

Anglican Parish of
St Peter's by the Lake,
Paynesville



ADVENT 4 ALTAR

Gathering in God's Name

A Hymn is sung following the quiet at the beginning of the Worship.

| Day | BOOK | Number |
|----------|------|--------|
| ADVENT 1 | TiS | 272 |
| ADVENT 2 | TiS | 275 |
| ADVENT 3 | TiS | 294 |
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***Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.***

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens,
there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Saviour's birth.

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation,
that blessed Christmas morn.

Blessed be God: ✠ Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Rector: In 1959, and 1965, two deacons, Michael Fox, and James Reeves were presented to their Bishops, who responded with the following words:

GOOD People, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, to receive this day unto the holy Office of Priesthood; for, after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to their Function and Ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same.

THAT it may please thee to bless these thy servants, now to be admitted to the Order of Priests, and to pour thy grace upon them; that they may duly exercise their Office, to the edifying of thy Church, and the glory of thy holy Name.

Today, we join in the joy of those occasions, and in love, celebrate the office to which they were both called, and, as it is appropriate and licensed by our Bishop, Richard, to gather at the Lord's most Holy Table and share in the foretaste of the heavenly banquet to come.

[Let us pray.]

**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.**

A minister introduces the confession.

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Silence may be kept.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Lord, there are times when things go wrong
sometimes because we let it happen,
or because we make it happen.
When we have hurt others,
and even ourselves,
we say to you and to one another:
Sorry.
Forgive us, and let us start again.**

The Absolution or Forgiveness of Sin

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.**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

People of God: prepare!
God, above all, maker of all,
is one with us in Christ.

Maranatha!

Come, Lord Jesus!
God, the mighty God,
bends down in love to earth.

Maranatha!

Come, Lord Jesus!
God with us, God beside us,
comes soon to the world he has made.

Maranatha!

Come, Lord Jesus!
We are God's children,
we seek the coming Christ.

Maranatha!

Come, Lord Jesus!

Each week, one verse of the following is sung

1

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

***Christ be our light
Shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness
Christ be our light
Shine in your church gathered today.***

2

Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope many despair
Your word alone has pow'r to save us
Make us your living voice.

***Christ be our light
Shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness
Christ be our light
Shine in your church gathered today.***

3

Longing for food, many our hungry
Longing for water, many still thirst
Make us your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed.

4

Longing for shelter, many are homeless
Longing for warmth, many are cold
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Christmas Eve

Many the gifts, many the people
Many the hearts, that yearn to belong
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

The Prayer of the Day is said or sung.

God of all faithfulness,
you revealed your perfect love in the birth of Jesus Christ,
and strengthened the faith of your apostle Thomas
to know the Word made flesh:
come among us in power and gentleness,
that we may trust your presence in all things
and bear your love into the world;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

STONE MEMORIAL

Dennis:

From the dust of the earth, God formed us;
and to the earth we return.
Yet in Christ, we are held in life beyond death.

Sue:

As we place this stone before our lights,
the lights of Advent,
the lights lit during Kaddish on Monday,
and before the Paschal Candle, in which we proclaim
Christ, crucified, risen and ascended:
we mark a place of memory and love.

Jeff:

These stones rest on the ground beneath our feet,
yet our hope rests in your eternal keeping.
Help us to tread softly on your sacred earth,
remembering that all of us are formed together intimately and
within the womb of our mothers;
and of the Mother Earth from which we came and to which we
will return.

Dennis

May these stones bear witness
to love that does not fade,
to memory held in grace,
and to hope entrusted to God.

Silence

Holy God,

You are our dwelling place in every generation.
As we place this stone upon the threshing floor of our sacred
space,
we mark a place of memory and love.

Each person in turn places a stone, saying:

We place this stone in love.

We entrust N. to God.

Heaven and earth are not far apart.

At the end, all say:

We commend these people to your loving care.

They are:

Remembered on earth.

Held in heaven.

Resting in God.

Clergy:

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord:

All: **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Edith Brutman, 68 – Vice-President of B'nai B'rith NSW and anti-prejudice advocate.

Dan Elkayam, 27 – French national and IT analyst.

Boris Gutman, 69 – Confronted one of the gunmen and killed in the attack.

Sofia Gutman, 61 – Killed alongside Boris Gutman in attempting to disarm the shooter.

Alex Kleytman, 87 – Holocaust survivor and civil engineer.

Yaakov Levitan, 39 – Rabbi and secretary of the Sydney Beth Din.

Peter Meagher, 61 – Retired police detective and community volunteer.

Reuven Morrison, 62 – Businessman who tried to confront the attackers.

Marika Pogany, 82 – Slovak-born Australian community volunteer.

Matilda, 10 – The youngest victim; a primary school student

Eli Schlanger, 41 – British-born assistant rabbi and chaplain.

Adam Smyth, 50 – Local Bondi resident attending the event.

Boris Tetleroyd, 68 – Visitor at the event who died alongside a wounded family member.

Tania Tretiak, 68 – Randwick resident attending the celebration with her family.

Tibor Weitzen, 78 – Automotive engineer who died shielding his wife and others.

As we prepare to hear God's holy words from the scriptures,
open our hearts and minds, O Lord.

The Ministry of the Word

A reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Jim Adams Isaiah 7.10-16

Today's canticle will be sung as the Gradual

A reading from the Epistles

Eleanor Patterson Romans 1:1-7

The Gradual Hymn

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| ADVENT 1 | page | 12 |
| ADVENT 2 | TIS | 270 |
| ADVENT 3 | TIS | 161 |
| ADVENT 4 | page | 12 |

1 Sing of Mary, pure and lowly,
Virgin mother undefiled,
Sing of God's own Son most holy,
Who became her little child.
Fairest child of fairest mother,
God the Lord who came to earth,
Word made flesh, our very brother,
Takes our nature by His birth.

2 Sing of Jesus, son of Mary,
In the home at Nazareth,
Toil and labor cannot weary
Love enduring unto death.
Constant was the love He gave her

Though He went forth from her side,
Forth to preach, and heal, and suffer,
Till on the cross He died.

3 Glory be to God the Father;
Glory be to God the Son;
Glory be to God the Spirit;
Glory to the Three in One.
From the heart of blessed Mary,
From all saints the song ascends,
And the Church the strain re-echoes
Unto earth's remotest ends.

Tune: *either Pleading Saviour or
Blaenwern*

The Gospel

Responses:

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily/Address

Rev'd Jeff Berger

An Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith:

We believe in God
who lives and speaks in sunsets,
in love-wrapped gifts,
and fleeting butterflies'
in women weeping strongly
for stillborn dreams
and hopes they never conceived.

**We believe in God,
indwelling wholly,
in suffering and celebration.**

We believe in Christ,
honouring our humanness,

who took nourishment
from a woman's breasts;
who climbed trees,
skinned knees;
who laughed and cried,
loved and wept,
bled and died.

**We believe in the Christ,
sanctifying life, and death.**

We believe in the Spirit,
mystically joining us
to peoples everywhere;
who intercedes
with sighs and groans
too deep for words;
a share consuming struggle
bending our will to God.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
incorporating us into Christ.**

We believe in the Church,
being and becoming,
chosen as God's presence in the world
despite its frailty,
its foolishness,
its failings.

**We believe in the Church,
seeking, however imperfectly,
to act justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with our God. Amen.**

Diocese of Coventry,
Church of England

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the world and for the church.

Intercessor : Sue Fordham

The prayers end with:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
Grant that what we have asked in faith

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo ry.
Ho-san - na in the high - est, hos-an-na in the high est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na in the high est, hos-an-na in the high est.

**we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Greeting of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Offertory Hymn

TiS 210

**Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new,
bear his people's burden,**

freely love and pardon.
 Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
 Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
 When he comes,
 when he comes,
 Who will make him welcome?

God in time, God in man,



this is God's timeless plan:
 he will come, as a man,
 born himself of woman,
 God divinely human.
 Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring...

Mary, hail! Though afraid,
 she believed, she obeyed.
 In her womb God is laid:
 till the time expected,
 nurtured and protected.
 Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring...

Journey ends: where afar
 Bethlehem shines, like a star,
 stable door stands ajar.
 Unborn Son of Mary,
 Saviour, do not tarry.
 Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
 Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
 Jesus comes,
 Jesus comes:



Jeff: As this bread was scattered
 and then gathered and made one,

so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Dennis: Wisdom has built her a house;
 she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Jim: May the Lord accept these gifts that we bring for the growth
 of kingdom.

Blessed be God forever.

The Great Thanksgiving.

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.

Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

JIM

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
 almighty God and everlasting Father,
 through Jesus Christ your Son.
 He is the one foretold by all the prophets,



whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.

John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your glory,
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

DENNIS How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

JEFF From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

ALL: On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

SUE: Let us proclaim the Mystery of Faith.

JEFF: Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

JIM Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

DENNIS As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

JEFF Bring us at the last with Thomas and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

ALL: by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, now and forever.

The Lord's Prayer

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 forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:

**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

Christ calls us friends and invites us to his table.
Draw near with faith, and feed on him with faith and thanksgiving.

The Communion

Post Communion Prayer

MOST merciful Father,
we beseech thee to send upon these thy servants
called to the Office of Priest thy heavenly blessing;
that they may be clothed with righteousness,
and that thy Word spoken by their mouths may have such success,
that it may never be spoken in vain.
Grant also, that we may have grace to hear and receive
what they shall deliver out of thy most holy Word,
or agreeable to the same,
as the means of our salvation;
that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory,
and the increase of thy kingdom;
Loving God,

thank you for feeding us and renewing our hearts.
Send us out as people of hope,
to bring your peace, to live with joy,
and to show your love in all we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

Greetings from Bishop Richard
Christmas Services
Food Bank
Care for one another

Blessing

JIM Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; **R. Amen.**

DENNIS As you run the race of this present life,
may we encounter the Risen Lord Jesus in our lives
with joyful in hope and active in love. **R Amen.**

JEFF So that, rejoicing now with devotion
at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh,
you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life
when he comes again in majesty. **R Amen.**

JIM: and the blessing of God almighty,
the ✠ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and
remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn **TiS 265**

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

**O come, O come, great Lord of might
who to the tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice!...**

**O come, O 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!...

**O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.**

Rejoice!...

**O come, O dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Rejoice!...

Dismissal

With love and compassion,

come, Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy,

come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory,

come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth,

come, Lord Jesus.

The Dismissal Gospel

Fr Michael Fox

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

John 20.26-39

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sue:

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

