



Christmas Day Eucharists



8.00 am & 10 am
25 December 2025

Presding Priest and Preacher:
The Very Reverend Alister Hendery, Acting Dean

Anthony Tattersall, Director of Music

With

The Waiapu Cathedral Choir

The choral setting of this Eucharist at 10am
is by Blackburn

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The Gathering of the Community

At 10am, we remain seated while the choir sing the introit from the back of the Cathedral: Away in a Manger – Goodenough

We then stand for the Processional Hymn

**Christians, awake! Salute the happy morn
on which the saviour of the world was born;
rise to adore the mystery of love
which hosts of angels chanted from above!
With them the joyful tidings first begun
of God incarnate and the virgin's Son.**

**First, to the watchful shepherds it was told,
who heard the herald angel's voice: 'Behold,
I bring good news of your Messiah's birth
to you and all the nations here on earth!
This day has God fulfilled his promised word;
this day is born a saviour, Christ the Lord!'**

**To Bethlehem these eager shepherds ran
to see the wonder of our God made man;
they found, with Joseph and the holy maid,
Jesus, the saviour, in a manger laid.
Amazed, with joy this story they proclaim,
the first apostles of his infant fame.**

**Let us, like those good shepherds, now employ
our grateful voices to declare the joy:
Christ, who was born on this most happy day,
round all the earth his glory shall display.
Saved by his love, unceasing we shall sing
eternal praise to heaven's almighty King.**

John Byrom (1692 - 1763) © in this version Jubilate Hymns

I runga i te Ingoa o te Atua,
te Matua, te Tama me te Wairua Tapu. **Āmine.**

*In the name of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Grace and peace to you from God.
God fill you with truth and joy.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth; we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father. (*John 1:14*)

We sit

Throughout Advent – as we have anticipated the coming of Christ – we have lit a candle on the wreath: for hope, peace, joy, and love. Tonight, the Christ candle is lit as we celebrate the birth of our Lord.

We light this candle for the Christ we greet today.
Shine within our hearts today.

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the world and hope of all nations:
Come and dwell within our hearts,
that we may proclaim your glory
and join the song of the angels;
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

We remain seated or kneel.

Jesus, you are the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, you are God's true child, born of Mary:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Jesus, you are Word made flesh, full of grace and truth:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

In silence before God,
we confess our sins.

*At 10am the choir leads us in the **Kyries** (Lord, have mercy)*

God forgives you.
Be at peace.

*We stand for the **Gloria**. At 10am this is sung by the choir.*

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.

We remain standing

The peace of Christ rule in our hearts.
The word of Christ dwell in us richly.

Let us pray with joy and hope.

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

The Proclamation

The Readings

We sit

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (62:6-12)

After the reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the letter to Titus (3:4-7)

After the reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

We stand for the Gospel Hymn

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King!

Let very heart prepare him room,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!

Let songs be heard on high,

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.

We remain standing

The Holy Gospel according to Luke (2:1-20)
Praise and glory to God.

After the reading:

Te Rongopai tēnei a te Karaiti.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ the Word.

The Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith

We stand

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

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

We kneel or sit

Gracious God, on this holy day angels proclaimed the peace of your unconquered Sun of righteousness.

Strengthen all who work for peace and justice.

God of love

grant our prayer.

On this holy day you came to us in a child cradled in a borrowed bed of straw as there was no room in the inn.

Open our hearts to the needs of the homeless and the hungry.

God of love

grant our prayer.

On this holy day shepherds and outcasts heard your good news.

Give us grace to spread your gospel of joy and liberation.

God of love

grant our prayer.

On this holy day we rejoice at the coming of this time of re-creation. Be with those who travel, enrich our rejoicing, and strengthen the bonds between us.

God of love

grant our prayer.

On this holy day Christians throughout the world are celebrating Christ's birth.

Unite us in one family that we may shine with the one light that scatters all our darkness.

God of love

grant our prayer.

On this holy day your living Word leapt down, shedding light on all who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

Give strength and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.

God of love

grant our prayer.

On this holy day heaven and earth embrace and in your true child you give us power to be your children.

Fulfil in your love all who have gone before us in the faith.

May we, like them, remain faithful to the mystery of the Word made flesh and live in your eternal light.
God of love
grant our prayer.

Hear these prayers we bring to you and fulfil your purposes in us in the name of Jesus, your incarnate Word. **Amen.**

The Peace

We stand

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

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

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn:

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
an angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.**

**'Fear not,' said he - for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind -
'glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.**

**'To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:**

**'The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all simply wrapped in swaddling clothes
and in a manger laid.'**

Thus spoke the angel. Suddenly
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

'All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
to those on whom his favour rests
goodwill shall never cease.'

To you, Lord, belongs the greatness,
and the power, and the glory,
and the victory and the majesty.

**All that is in the heavens and the earth is yours,
and of your own we give you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

We remain standing though feel free to sit if needs be

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 right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord,
almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in places
to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

You are the source of all life and goodness;
through your eternal Word
you have created all things from the beginning
and formed us in your own image.

When we sinned and turned away
you called us back to yourself
and gave your son to share our human nature.

In him the light which shines for all has come into the world,
and he has become one with us,
that we may become one with you.

In him you have made us a holy people
by sending upon us your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

Therefore with the faithful who rest in him,
with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing / saying:

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.

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father;
on the night before he died
your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread;
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;
when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you,
for 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,
to remember me.

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.**

Therefore loving God,
recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,
his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life
and this cup of salvation.

Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
which we offer through Christ our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive
may be to us the body and blood of Christ,
and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power,
may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
we worship you, O God,
in songs of everlasting praise.

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

The Communion

God is with us, and so 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.**

The priest breaks the bread in silence

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.**

The priest invites the people saying

Come God's people,
come to receive Christ's heavenly food.

- *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 is safer for you and others.*
- *Gluten free wafers are available from the person giving communion.*
- *Advise an Usher if you need communion brought to you in your seat*

During Communion the choir sing:

What Sweeter Music - Rutter

Prayer After Communion

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

Silence

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.**

May Christ the Prince of Peace give you his peace, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Final Hymn

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 as one with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel:

Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

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.

Dismissal of the Community

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

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Opportunities to worship with us:

Every Sunday of the year we gather for Eucharist at 8am and 10am.

That parish office reopens on Monday 12th January.

Email the Parish at admin.cathedral@waiapu.com
Cathedral <https://www.facebook.com/WaiapuCathedral>
Cathedral Website www.napiercathedral.org.nz

