



Christmas Day

2024

8am & 10am



WELCOME TO WAIAPU CATHEDRAL

A place of hope, peace, joy and love

The Dean extends a welcome to the congregation, before reading the Sentence for Christmas Day:

Do not fear; for I bring you Good News of great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2: 10

At 10am, the congregation remain seated while the Choir sing the Introit, and then stand for our Processional Carol.

Introit: *I Saw three ships (anon)*

Processional Carol: *Angels from the realms of glory*

**Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.***

**Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light:
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.***

**Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.***

Music: Trad French arr R. Jacques
Words: J. Montgomery

Gathering of the People

O Lord, this day with joy
we worship Christ,
and rejoice that God became human.
Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,
the love at our beginning and without end,
in our midst and with us.
God is with us, here we find new life.

All sit

Lighting the Christ Candle

God Emmanuel,
**the new light of your incarnate word
gives gladness in our sorrow,
and a presence in our isolation.
Fill our lives with your light!
Tell the good news of peace on earth.
May God lead us into Christ's
hope, peace, joy and love. Amen.**

A time of forgiveness

*We remain seated, or kneel, as the Liturgist lead us in acknowledging
our need for God's forgiveness.*

Jesus our deliverer, we take your freedom from others.
Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Jesus our hope, we deprive others of hope.
Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

Jesus, God's shalom, we distort your peace.
Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

In silence before God, we confess our sins.

At 10am, the Choir sing **“Kyrie Eleison”** meaning *“Lord, have mercy”*

The presider reminds us of God’s forgiveness:

God forgives you.

Forgive others.

Forgive yourself.

Through Christ, God has put away your sin.

Approach your God in peace.

All stand

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The word of Christ dwell in us richly.

Collect: We join together in praying:
**Son of God, Child of Mary,
born in the stable at Bethlehem,
be born again in us this day,
that through us
the world may know the wonder of your love.
Hear this prayer for your name's sake. Amen.**

All sit

Reading: Isaiah 62: 6-12
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Reading: Titus 3: 4-7
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Carol: *Joy to the World*

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

Isaac Watts 1674-1748

We remain standing for the Gospel reading

Gospel: Luke 2: 8-20

Before the Gospel, the reader says:

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 2.
Praise and glory to God.

After the Gospel, the reader says:

This is the Gospel of Christ.
Praise to Christ, the Word.

All sit

The Sermon

Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world,
giving thanks for God's goodness.

Either remain seated, or kneel

Verse: In your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer

We join in the Lord's Prayer in te reo

**E tō mātou Matua i te rangi
kia tapu tōu Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tāu e pai ai ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.
Hōmai ki a mātou āiane
he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Murua ō mātou hara,
me mātou hoki e muru nei
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.
Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;
engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:
nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha,
me te korōria,
āke āke āke. Āmine.**

All stand

The Peace: The peace of Christ be always with you.
 And also with you.

We are invited to share a sign of Christ's peace by greeting those around us, saying "Peace be with you".

During the next carol our offerings of money to support the Cathedral's ministry and mission are collected and brought forward.

Offertory Carol: **Once in Royal David's City...**

**Once in royal David's city,
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby,
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild;
Jesus Christ, her little child.**

He came down to earth from heaven,
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on,
to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see Him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there His children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

Words: CF Alexander
Tune: IRBY

We remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving if you are able to do so comfortably.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here.
God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to offer thanks and praise.

God, you made us, and the world and everything in it.
All the good we see comes from you.
You have always loved us,
but people have not always loved you.
You sent Jesus to show us how to live
and to bring us back to you again.

For Christ is born in Bethlehem,
God revealed in human form;
the baby in a manger, the refugee on the Egypt road.

He died for us on the cross so that through your Spirit
we can all be your people.
And so with thanks we praise you, saying/singing:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

On the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took some bread;
and when he had given thanks to God,
he broke it into pieces and gave it to them.
“This is my body”, he said. Whenever you do this,
know that I am always with you.

Later he took a cup of wine,
and gave thanks to you.
He shared it with them and said:
“This is my blood which brings new life. Whenever
you do this, know that I am always with you.

Send your Holy Spirit
that this bread and wine can be for us
the body and blood of Jesus,
and through this food
give us strength to live as your people.
Help us to care for your world and for each other
in the way that Jesus showed us.

Until he comes again,
with all your people in every time and every land
we worship you in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
here and everywhere,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Communion and the Invitation

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

Haere mai e te kāhui a te Atua,
tangohia ēnei kai rangatira a te Karaiti.
Come God's people, come to receive Christ's heavenly food.

All sit

- *Communion will be served from the foot of the altar steps - please come to receive communion, or a blessing, via the centre aisle.*
- *Gluten free wafers are available on request from the person distributing the bread.*
- *We do not permit wafers to be dipped in the chalice – some prefer simply to hold it for a moment as a sign of participation.*
- *Advise an Usher if you need communion served to you in your seat.*

*During communion the Choir will sing **In Dulci Jubilo - Pearsall***

Prayer after Communion

All: Infinite, intimate God,
in this Eucharist we have celebrated
your presence with us.
May we grow in the divine life of Christ,
who humbly shared our human life.
Fill us with joy
and send us out to share this good news with others.
We ask this through Jesus Christ Emmanuel.
Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Carol: *Hark! The herald angels sing*

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 form to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark, the herald-angels sing...

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 we no more may 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'.*

Words: C Wesley
Tune: MENDELSSOHN

Dismissal of the Community:

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.
Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

Thank you so much for joining us for this
service of worship.

Our thanks also to the Right Reverend Andrew Hedge, our Bishop;
the Very Rev'd Di Woods, our Dean;
Anthony Tattersall, our Director of Music;
and Charlene our amazing administrator...

May you all know God's blessing this Christmastide.

For more information visit us on www.napiercathedral.org.nz
or <https://www.facebook.com/WaiapuCathedral>
Stay informed with our free weekly email!
Requests to admin.Cathedral@Waiapu.com