

GOD UNMASKED



a weary world rejoices

HOPE! THE NEW NORMAL

Holy Communion

10am, Christmas Day 2020

Preacher: The Very Reverend Richard Humphrey, The Dean of Hobart,
Celebrant: The Right Reverend Dr Richard Condie, Bishop of Tasmania

Please be aware of the step when entering and exiting the pews

Opening Hymn: Hark! the herald Angels sing

Words: Charles Wesley et al. Music: Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Willcocks (1919-2015)

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.

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.*

Hail, the heav'n-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.

Introduction

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

I bring you news of great joy: a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia!

To us a child is born, a son is given. Alleluia!

God who called the light out of darkness
is revealed in the face of Jesus Christ.

Jesus is God unmasked.

The Christmas Candle is lit.

God our maker in whom we rejoice
whose light is the light of life.

God the seeker in whom we rejoice
whose light brings us salvation.

God our keeper in whom we rejoice
whose light the darkness can never overcome

Jesus is God unmasked.

God maker, God seeker, God keeper.

Emmanuel, God with us.

The Confession

Led by the Deacon. The people sit or kneel

The angel of the Lord announced to Joseph that Mary would give birth to a son to be named Jesus because he will save his people from their sins. Let us consider our need for a saviour.

The Choir sings the Kyrie eleison

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Silence is kept.

Lord of grace and truth, you welcome us into your family but we do not live as your children.

Lord Jesus,

save us from our sins:

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our disobedience to your will.

Lord Jesus,

save us from our sins:

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

Lord Jesus,

save us from our sins:

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.

Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

Lord Jesus,

save us from our sins:

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the king,

Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

Lord Jesus,

save us from our sins:

The Bishop announces the Absolution

God sent Jesus to save us from our sins and reveal his grace and mercy.

In his name we have forgiveness, and God with us to bring this good news to the world. **Amen.**

The people stand as the Choir sings 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 upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God 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.**

All Age Talk

The Dean

Prayer for Christmas Day

The people sit or kneel as the Celebrant prays

God most High, whose eternal Word chose a dwelling among us, that we might live 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, Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when
dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in
blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hear the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³ He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hear the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: Joy to the World

AHB 224 Tune: Antioch Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Joy to the world the Lord has 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!	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.
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Joy to the earth
the saviour reigns!
let songs be heard on high,
while fields and streams
and hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Gospel Acclamation

The congregation joins before and after with



A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord:
Today a great light has come upon the earth.

The Gospel: John 1:1-14

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 1 beginning at verse 1. **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

The Dean

The Creed

All stand.

**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

Please sit or kneel

We rejoice in the good news sung by the angels, investigated by the shepherds, and celebrated by the wise men, that in a stable in Bethlehem our Saviour was born and our God is with us.

In full hope we bring our prayers through Christ the Lord.

Silence is kept

Wonderful Counsellor, give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations to bring peace and justice to this world. Guide us so that we may welcome the stranger, protect the weak, and provide sanctuary for all.

Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us

bring your peace and joy.

Mighty God, we give thanks for your creation. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and share its bounty fairly.

Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us

bring your peace and joy.

Everlasting Father, we pray for our families and those we love. Be with all who mourn, are lonely or ill, and especially for those who suffer as followers of Jesus that they may know the true hope of being your children.

Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us

bring your peace and joy.

Prince of peace, help us to follow your ways of love and service so that we may bring your good news to all. May we, with all who have followed Christ, be welcomed into the fullness of joy in your coming kingdom.

Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us

bring your peace and joy.

Filled with hope, 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 Greeting of Peace

The people stand. The Celebrant says

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and His name is called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace.

**Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to those whom he favours.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people greet each other with the words "Peace be with you"

Please do not move about the building during this time
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Offertory Hymn: Angels from the realms of glory

AHB 235 with additional verse 5

Tune: Iris

Text: James Montgomery (1771-1854) (alt words)

A collection is taken for the work of the Cathedral.

Angels, from the realms of glory
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship

Christ, the newborn king:

come and worship,

worship Christ the newborn king.

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light:

Wise men, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
you have seen his natal Star:

Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear
suddenly the Lord descending,
in his temple shall appear:

Though an infant now we view him,
he shall fill his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down:

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant

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.

Loving God, it is right to give you thanks and praise.

We thank you for this universe, a world of wonder and delight.

You have given it to us to enjoy and to care for.

Glory to God in the highest

We give you thanks for Jesus, your Word made flesh.

In Him you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

Glory to God in the highest

We thank you that you sent Jesus
to live and work as Emmanuel, God with us.

He showed us how we can love you
and he sets us free to serve one another.

Glory to God in the highest

We thank you that by his life, death and resurrection

Jesus takes away sin which keeps us from each other and from you.

He frees us from the hate and fear which destroy love and trust,
and he welcomes us into your family.

Glory to God in the highest

And so with everyone who believes in you,
with all the saints and angels, we rejoice and praise you:

The Choir sings

**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.**

And now we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine;
may we who receive them, as Jesus said, share his body and his blood.
On the night he was betrayed, he took bread and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends and said,
“Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”
After supper he took the cup and gave you thanks.
He shared the cup with them and said,
“This is my blood poured out so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

We all sing

CANTOR: ALL:

Christ has_ died; Christ is__ ri - sen; Christ will_ come a - gain.__

You have gathered us together to receive Christ's body and blood,
to remember all he has done for us, his suffering and death,
his rising to new life, and his ascending into heaven.
Fill us with your Spirit, that we may follow Jesus in all we do and say.
Help us to work for justice and to bring your peace to others
so that all may sing your praises.

We all sing

CANTOR: ALL:

Bless-ing and hon-our: and glo-ry and pow'r are yours for-ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

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.

In Jesus, God's love is fully revealed, and we 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 be aware of the step when entering and exiting the pews

Communion

The Choir sings the Agnus Dei

We welcome all who have faithfully participated in this service to join with us in Communion as we celebrate our Saviour's saving life, death and resurrection.

Please continue to maintain physical distancing and wait to be directed by a sides-person.

You will be given a wafer pre infused with wine. There are also gluten free wafers on request.

If you wish to receive a blessing please keep your hands by your side.

It is our custom to keep silent during the distribution of the communion.

Children and Communion: Children are brought forward for a blessing. Children only take communion if they have been confirmed or if their parents are convinced they understand the meaning of taking the bread and wine, and they regularly participate in Holy Communion.

Communion Anthem: Sussex Carol

English traditional carol arranged by David Willcocks

Sending out of God's people

The Celebrant says

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. Amen.**

The Recessional Hymn: O come, all ye faithful

Carols for Choirs 26 (v1-3,6-7)

Words: Adeste fideles. trans. F Oakeley, WT Brooke et al

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.

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not
the Virgin's womb:
Very God,
Begotten, not created:

See how the shepherds
summoned to his cradle
Leaving their flocks,
draw nigh with holy fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
in the Highest:

Yea, Lord we greet Thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesu, to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father
now in flesh appearing:

The Benediction

The Bishop says

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
the peace of the Christ child, and
the hope of life eternal,
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Deacon

In hope, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Voluntary: 'Toccata in F major' from the Fifth Organ Symphony

Charles-Marie Widor

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Music Director: Thomas Rimes Organist: Rod Thomson Setting: Darke in A minor

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