



ROSSORRY  
PARISH CHURCH

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**10.30 am**

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**OPENING HYMN 151 : Child in the manger, .....**

Child in the manger,  
infant of Mary;  
outcast and stranger,  
Lord of all!  
Child who inherits  
all our transgressions,  
all our demerits  
on him fall.

Once the most holy  
child of salvation,  
gentle and lowly,  
lived below;  
now, as our glorious  
mighty Redeemer,  
see him victorious  
o'er each foe.

Prophets foretold him,  
infant of wonder;  
angels behold him  
on his throne;  
worthy our Saviour  
of all their praises;  
happy for ever  
are his own.

From the Scots Gaelic of *Mary Mc Donald* (1789-1872)  
Rendered into modern Irish by *Coslett Quinn* (1907- 1995)

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The minister introduces the service with these or other suitable words*

We have come together in the name of Christ  
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,  
to hear and receive God's holy word,  
to seek the forgiveness of our sins,  
and to pray for the needs of the world,  
that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may give ourselves to the service of God.  
O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouth will proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the Lord.  
**All praise to his name.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,  
creator of heaven and earth,  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
As your living Word, eternal in heaven,  
assumed the frailty of our mortal flesh,  
may the light of your love be born in us  
to fill our hearts with joy as we say:

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

**HYMN S86 : Light of the world, .....**

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness,  
opened my eyes, let me see  
beauty that made this heart adore you,  
hope of a life spent with you.

*So here I am to worship,  
here I am to bow down,  
here I am to say that you're my God,  
and you're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me.*

King of all days oh so highly exalted,  
glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly you came to the earth you created,  
all for love's sake became poor.

And I'll never know how much it cost  
to see my sin upon that cross.  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
to see my sin upon that cross.

Tim Hughes

© 2000 Thankyou Music

Christ the light of the world has come  
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.  
Let us turn to the light and confess our sins.

**O God, our loving Father in heaven,  
we confess that we have sinned against you;  
we have broken your commandments;  
we have often been selfish,  
and we have not loved you as we should.  
For these, and all our sins, forgive us, we pray:  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse you from your sins,  
and restore you in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**First Lesson -** Isaiah 9: 2-7  
Reader: Claire Pringle

Isaiah Foretells the Birth of Christ

<sup>2</sup>The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

<sup>3</sup>You have enlarged the nation  
and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as people rejoice at the harvest,  
as warriors rejoice  
when dividing the plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For as in the day of Midian's defeat,  
you have shattered  
the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor.

<sup>5</sup>Every warrior's boot used in battle  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be destined for burning,  
will be fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
<sup>7</sup>Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and for ever.  
The zeal of the LORD Almighty  
will accomplish this.

**HYMN 166: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
let earth receive her King;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!  
let us our songs employ,  
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, and wonders of his love.

*Isaac Watts (1647-1748)*

**Second Lesson - Luke 1: 26-38**

**The Birth of Jesus Foretold**

Readers: Pippa Johnston

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

<sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

<sup>34</sup> 'How will this be,' Mary asked the angel, 'since I am a virgin?'

<sup>35</sup> The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called<sup>[a]</sup> the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For no word from God will ever fail.'

<sup>38</sup> 'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled.' Then the angel left her.

**Hymn S149:                    The virgin Mary had a baby boy**

The Virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
the Virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
the Virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
and they say that His name was Jesus.

*He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
Oh yes, believer! Oh yes, believer!  
He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.*

The angels sang when the baby born,  
the angels sang when the baby born,  
the angels sang when the baby born,  
and proclaim Him the Saviour Jesus.

The wise men went where the baby born,  
The wise men went where the baby born,  
The wise men went where the baby born,  
and they say that His name was Jesus.

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register.

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

**The Sunday School Sing:**                    ‘Baby Jesus we love you’

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.’

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.’

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.’

<sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

*Refrain:*

*Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills, and everywhere  
go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born*

1. While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. *(Refrain)*
  
2. The shepherds feared and trembled  
when, lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Saviour's birth. *(Refrain)*
  
3. Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. *(Refrain)*

*William Champlin / Traditional*

**Fifth Lesson** - Matthew 2: 1-12 -  
Reader: Christopher Johnston

The Visit of the Magi

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'

<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup> "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."



<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.'

<sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

**The Sunday School Sing:**                      **'Bumpy, Bumpy, Bumpy'**

### **Affirmation of faith**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
who made the world?

**I believe and trust in him**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,  
who redeemed mankind?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit  
who gives life to the people of God?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**we believe and trust in One God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Let us pray to Jesus our Saviour.

Christ, born in a stable,  
give courage to all who are homeless.

Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, for whom the angels sang,  
give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.

Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds,  
give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.  
Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, before whom the wise men knelt,  
give humility and wisdom to all who govern.  
Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,  
give the glory of your resurrection  
to all who rest in you.  
Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**  
**Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,**  
**you know us and love us,**  
**you share our lives and hear our prayer.**  
**Glory to you for ever. Amen.**

### **Sunday School Prayers**

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, we are bold to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven:**

**hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

See him lying on a bed of straw:  
a draughty stable with an open door,  
Mary cradling the babe she bore,  
the Prince of Glory is his name.

*O now carry me to Bethlehem  
To see the Lord of love again:  
just as poor as was the stable then,  
The prince of glory when he came.*

Star of silver, sweep across the skies,  
show where Jesus in the manger lies;  
shepherds swiftly from your stupor rise  
to see the Saviour of the world!

Angels, sing again the song you sang,  
sing the story of God's gracious plan;  
sing that Bethl'em's little baby can  
be the saviour of us all.

Mine are riches, from your poverty.  
from your innocence, eternity;  
mine forgiveness by your death for me,  
child of sorrow for my joy.

*Michael Perry (1942 -1996)*

### **Going out as God's People**

#### **Blessing.**

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one  
all things earthly and heavenly,  
Fill you with joy and peace:

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and  
remain with you always.

**Amen.**

The Holly and the Ivy

The holly and the ivy  
now both are full well grown;  
of all the trees that are in the wood,  
the holly bears the crown:

*O the rising of the sun,  
and the running of the deer,  
the playing of the merry organ,  
sweet singing in the quire.*

The holly bears a blossom  
as white as lily-flower;  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
to be our sweet Saviour:

The holly bears a berry  
as red as any blood;  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
to do poor sinners good:

The holly bears a prickle  
as sharp as any thorn;  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
on Christmas Day in the morn:

English Traditional Folk Carol

