

ST Andrew's, Epsom

"My Soul Magnifies The Lord: And My Soul Shall Rejoice In God My Saviour."

9.30am Advent 1 and the Baptism of Harriet Elizabeth Flett PRESIDING PRIEST: The Reverend Sarah Stevens-Cross PREACHER: The Reverend Julian Morris LITURGIST: Lesley Anderson DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Neil Shroff ORGANIST: Michael Stoddart CHOIRS: Parish Choir of St Andrew's Epsom

INTROIT Vesper Responsory - Palestrina

OPENING SENTENCE

The presiding priest says:

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all the world shall see it together.

Isaiah 40: 5

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

 Come, thou Redeemer of the earth, and manifest thy virgin-birth: let every age adoring fall; such birth befits the God of all.

2. Begotten of no human will, but of the Spirit, thou art still the Word of God, in flesh arrayed, the Saviour, now to us displayed.

3. From God the Father he proceeds, to God the Father back he speeds, runs out his course to death and hell, returns on God's high throne to dwell.

4. Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, and darkness glow with new-born light, no more shall night extinguish day, where love's bright beams their power display.

5. O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee eternal praise and glory be, whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

The presiding priest says:

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.**

The liturgist says:

Watch, wait, hope! Even now, the tender leaves of peace may be growing on the trees of life. Watch, wait, hope! For the wonder of new love may be moving towards its birthing.

The Christ will come. The Word of God will not fail us.

Keep awake! For the shadows of our doubt will be lifted and singing sounds in the distance.

The Christ will come. The Word of God will not fail us.ⁱ

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

The liturgist says:

In the lighting of this first Advent Candle of Hope we make space within ourselves to hear and engage with the voices of those we might otherwise miss but with whom we are connected by our common humanity.

We remember the voice of the prophets calling us to be bearers of home in a troubled world.

The candle is lit.

We light the candle of hope. May it light the way for us as we make hope our story.

A PRAYER FOR KID'S CHURCH

Loving God, bless our young people this morning, be with them in their searching, their questioning, and in their understanding. Amen.

FORGIVENESS

Sit or kneel as you are comfortable

The liturgist then says

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Silence

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the hope of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You come in word and sacrament

to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory with salvation for your people: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. **THE ABSOLUTION** *is declared by the presiding priest.*

Through the cross of Christ, God have mercy on you, pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

SENTENCE

The liturgist leads:

"`Heaven and earth will pass away,' says the Lord, `but my words will not pass away." Mark 13:31

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Creating God, the whole of creation resounds with your presence. Help us see the imprint of your grace in our world. Alert us to your coming amongst us. Wake us from our complacency and inattention, that we may actively love both you and our neighbour. With Jesus we pray. Amen.

THE READING 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 *Brian Matthews*

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

GRADUAL ANTHEM: *Prepare the Way, O Zion –K Dake*

THE GRADUAL HYMN

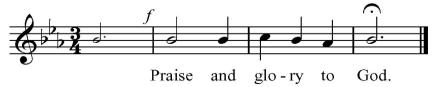
1. Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. 2. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

3. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By thy own eternal spiritrule in all our hearts alone;by thy all sufficient merit,raise us to thy glorious throne.

THE GOSPEL READING Mark 13: 24-27

The Holy Gospel according to Mark Chapter 13 beginning at the 24th verse.



After the Gospel the deacon says

This is the Gospel of Christ.



THE SERMON

The Reverend Julian Morris

THE MINISTRY OF BAPTISM

We gather around the font at the back of the church

GOD'S CALL

E te whanau a te Karaiti / Dear friends in Christ, God is love, God gives us life. We love because God first loves us. In baptism God declares that love; in Christ God calls us to respond.

THE PRESENTATION FOR BAPTISM

Harriet is presented by her parents, Elizabeth and James and her godparents, Emma and James, who say: individually by a sponsor or, in the case of a child, by a parent or godparent, who says

I present Harriet Elizabeth Flett to be baptised and made a member of the Body of Christ, the Church.

The priest says

From the beginning the Church has received believers by baptism. Believers' children have also been baptised so that with help and encouragement they should grow up in Christ and by the grace of God serve Christ all the days of their life.

On the day when the apostles first preached the Gospel of Christ's resurrection Peter urged his hearers;

'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus the Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God may call.'

The priest asks the parents and godparents How do you respond to this promise?

They reply We hear God's call and ask for baptism.

The priest asks Do you renounce all evil influences and powers that rebel against God?

They reply I renounce all evil.

The priest asks

Do you trust in Christ's victory which brings forgiveness, freedom and life?

They reply

In faith I turn to Christ, my way, my truth, my life, as I care for Harriet.

People

May God keep you in the way you have chosen.

THE BAPTISM

The priest stands by the water for baptism, and says

Praise God who made heaven and earth **Whose promise endures forever.**

We thank you God for your love in all creation, especially for your gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life. We thank you for your covenant with your people Israel; through the Red Sea waters you led them to freedom in the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptised by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

Through the deep waters of death, Jesus fulfilled his baptism. He died to set us free and was raised to be exalted Lord of all. It is Christ who baptises with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

We thank you that through the waters of baptism you cleanse us, renew us by your Spirit, and raise us to new life. In the new covenant we are made members of your Church and share in your eternal kingdom. ✤ Through your Holy Spirit, fulfil once more your promisesin this water of rebirth, set apart in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour, power and might, be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!

Harriet is baptised, the priest saying

Harriet Elizabeth, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. God receives you by baptism into the Church. Child of God, blessed in the Spirit, welcome to the family of Christ.

The priest makes the sign of the cross on each baptised child, saying

We sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ.

A lighted candle is presented by a member of the congregation, who says: Walk in the faith of Christ, crucified and risen. Shine with the light of Christ.

The priest presents the newly baptised to the congregation.

THE AFFIRMATION

At the conclusion of the baptism the congregation stand to respond in these affirmations

Praise to God who has given us life. **Blessed be God for the gift of love.**

Praise to God who forgives our sins. Blessed be God who sets us free.

Praise to God who kindles our faith. Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.

Let us, the baptised, affirm that we renounce evil and commit our lives to Christ. **Blessed be God, Jesus is Lord!** The priest then says to the parents, godparents and congregation:

What is your faith?

They respond

I believe and trust in God the Father, maker and sustainer of all things; and in God the Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ; and in God the Holy Spirit, giver of life and truth. This is my faith.

The priest asks the parents & godparents: How then will you care for this child?

They respond

I will love and share my faith with *him / her*.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

As we sing the altar party, Harriet's family and godparents move to the front of the church

Welcome the child who comes to be blessed, welcome the faith that makes the request, echo the words that Jesus would say: "Bring her, and never turn her away!" Joy-bringer God, new life is our joy! gift her with hope no hurt can destroy, keep her clear-eyed to wonder and trust, finding a people gentle and just. Bless her by water, Spirit and sign, bring her to share the bread and the wine, draw her, like frond of koru uncurled, open to love and life in your world. Give her a Church with family claim, closeness to Christ, not only in name, make her a source of light and delight -baptism's grace with baptism's rite.

The priest says to the congregation

As the community of faith we rejoice at this baptism and will share with Harriet what we have ourselves received: a delight in prayer, a love for the word of God, a desire to follow the way of Christ, and food for the journey.

The priest says to Harriet

Harriet, you are now a pilgrim with us.

As a member of Christ's body, the Church, you will be challenged to affirm your faith in God and receive the laying on of hands in confirmation. May you grow in the Holy Spirit, fulfil your ministry and follow Christ your whole life long.

The priest blesses the family

▲ God bless you with wisdom and love; may Harriet find in you, your homes and families, Christ's love and understanding. **Amen.**

God of Love,

We thank you for our calling to be disciples of Christ. Help us to nurture Harriet in the faith we share. May she grow to love, worship and serve you, and bring life to the world. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lynn Oram

The presiding priest says

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

Bidding:	Come and in your mercy:
Response:	save your people.

Thanksgiving, blessing and praise be yours, God of the incarnation; because you care for us and for our prayer. May our love for you and our likeness to you be strengthened as we watch and wait and pray. Amen.

THE PEACE

All standing, the presiding priest says to the peopleIn the tender mercy of our God,the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,to give light to those who dwell in darknessand in the shadow of death,and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

cf Luke 1.78,79

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace who breaks down the walls that divide.

Kia tau te rangimārie o te Atua ki a koutou. The peace of God be always with you. **Praise to Christ who unites us in peace.**

We share a sign of Christ's peace as you are comfortable.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

> *Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2. O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Rejoice, rejoice!...*

3. O come, thou key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Rejoice, rejoice!...* 4. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the Law in cloud and majesty and awe. *Rejoice, rejoice!...*

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

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.

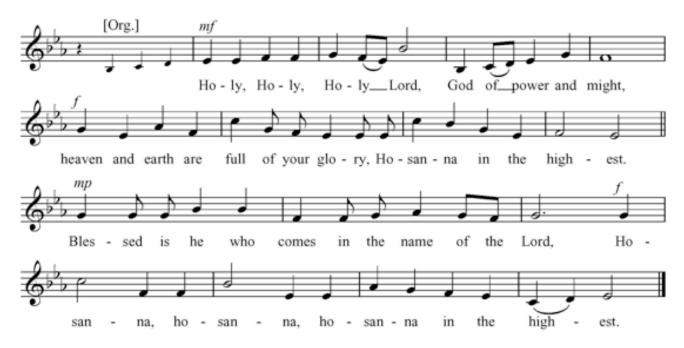
It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

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: male and female you created us.

When we sinned and turned away you called us back to yourself and gave your Son to share our human nature. In his coming among us the day of our deliverance has dawned, and through him you will make all things new when he comes in power and majesty to judge the world.

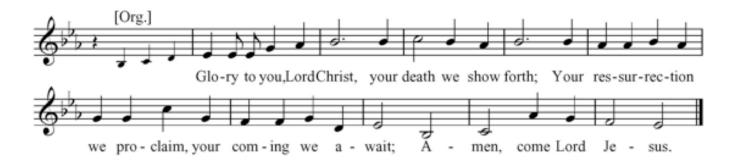
In him you have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

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 saying:



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 all, for the forgiveness of sins; Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.



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.



As Christ teaches us we pray in song 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 COMMUNION

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.

THE INVITATION

Draw near and receive the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ in remembrance that he died for us. Let us feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

DURING COMMUNION

The choir sings the **AGNUS DEI** *- Hazeldine*

THE INVITATION

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

All are welcome at Christ's table. Communion will be served in one kind (bread only) from the centre of the church in front of the altar. Please come forward via the centre aisle and return to your seats via the side aisle. You may prefer to remain in your seat and pray, or to come forward for a blessing. Please do whatever is comfortable for you.

COMMUNION MOTET - *Creator of the stars of night – Hopson*

VIOLIN AND FLUTE DUET: *Duetto in F major - Music; Francesco Geminiani performed by Keir GoGwilt and Celeste Oram*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

"Restore us again O God: show us the light of your face and we shall be saved."

Psalm 80:3

Most loving God, we are thankful for all we have shared around this table of love.

We are thankful that through faith, hope will overcome doubt, love will overcome fear, and light will overcome darkness.

May the blessing of light be on us: light without and light within. Amen.ⁱⁱ

PARISH NOTICES

CLOSING HYMN

1. Awake, awake: fling off the night! for God has sent his glorious light; and we who live in Christ's new day must works of darkness put away.

 Awake and rise, with love renewed, and with the Spirit's power endued.
The light of life in us must glow, and fruits of truth and goodness show.

3. Let in the light; all sin exposeto Christ, whose life no darkness knows.before his cross for guidance kneel;his light will judge, and judging heal.

4. Awake, and rise up from the dead, and Christ his light on you will shed. its power will wrong desires destroy, and your whole nature fill with joy.

5. Then sing for joy, and use each day; give thanks for everything alway. gift up your hearts; with one accord praise God through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

THE BLESSING

May Christ be our new beginning, the hope and salvation for all the world, and the blessing of God the Creator, Jesus the Christ and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and always. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL OF THE COMMUNITY

As we await our coming Saviour, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Amen. We go in the name of Christ.**

Cover image – Lady Chapel window, Holy Sepulcher, Grafton ^a Dorothy McRae-McMahon, Liturgies for High Days, adapted

^a St Matthew's-in-the-city Advent 1, 2018