



THE Anglican Parish of Woodend-Trentham

A member of the Central Highlands Cluster Ministry

St George's, Trentham 9.00am | St Mary's, Woodend 11.00am

JOY



16th December, 2018 - Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday

Reception of Robyn, Michael, and Greg

We acknowledge the Jaara Jaara people,
of the Woi Wurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung language groups,
the custodians of this land where we gather.
We pay our respects to their elders past and present and pray for
reconciliation.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Hymn – 265 O Come – verse 1, 2, and 3

In the name of God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit.

Amen

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

THE ADVENT WREATH.

Celebrating past, present and future in one place

The advent wreath is sprinkled with holy water and blessed:

May this sprinkling of the waters of baptism remind us of our first sharing in grace that we may prepare for the Lord's coming among us today.

The third advent candle is lit:

St George's – we sing Advent Candles tell their story

St Mary's – we sing There's a joy

The Confession

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Holy God,
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,
You create us from nothing and give us life.**

**You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us, nor cast us aside.
We confess that we have sinned
against you and our neighbour.
We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father;
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Trisagion

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us

Let us pray

Almighty God,
you sent your Son into a world
where the wheat must be winnowed from the chaff
and evil clings even to what is good:
let the fire of your Spirit purge us of all corruption,
so that, purified, we may wait eagerly for him
whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near,
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the book of Zephaniah chapter 3 verses 14 to 20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

For the word of the Lord **thanks be to God**

The Song of Isaiah

'Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,

**'For the LORD GOD is my strength and my song:
and has become my salvation.'**

With joy you will draw water: from the wells of salvation.

**On that day you will say:
'Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name;**

'Make known his deeds among the nations:
proclaim that his name is exalted.

**'Sing God's praises, who has triumphed gloriously:
let this be known in all the world.**

'Shout aloud and sing for joy, you that dwell in Zion:
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians chapter 4 verses 4 to 7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

For the word of the Lord **thanks be to God**

Alleluia Alleluia

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke, chapter 3
beginning at the 7th verse. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

For the Gospel of the Lord **praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Reception of Robyn, Michael, and Greg

Robyn, Michael and Greg step forward and are presented.

Robyn/Michael/Greg have already been baptised and have formerly been communicant members of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches. They now ask to be received into communicant membership of the Anglican Church of Australia and seek our prayers in the fellowship of this parish.

Bishop Matt: Do you stand by the Christian confession and commitment made at your baptism?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop Matt: Do you desire to be admitted into communicant membership of the Anglican Church of Australia and accept her doctrine and order?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop Matt takes the hand of each candidate:

We recognise you as a baptised and communicant member of the Christian Church.

The Congregation responds:

We receive and welcome you into the communion of the Anglican Church.

Bishop Matt: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of wisdom and love,
source of all good,
by your Holy Spirit strengthen your servants
and guide them in your way of peace and love.
We ask this thought of Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The candidates kneel and Bishop Matt lays hands on each of them
saying:*

Robyn/Michael/Greg, may the Holy Spirit direct and uphold you in the
service of Christ and his kingdom in the fellowship of this Church.
God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless, preserve and keep
you.
Amen.

The Greeting of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory Hymn – 158 God has spoken

We give thanks for the offered gifts

God our sustainer,
receive the gifts we bring before you,
and feed us continually with that bread which satisfies all hunger,
and the wine that quenches all thirst,
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving

During the season of Advent we use the preface on page 147 and then return to page 130 to continue the Eucharistic prayer, saying together

Holy, holy, holy Lord....

We say together...

**Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again**

...in songs of never ending praise

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen**

With our hearts set on the kingdom and our hands open to serve, we pray as Jesus taught us...

**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.**

Holy, holy, holy.....

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

**Jesus, wisdom and mighty Lord:
You take away the sins of the world.**

**Jesus, true branch of Jesse's tree:
You take away the sins of the world.**

**Key of David and Dayspring from on high
You take away the sins of the world.**

**Desire of nations, our Emmanuel
You take away the sins of the world.**

Everyone is welcome to share God's great feast

The Sending out of God's people

God for whom we wait,
we thank you that you have fed us with the bread of life
and the cup of salvation.

As we joyfully await your Son,
keep us ever watchful
that we may be ready to stand before him
on the day of his coming.

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.**

The Notices

Final Hymn – 201 King of glory

The Blessing and Dismissal

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God almighty, the One who loves you, the One who calls you, and the One who makes you holy, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

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

****some thoughts from Rev. Mel*

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is Latin for 'rejoice' which is why our theme for this Sunday is joy, and our Old and New Testament readings focus on rejoicing.

Joy is an important part of our active Advent waiting. In his 2014 Gaudete Sunday homily, Pope Francis said that instead of fretting about all that we still haven't done to prepare for Christmas, we should instead be joyfilled and think of all the good things life has given us. A wise piece of advice!

We have witnessed joy last week in the form of Zechariah's song, and next week we will see that echoed again in Mary's song; and of course today Paul reminds us 'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice'.

To be people who rejoice means that we actively go about our work in the world knowing that we are loved unconditionally and spreading the good news of that joy everywhere we go. What greater gift can there be to receive and give love unconditionally at anytime of year, but especially as we wait together now.

O come, O branch of Jesse.

Joy and peace, Mel

First Friday Films

Our First Friday of the month film for January will be 'Heaven is for real'; based on a true story about a little boy's encounter with angels and Jesus. January 4th at 6pm in the hall.

Other Diary Dates

Christmas Carols in the garden at St Mary's on December 21 at 6.30pm
Blue Christmas Service at St Mary's on December 22 at 6.30pm
Share Meal at Derek and Trudy's after Mass on December 23.
TCCC Christmas Carols in St George's on December 23 at 6.30pm
Christmas Eve Crib Service at St Mary's December 24th at 6.00pm
Christmas Eve 'not quite Midnight Mass' at St Mary's Dec 24th 10pm
Christmas Morning at St George's 9am and at St Mary's 11am

Intercessions – our prayers are asked for: Sam, Andrea, Alison, Ethan, Kirsten, Carole, Wendy, Jeanette, Trevor, Rudi, Trish, Hugh, Joshua and family, Alan, Faye, Lynne, Kay, Don, Kristina and John, Carmela, Heath, Jim, Lindy, Judy and John, Hayden, Maggie, Fletcher, Jason, Sandra and Emma.

Birthdays and anniversaries

Happy birthday today to Aletta Scholtz

Years Mind and those who have died recently

This week we remember Eric White

Mission and Parish Giving

If you would like to participate in the direct debit offering option our account details are:

BSB 633 000 Account 1498 24906
Ref: Parish Giving

PO Box 699, Woodend, VIC 3442 |

www.woodendanglican.org.au

Priest: Rev'd Melissa Clark 0411 722 718

Wardens: Derek Shepherd 0417 252 222 Robyn Leeder 0415 216 711



www.facebook.com/woodendanglican/