



Christmas

'Midnight' Service

FEATURING

"MISSA CAROLAE":

A Mass Setting to Carol Tunes

the congregational responses are printed on the buff insert

Christmas Eve

24th December 2024

11pm

WELCOME ON THIS SPECIAL NIGHT

A place of hope, peace, joy and love

The Right Rev'd Andrew Hedge
Bishop of Waiapu

The Very Rev'd Di Woods
Dean of Waiapu

Anthony Tattersall
Director of Music

Jennifer Harris
Liturgist

with

***the Waiapu Cathedral Choir
and the Cathedral Strings***

Choral and congregational setting:
Missa Carolae – James Whitbourn

***The Dean shall welcome the congregation informally,
and address your comfort and safety.***

*You are then invited to remain seated for a moment of silence, and
while the Choir begin our service by singing the Introit from the back
of the Cathedral.*

Introit: *E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come - P. Manz*

All stand

Processional Carol:

**Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending He,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore!**

**O that birth forever blessed,
when a virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior 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 writings of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word;
Now he shines the long expected:
Let creation praise its Lord,
Evermore and evermore.**

**Christ, to Thee with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be,
honour, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore!**

Words – Prudentius

Music – JM Neale, HM Baker

Welcome

Bishop Andrew Hedge

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

Each week of Advent we have lit a candle in the wreath - the first candle represents a sign of hope; the second, peace; the third, joy; and the fourth a sign of God's love.

Tonight, we light the centre 'Christ' candle to celebrate the birth of Christ, and then pray together:

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.**

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

We come seeking forgiveness
for all we have failed to be and do
as members of Christ's body.

*The Choir lead us in **Kyrie Eleison** meaning "Lord, have mercy" on the first page of the buff insert.*

Silence

In God there is forgiveness.

**Loving and all-seeing God,
forgive us where we have failed to support one another
and to be what we claim to be.**

**Forgive us where we have failed to serve you;
and where our thoughts and actions have been
contrary to yours we ask your pardon.**

The Bishop 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

*The Choir lead us in **The Gloria** (p.2 of the buff insert)*

Sentence:

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light: for to us
a child is born, to us a son is given.* *Isa 9:2, 6*

Collect: 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

Readings: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7 and Titus 2: 11-14

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Carol:

Mārie te pō, tapu te pō
Marino, marama
Ko te Whāea, me te Tama
Tama tino, tapu rā
Moe mai i te ai-o
Moe mai i te ai-o.

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,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

*Words – Joseph F Mohr tr. Young
Music – Franz Xaver Gruber*

We remain standing for the Gospel fanfare and reading

Gospel: Luke 2: 1-14

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 2.

All sing: Praise and glory to God.

After the Gospel, the reader says:

This is the Gospel of Christ.

All sing: Praise to Christ, the Word.

All sit

The Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God.
We worship you.**

Prayers of the People

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

We sit or kneel for the prayers, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

As Christ teaches us we 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.**

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". Hand sanitiser is available in front of the first pew for those wishing to use it before communion.

During the next carol our offerings of money to support the Cathedral's ministry and mission are collected and brought forward. Paywave is also available at the back of the Cathedral.

Offertory Carol:

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

- 2 O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all the earth.
For Christ is born of Mary
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.

- 3 How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in: be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Words – Bishop P. Brooks

Music – Trad. arr R.V. Williams / T. Armstrong

The blessing of our gifts and offerings

Blessed are you, God of all creation,
through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

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.

It is the joy of our salvation, God of the universe,
to give you thanks through Jesus Christ.
You said, 'Let there be light', and there was light.
Your light shines on in our darkness.
For you the earth has brought forth life in all its forms.

You have created us to hear your word,
to do your will, and to be fulfilled in your love.
You sent your Son to be for us the way we need to
follow and the truth we need to know.

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

You send your Holy Spirit
to strengthen and to guide,
to warn and to revive your Church.

Therefore, with all your witnesses who surround us,
countless as heaven's stars,
we praise you for our creation and our calling
as we sing:

(*Sanctus & Benedictus* on the buff insert p3)

We join with the chorus: ***Hosanna in excelsis!*** x7

English translation:

*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.*

You are indeed to be blessed, Holy God,
because on the night before he died,
your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread;
and when he had given you thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
and gave you thanks.
He gave it to them and said:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood
poured out for you;
do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Send us, that we who receive Christ's body
may indeed be the body of Christ,
and we who share his cup
draw strength from the one true vine.

Called to follow Christ, help us to reconcile and unite.
Called to suffer, give us hope in our calling.

You make all things new.
You are the beginning and the end,
the last and the first.
**Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
here and everywhere,
now and forever. Amen.**

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

*The Choir leads us in singing the **Agnus Dei** (on the buff insert, p4).*

English translation:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

- *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 way of participating.*
- *Advise an Usher if you need communion brought to your seat.*

*During communion the Choir sing **Candlelight Carol** – by Rutter*

Post Communion Sentence

The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory. *John 1: 14*

Prayer after communion

All: May we, who like the shepherds
 have witnessed in the stable a new kind of love,
 return to our daily lives with joy.
 May we, for whom the heavens have opened
 to proclaim that God is with us,
 we who have fed on living bread
 and drunk the wine of heaven,
 go out to be instruments of your peace,
 day by day. Amen.

The Blessing: *Bishop Andrew Hedge*

Recessional Carol:

- 1 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.*

- 2 God of God, Light of Light,
 lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
 very God, begotten not created;
 *O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord.*

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens
of heaven above;
“Glory to God, in the highest”;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv’n;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

Words – Tr. Oakley & Brooke
Music – Trad arr. D. Willcocks

We turn to the rear of the Cathedral for our final words

Dismissal of the Community:

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

Organ voluntary

**Do feel free to take this order of service with you, but we
would appreciate you leaving behind the music insert,
“Missa Carolae” please.
Thank you for joining us!**

More opportunities to worship with us:

Cathedral services over the summer are as follows.

Christmas Day

- 8am At the Cathedral
 Early Bird Christmas Service – A traditional service with
 Christmas carols and communion
- 9am At Ormond Chapel
 Christmas Eucharist
- 10am At the Cathedral
 Christmas Day Choral Service – Christmas with bells
 on... all you imagine Christmas to be.

We gather for an 8am and 10am service of Eucharist every Sunday of the year in Waiapu Cathedral – you are always welcome.

The parish office reopens on Monday 6 January.
The choir return on Sunday 26 January.
The Dean is available over the holidays.

Stay informed with our free weekly email!
Requests to admin.cathedral@waiapu.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Graeme West **021 250 8246**

Parish Administrator: (from 6 January)

Charlene (office hours 9am-1pm) **06 835 8824, 021 754 161**

For pastoral care needs contact the office, or the Dean.

Email the Parish at admin.cathedral@waiapu.com

Email the Dean at dean@waiapu.com

Cathedral <https://www.facebook.com/WaiapuCathedral>

Cathedral Website www.napiercathedral.org.nz

The Cathedral is usually open from before 9am every day.

Subscribe to our weekly email by contacting admin.Cathedral@waiapu.com

Our bank account for donations is: 01-06850138511-002

Account Name: St John's Cathedral Parish

For a tax receipt please email admin.cathedral@waiapu.com

EFTPOS and PayWave is available at the back of the Cathedral.

For a tax receipt put your details on the receipt and pop into the slot.

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