



# CHRIST CHURCH

THE ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN VIENNA

ST. STEPHEN  
26 DECEMBER 2021

## ORGAN PRELUDE

## HYMN 72

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!  
let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 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.

## GREETING

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

The Lord be with you  
and also with you.

*The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.*

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## CONFESSION

*The officiant uses an invitation to confession.*

Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:  
'You shall call his name Jesus,  
for he will save his people from their sins.'  
Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God  
through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life

to the glory of your name.  
Amen.

### KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### ABSOLUTION

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his 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.**

### COLLECT

*The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.*

Almighty God,  
who wonderfully created us in your own image  
and yet more wonderfully restored us  
through your Son Jesus Christ:  
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,  
so we may share the life of his divinity;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### LESSON

*Acts 7:1, 51-60*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

<sup>1</sup> Then the high priest asked him, 'Are these things so?' <sup>2</sup> And Stephen replied:  
<sup>51</sup> 'You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are for ever  
opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. <sup>52</sup> Which of the  
prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the  
coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and  
murderers. <sup>53</sup> You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels,  
and yet you have not kept it.' <sup>54</sup> When they heard these things, they became  
enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. <sup>55</sup> But filled with the Holy Spirit,  
he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right  
hand of God. <sup>56</sup> 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man  
standing at the right hand of God!' <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a  
loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of  
the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet  
of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed,  
'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud

voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

*Psalm 119.161-168*

161 Princes have persecuted me without a cause,  
but my heart stands in awe of your word.

162 **I am as glad of your word  
as one who finds great spoils.**

163 As for lies, I hate and abhor them,  
but your law do I love.

164 **Seven times a day do I praise you,  
because of your righteous judgements.**

165 Great peace have they who love your law;  
nothing shall make them stumble.

166 **Lord, I have looked for your salvation  
and I have fulfilled your commandments.**

167 My soul has kept your testimonies  
and greatly have I loved them.

168 **I have kept your commandments and testimonies,  
for all my ways are before you.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and shall be forever. Amen.**

**GOSPEL**

*Matthew 10.1, 5, 16-22*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and ... sent [them] out with the following instructions: ... <sup>16</sup> 'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup> Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; <sup>18</sup> and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup> When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup> for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup> Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; <sup>22</sup> and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

This is the Gospel of the Lord:

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**CREED**

*Te Deum Laudamus*

**We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.  
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.  
To thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.  
To thee cherubin and seraphin continually do cry,  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.  
The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.  
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.  
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.  
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee:  
the Father of an infinite majesty;  
thine honourable, true and only Son;  
also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.**

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.  
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.  
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,  
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.  
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,  
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.  
We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.  
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,  
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.  
Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.

### INTERCESSIONS

*A member of the congregation offers prayers.*

### PEACE

*The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:*

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 the Lord be always with you,  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.*

### HYMN 298

- 1 **For all thy saints, O Lord,  
who strove in thee to live,  
who followed thee, obeyed, adored,  
our grateful hymn receive.**
- 2 **For all thy saints, O Lord,  
who strove in thee to die,  
and found in thee a full reward,  
accept our thankful cry.**

3 **Thine earthly members fit  
to join thy saints above,  
in one communion ever knit,  
one fellowship of love.**

4 **Jesu, thy name we bless,  
and humbly pray that we  
may follow them in holiness,  
who lived and died for thee.**

5 **All might, all praise, be thine,  
Father, co-equal Son,  
and Spirit, bond of love divine,  
while endless ages run.**

### EUCHARIST

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit,  
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In him we see our God made visible  
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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.]**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
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,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

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

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

### **AGNUS DEI**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

### **INVITATION**

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.  
**Amen.**

*The celebrant distributes communion.*

### **HYMN 88**

- 1 **What child is this, who, laid to rest  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
this, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds worship and angels sing:  
haste, haste to bring him praise  
the babe, the son of Mary.**
- 2 **Why lies he in such mean estate,  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Come, have no fear, God's Son is here,  
his love all loves exceeding:  
nails, spear, shall pierce him through,  
the cross be borne for me, for you:  
hail, hail, the Saviour comes,  
the babe, the son of Mary.**
- 3 **So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,  
all tongues and peoples own him,  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let every heart enthrone him:  
raise, raise your song on high  
while Mary sings a lullaby,  
joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary.**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS**

Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:  
help your Church to live as one family,  
united in love and obedience,  
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Almighty God,**  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.

#### NOTICES

#### BLESSING

*The celebrant gives a suitable blessing:*

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one  
things earthly and heavenly,  
fill you with peace and goodwill  
and make you partakers of the divine nature;  
...and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
Amen.

#### HYMN 83

- 1 **See, amid the winter's snow,**  
born for us on earth below,  
see, the Lamb of God appears,  
promised from eternal years!  
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem:*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem!*
- 2 **Lo, within a manger lies**  
he who built the starry skies,

he who, throned in height sublime,  
its amid the cherubim!  
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem:*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

- 3 **Say, ye holy shepherds, say,**  
what your joyful news today;  
wherefore have ye left your sheep  
on the lonely mountain steep?  
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem:*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem!*
- 4 **'As we watched at dead of night,**  
lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
angels, singing "Peace on earth,"  
told us of a Saviour's birth.'  
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem:*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem!*
- 5 **Sacred Infant, all divine,**  
what a tender love was thine,  
thus to come from highest bliss  
down to such a world as this!  
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem:*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

#### DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.

## ORGAN POSTLUDE

### **NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT**

This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

### **TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Since the beginning of the pandemic (first Austrian lockdown on 17 March 2020), we have not been taking a collection during the services in the church building. We ask those of you who would otherwise make your donations to Christ Church to consider setting up regular standing orders or some other electronic means of contributing. More information is available on our website.

**Your contributions make a difference and we are thankful for them.**