

Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



JANUARY 2nd, 2022

This act of worship has been prepared to allow us to spend some time with God, knowing that others are sharing in it.

We thank all the team involved in creating and distributing this service, and praise God for his unchanging character and unfailing love.

This order of service is for you to use as you are able: some of you may wish simply to read it, whether silently or aloud. Others may wish to listen, and even join in with the singing: just click on the links.

If you want to join in the whole service, follow <https://youtu.be/eWTKlgH0m6w> which you'll also find on our website: www.stmungos.freeuk.com .

And if you would like to listen to just the sermon readings and prayers, dial **01968 700121**. There will be about 20 seconds' silence, after which the recording should start.

INTROIT: Miracle Child

Watch video at https://www.resoundworship.org/song/miracle_child

Miracle child, born to a scared virgin girl,
she trusted that God had a plan,
the babe in her hands,
Vulnerable child,
born at the back of the inn,
hardly the place for a king,
yet now angels sing:

*Glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God, glory to God in the highest.*

Heavenly son, prophets predicted his birth,
said he would shine light in the dark,
the bright morning star.

Wonderful son,
bringing the captives release,
meeting the worlds deepest need,
our prince of peace.

This is Jesus, coming to save us;
join the angels, singing his praises.



Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: 'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.'

WELCOME (Martin Pearce)

CALL TO WORSHIP

God bestowed on him the name above all names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow and every tongue acclaim, 'Jesus Christ is Lord'.

HYMN: See! In yonder manger low

Watch video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbGD6cJFrCk>

See in yonder manger low,
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!"*

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime,
Sits amid the cherubim.

Hail thou ever blessed morn....

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....

Teach, oh, teach us, holy Child,
By Thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble Thee
In Thy sweet humility.

Hail thou ever blessed morn....

Words: Edward Caswall Tune: Humility (Goss)

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION (Martin Pearce)

Gracious Lord and Father,
thank you for gathering us together at the start of a New Year.
We thank you that we have the freedom to worship you,
to sing your praises, and to share in fellowship with one another.

We know you are an almighty God who created the universe,
the world and people in your likeness.

We gladly give thanks for your incarnate Son whose name is our salvation.
Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is saviour of the world:
our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God in glory everlasting.

But we know we often fail to do and say what you have taught us to do and say.
So we seek your forgiveness and a fresh start, as we pause now in silence
with penitent hearts..... (pause in silence)

As we thank you for nurturing our souls, we say together
the prayer that your Son and our Saviour taught us to say, saying,

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

HYMN: Child in the manger

Watch video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=niR24bEDI4o>

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
gently 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 our praises;
happy forever are His own.

Words: Mary MacDonald; translated from the Gaelic by L. MacBean (1888) Tune: Bunessan

READING

Reader: Heather Nicholas

LUKE 2: 22-40 (New International Version UK)

Jesus presented in the temple

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord'), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: 'a pair of doves or two young pigeons'.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required,

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.'

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

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SERMON: God's gift to us - freedom

HYMN: Unto us a boy is born

Watch video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvnceCVScDI>

Unto us a boy is born ,

King of all creation:

Cradled in a stall was He,

The Lord of every nation,

The Lord of every nation.

Cradled in a stall was he

With sleepy cows and asses;

But the very beasts could see

That He all men surpasses,

That He all men surpasses.

Herod then with fear was filled:

'A prince', he said, 'In Jewry!'

All little boys be killed

At Bethl'em in his fury,

At Bethl'em in his fury.

Now may Mary's Son, who came

So long ago to love us,

Lead us all with hearts aflame

Unto the joys above us,

Unto the joys above us.

Omega and Alpha He!

Let the organ thunder,

While the choir with peals of glee

Doth rend the air asunder,

Doth rend the air asunder.

This carol originates from a 15th century collection of Latin hymns for Christmas called Moosburg Gradual which was catalogued between 1355 and 1360, and contained hymns which were already 500 years old.

PRAYER OF THANSIVING AND DEDICATION (Joan Cape)

Lord God,

We bring you now our prayers for other people, and for ourselves

Our Christmas celebrations are almost behind us, and the New Year has hardly begun.

Some of us are glad that Christmas is past; others can't wait for it to come again.

But whatever it has left behind

may it not just be the wrapping paper and the cards,

the memories of happy times spent together or alone,

or of difficult times spent likewise with other people or on our own.

Though the crib scenes will soon be packed away for another year,
and the baby Jesus put back into his box, may we take with us into the new year
the deep truth that the stories and carols were meant to reveal:

that we are not alone, for you are with us.

God eternal has become mortal;

the Word has become flesh and lives among us.

In the light of this incredible claim,

we offer our prayers to you for all who feel alone,

and who desperately need someone to walk alongside them:

may we find that someone if the loneliness is ours;

may we be ready to be companions to those around us;

may we all recognize that you walk our journey with us, every step of the way.

You came into the world that you had made, O God, and the world did not know you.

We pray for any in our world today who are not recognised for who they are:

those whose talents have not been nurtured;

whose smile has not been returned, those whose face does not fit,

or whose colour does not blend in with those around them;

those who are treated, for any reason, as anything less than beloved children of God.

You came to your own people and even they would not accept you.

We pray for those for whom Christmas and New Year

are not the happy family time that the media—

and too often our churches— tell us that they should be:

those who were on their own, and longed for company;

those who were lonely in a crowded room.

May they know that you were with them,

still are and always will be.

Lord God, you created this world, and it was good.

Over the generations we have not cherished it as we ought; mankind has allowed many things to happen which have not honoured you. There are so many bad situations in this world at present: we think particularly of the people of Afghanistan, for whom we have been collecting money. We pray that ways will soon be found whereby the new government can provide food, shelter, health care and all the other basic necessities of life to a people presently torn apart. We thank you for agencies like Christian Aid, who work tirelessly to bring help to the people who live in so many distressed areas of the world and who seek to keep us informed about what is happening, and how we can target our prayers and our aid.

Father God, you came in Jesus as life-giving Word, and as Light for the world's darkness. May we who dare to call ourselves Christians speak with his words of grace and shine out with the light of his love. **Amen.**

HYMN: Joy to the world

Watch video <https://youtu.be/FLURukXoht8>

Joy to the world, the Lord has 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!

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!

Your sweetest songs employ,

while fields and streams, and 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,

the wonders of his love, the wonders of his love,

the wonders, wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748), Video: © Sam, Sara & Theo Hargreaves for engageworship; brass: Dan Warwick

THE BLESSING

May He, who by His incarnation brought forgiveness and salvation

to all who turn to him,

bestow upon you the fullness of inner peace and goodwill.

And the blessings of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen

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Next Sunday 9th January

11am in St Mungo's

KIP SERVICE

“Introducing the 5 Marks of Mission”