
from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children. **Amen.**

May Christ,
who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with joy and peace. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,
by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

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.

POSTLUDE

Trio Sonata in B minor for 2 flutes and organ,
BWV 42:H5, Telemann

Sundays in the Holidays:

December 29	10 am	Church of the Resurrection
January 5	10 am	St John's, Riddells Creek
January 12	10 am	St Paul's, Gisborne
January 19	10 am	St Paul's, Gisborne (post Bric'a'brac)
January 26	10 am	Church of the Resurrection

CODE RED DAYS: no services. Please implement personal fire plan.

Wednesday 10 am

January 22 and 29	St Paul's, Gisborne
January 8	Church of the Resurrection
January 15	St John's Riddells Creek

Christmas Bowl

Please give as generously as you can. You can place your donation in the Christmas Bowl at the back of the church or place it in an envelope also available from the back of the church or you can use the envelope to send your donation directly to the Christmas Bowl.

*The Parish of Gisborne acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land,
the peoples of the Kulin Nations,
and we pay our respects to their elders, living, past and emerging.*

The Parish of Gisborne is committed to being a Child Safe organisation.