

14 December 2025 3rd Sunday of Advent

Nau mai, haere mai. The musical setting: Sumsion in F

Processional Hymn: Common Praise 33 - O day of God, draw nigh

The Lord be with you.

The Lord bless you.

We remain standing

The third candle on the Advent Wreath is lit...

We light this candle for joy within our world.

Response: Shine within our hearts today.

Gracious God, you are the source of all true joy: Pour your gladness into our lives, that we may share your joy with the world and praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The liturgy continues **on** <u>page 406</u> of A New Zealand Prayer Book. We kneel or sit and the choir sings The Kyries

Collect:

Terror and doom, and wrath to come, John your herald preached to bring us to repentance; open our eyes, almighty God, show us our sin, and grant us forgiveness. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen. First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm 146:5-10 (ANZPB-HKMoA) – at 10 am the psalm is sung by the choir

- ^{5.} Happy are those whose helper is the God of Jacob: whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- ^{6.} who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them: who keeps a promise for ever,
- 7. who defends the cause of the oppressed: and gives food to the hungry.
- 8. The Lord sets free the prisoner, and gives sight to the blind: the Lord raises up those bowed down, and loves those who are just.
- 9. The Lord cares for the stranger in the land, and sustains the widows and orphans: but turns the way of the wicked to ruin.
- ^{10.} The Lord shall reign for ever: your God O Jerusalem shall reign for all generations.

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel Hymn: Common Praise 87 (we sing verses 1-3) – Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Lord's Prayer: On page 418 – sung in Te Reo Māori

Offertory Hymn: Common Praise 605 – (omit verses 7 & 8)

Through the night of doubt and sorrow

Communion Motet: E'en so Lord Jesus – Manz

Prayer After Communion

We praise and thank you, Creator God, for you have not left us alone.
Each year you come to us, Emmanuel,
God with us in a manger.
Each time you come to us
in the broken bread and the cup we share.
In time or out of time you will be revealed and we shall see you face to face.

Recessional Hymn: Common Praise 362 – Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

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PRAYER AND WORSHIP THIS COMING WEEK

Today - 5pm Choral Evensong

Introit: Come my way – Cooper

Preces & Responses: Clucas / Stone

Psalm: 12

Canticles: Purcell in G minor

Anthem: This is the Record of John – Gibbons

Hymns:

Common Praise 25 – Creator of the starry height

Common Praise 27 – Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes

Common Praise 22 – The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended

Tuesday to Friday

9am, Morning prayer in the Resurrection Chapel

Tuesday

10.30am, Eucharist in the Resurrection Chapel, followed by morning tea.

The text of most sermons preached at the Cathedral are available online: https://napiercathedral.org.nz/worship/sermon-notes/

- Ministry with children is available at the 10am Eucharist during the Sermon and Prayers of the People. This group moves to the back of the Cathedral during the Gospel hymn and returns for the Peace.
- **Prayer ministry** is available at the 10am Eucharist in the Resurrection Chapel during the communion time.
- Communion is offered in both kinds (bread and wine) though feel free to receive only the bread.
- **We do not, for health reasons**, dip the bread in the wine. This makes it safer for us all.
- Gluten free wafers are available from the person administering the bread at 10am. If needed at 8am please let us know before the service starts.
- We invite you to stay for **morning tea** after the service.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Cathedral Office: Parish Administrator – Charlene van Eeden

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A thought from today's sermon

God is bigger than we imagined. We may not get the answers we expected – but we can be sure of this: God will come to us – meet us in weakness, failure, sin, hurt, and grief – and transform us, gifting us with new life.