



# ST GEORGE PEACE MEMORIAL CHURCH

THE CHURCH AT THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE

## **Holy Communion and Choral Eucharist**

*Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar*

*Third Sunday of Advent - Joy*

Sunday 17 December 2023

8am & 10am

**9pm The Festival of Nine lessons and Carols**

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## MUSIC FOR THE SERVICE

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Hymns: 215, 202, 222, 224

Motet: *Salve puerile* (Charpentier)

Postlude: *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* (Bach)

Organist: Roger Brown

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### THIS WEEK

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<b>Monday 18 December</b>	8.30am	Morning Prayer
	10am	Ministry Team Synch and Coord Conference
	7pm	Meeting of St Georges Parish Council at the Vicarage
<b>Tuesday 19 December</b>		<i>Vicars Day Off</i>
		Home Visits
	7pm	Carols at Benetas the Views Heidelberg
<b>Wednesday 20 December</b>	10am	Holy Communion with prayers for Ukraine and the Holy Land, Israel and Palestine
<b>Friday 22 December</b>	10am	Holy Communion at <i>Benetas The Views Heidelberg</i>
	4pm	Ministry Team Weekly debrief
<b>Sunday 24 December</b>		Christmas Eve
<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love</i>		2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16
		Psalms 89.1-4, 19-27
		1 Romans 16.25-27
		Luke 1.26-38
	5pm	Children's Christmas service
	11pm	Midnight Mass

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## MASS READINGS

*Please use these readings in conjunction with the Order of Service for the Eucharist, commencing at page 119 of the green 'A Prayer Book for Australia'.*

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## SENTENCE

Bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, the day of the vengeance of our God.

ISAIAH 61.1-2

## COLLECT

Eternal God,  
you sent John the Baptist  
to prepare the way for the coming of your Son:  
grant us wisdom to see your purpose  
and openness to hear your will,  
that we too may prepare the way for Christ  
who is coming in power and glory  
to establish his rule of peace and justice;  
through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

ISAIAH 61.1-4,8-11

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## SONG OF MARY



- 1 My soul proclaim the | greatness .of the | Lord  
my spirit re | joices . in | God my | Saviour;
- 2 **Who has looked with favour on his | lowly | servant**  
**from this day all gener | ations . will | call me | blessed;**
- 3 the Almighty has done | great things | for me:  
and | holy | is his | name.
- 4 **God has mercy on | those who | fear him**  
**in | every | gener | ation.**
- 5 The Lord has shown | strength . with his | arm:  
and has scattered the | proud in | their con | ceit.
- 6 **Casting down the mighty | from their | thrones:**  
**and | lifting | up the | lowly.**
- 7 God has filled the hungry with | good | things:  
and sent the | rich a | way | empty
- 8 **He has come to the help of his | servant | Israel:**  
**for he has re | membered his | promise . of | mercy,**
- 9 the promise he | made .to our | forbears:  
to Abraham | and his | children .for | ever,

## SECOND READING

I THESSALONIANS 5.12-28

*A reading from Paul's first epistle to the Thessalonians*

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. Beloved, pray for us. Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all of them. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation



Al - le - lu - jah Al - le - lu - jah Al - le - lu - jah

5 Cantor

The Spirit of the Lord is up - on me,

3

because he has annointed me to bring glad tid - ings to the poor.

2 Congregation

Al - le - lu - jah Al - le - lu - jah Al - le - lu - jah

## GOSPEL

JOHN 1.6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, ‘I am not the Messiah.’ And they asked him, ‘What then? Are you Elijah?’ He said, ‘I am not.’ ‘Are you the prophet?’ He answered, ‘No.’ Then they said to him, ‘Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?’ He said, ‘I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, “Make straight the way of the Lord”’, as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, ‘Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?’ John answered them, ‘I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.’ This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Priest

Congregation

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

# SURSUM CORDA

Priest

The Lord be with you

3 Congregation

And Al - so with you

5 Priest

Lift up your hearts

7 Congregation

We lift them to the Lord

9 Priest

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

12 Congregation

It is right to give our thanks and praise



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## COMMUNION MOTET

*Salve Puerele*

Mark Antoine Charpentier (1645-1704)

Hail, little boy, Hail, little tender one,  
O little son, how good you are.  
You give up the heaven, You are born in the world  
So that you may make yourself like us wretched mortals.

O supreme goodness! Today lofty deity  
Becomes lowly humanity.  
The eternal one is born. The immeasurable one is caught,  
And he is concealed beneath the guise of guilt

O virgin who bears a child, May thy blessed womb  
produce a son by the help of God.  
Rejoice, flower of virgins, Rejoice, hope of mankind  
O spring which washes away an abundance of sin.

## POSTLUDE

*Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* BWV 645

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

## PARISH PRAYERS

Murray Steele, Bill Pearson, Dr Helen Kouzmin, The Rt Rev'd Andrew St John, Wayne Oswald, Gabriel Pronobis, Alan Tracey, Bella Saadala, David Nolte, Dorothy Maher, Anthony Schiavone, Stephen 'Spud' Murphy, Frank McFall, Paul Finch, Colin Derbyshire, Rebecca Bowden, The Malek family, Katie Pittle, Hannah, Colin Summerbell, Fr Bill Edebohls, Vince Cristiano, Bob Hill, Matt Clay and his father, Faye, Rachel, Kyle, Lilly, Gwen Pearce, Pam Hill, Violetta Karama Wickvamasinghe, Libby Davis, Jan Peggie, Roger Douglas and those known to you alone.

We pray for Fr John's ministry to Ivanhoe Grammar School as the School Chaplain, and for our involvement with that community.

We pray for all those who mourn, as we remember those who have died in recent days. We also recall with love and affection those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time.

We pray for God's protection, peace and restoration for our parishioners who are travelling at this time.

We give thanks to God for Nan and Coral who will exercise a ministry of prayer for growth.

## PRAYER FOR GROWTH

God of Mission  
who alone brings growth to your Church,  
send your Holy Spirit to give  
vision to our planning,  
wisdom to our actions,  
joy to our worship,  
and power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
in spiritual commitment to you,  
and in service to our local community,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

# PRAYER FOR MISSION PARTNER

## The Mission to Seafarers Victoria

Loving God, you give us everything. Hear us as we pray for seafarers who endure hardship, danger and discomfort to bring us the goods we use each day. Keep them safe in the palm of your hand and bring them through sunshine and storm to their homes and loved ones. Through Jesus Christ who stilled the storm and called seafarers to follow him. Amen.



## YEAR'S MIND

Dec 17	Margaret HOTCHKISS	1990
Dec 18	Miriam NANCARROW	1987
Dec 18	Helen KINGSFORD	2013
Dec 19	Annie MACKLIN	2002
Dec 20	Doris PAGE	1994
Dec 20	William WHALE	1962
Dec 20	Constance McDONALD	1974
Dec 20	Alan GRONN	1978
Dec 21	David NORMAN	1998
Dec 22	Phillip FREEMAN	1994
Dec 22	Mavis WILLIAMS	2003
Dec 23	Eileen BEITH	1970
Dec 23	Robert GOLDIN	1969
Dec 24	Gordon FAULL	1987
Dec 24	Fr Ronald ADAMS	1985
Dec 24	Myrtle COLEMAN	1994



Please encourage your friends, family and neighbours to 'like' and 'follow' us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesEastIvanhoe>) and to subscribe to our YouTube channel (St George Peace Memorial Church East Ivanhoe). Please take the time to 'like' and 'follow' our new Facebook presence @HeartEdgeMelbourne (<https://www.facebook.com/HeartEdgeMelbourne>), where you might find news of our HeartEdge initiatives.

### **Live-Streaming of Services - YouTube**

We live-stream our services and events via our YouTube channel, (St George Peace Memorial Church East Ivanhoe). You may access our services, online via this link: <https://stgeorgeseastivanhoe.org/online> If you subscribe to our channel and enable notifications you will receive automatic alerts when we go live.

### **Opportunities to serve**

The call of God upon us, is to a life of love and service to Him and one another. Have you prayerfully considered how God might want you to serve at St George's? There are a variety of roles currently unfilled. Please step out in faith trusting God for his enabling and ask John how you could be serving particularly around hospitality and prayer.

### **Wednesday Holy Communion service.**

10am Wednesday Holy Communion service will now be conducted in the seating area just inside the church doors. This shorter, seated service provides easy access and comfort for anyone who may have mobility restrictions. We also enjoy the warmth of the morning sun. Please join us.

### **Prayer Group for Growth**

We thank God for the Nan and Coral's ministry of prayer for growth as we have welcomed a range of new people to Sunday services and other church activities in recent weeks. Let us continue to uphold Nan and Coral in our prayers as they pray for us all.

## **Nan's Stall – Mission Partners**

Please take the time to visit Nan's bookstall as we have had a range of books, leaflets and information packs arrive from a range of mission agencies. Judging by how many booklets remains I suspect that not many of us visit this section of Nan's stall often.

## **Advent 2023 Resources**

We are not running formal Advent groups in 2023 as we maintain our focus on inviting friends, neighbours, colleagues, and family to join us for one of the services or concerts we have in this season. However, you will find available today in the pew bulletin and at the entrance to Church 'An Advent Reflection' from our mission partner Anglican Overseas Aid. This evening at Choral Evensong we will launch the 2023 Christmas Bowl in partnership with our mission partner Act for Peace. There are also envelopes from Act for Peace in the pew bulletin, which provide details of how the appeal supports people in need around the world. Our mission partner Anglican Board of Mission has also provided us with envelopes for Advent and Christmas as they seek to support the work of Wontup-Bi-Buya and Nungalinya Colleges. For your prayerful and practical consideration.

## **Thankyou from Kristen**

Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed to my farewell at Bring 'n Share last week and those who have reached out to farewell me in other ways. I'm still not sure why God chose to send me to the best church in Melbourne, but I'm so grateful that he did and grateful to all of you. I look forward to catching up with you all again. Peace and blessings, Kristen

## **Farewell to Kristen and Stacey**

Thank you to the many people who contributed to the successful farewell to Kristen and Stacey at Bring 'n' Share on Saturday last. If you happened to leave an umbrella behind, please contact the Vicar.

## **Save the date**

**17th December 9pm The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

**24th December 5pm Children's Christmas Service**

**24th December 11pm Midnight Mass**

**25th December 9am Choral Eucharist**

# Give Hope



Share God's love so refugees  
are not forgotten this Christmas

Please give today. 1800 025 101  
[www.christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au](http://www.christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au)

Please  
give  
today

The Christmas Bowl is the Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188



**ACT FOR PEACE**  
CONFRONTING INJUSTICE TOGETHER  
THROUGH THE GOSPEL

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# PARISH DIRECTORY

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<b>Wardens</b>	Meron Pitcher Ted Smart David Morgan	M: 0416 234 045 M: 0409 140 662 M: 0430 369 984
<b>Parish Treasurer</b>	Vince Cristiano	M: 0418 322 206
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	David Morgan	M: 0430 369 984
<b>Pew Bulletin &amp; Prayer List</b>	Ashleigh Summers	P: 03 9497 1290 E: asummers@melbourneanglican.org.au
<b>Director of Music</b>	Roger Brown	M: 0419 390 563
<b>Assistant Organist</b>	Vacant	
<b>Head Server</b>	Chris Hayward	M: 0423 985 044
<b>Opportunity Shop</b>	Joan Skene  Mary Jones	P: 03 9499 5166 P: 03 9459 0325 M: 0414 385 058
<b>Sacristans</b>	Vacant	
<b>Building Maintenance &amp; Emergency Contacts</b>	Barry Wilkes  Alison Smart George Hall Vince Cristiano	P: 03 9457 3351 M: 0423 542 618 M: 0408 032 089 M: 0412 637 856 M: 0418 322 206
<b>Building Manager (Hall Bookings)</b>	Barry Wilkes	P: 03 9457 3351 M: 0423 521 618 E: barrywilkes@optusnet.com.au
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<b>Child Safety Officer</b>	Josie Cichello-Sanderson	M: 0408 130 308