

trust and love Him all thy days:
then go dwell forever near Him,
see His face and sing His praise.
(Words: Isaac Watts; Music: an old melody arr. A.E. Floyd)

Ninth Lesson: John 1: 1-14

St John unfolds the mystery of Christ's birth

Read by Warren Clarnette

Hymn 269: Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes

Collect for Christmas Day

Almighty God.

You have given us your only Son to take our nature upon Him,
And, as at this time, to be born of a pure virgin; grant that we,
being born again and made your children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus
Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Postlude: *Chorale prelude (Fantasia) on 'In dulci jubilo', BWV 729*
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
(You are invited to remain seated until the end of the postlude)

Notice

An early reminder: All members of the congregation are invited to take part in the planned discussion of future directions at Auburn, starting the first week in February. Please advise Warren Clarnette which week days and times you prefer, so details can be announced by mid-January.

Some members have suggested week days from 1.30 to 3.00 pm. Other times may be preferred. We expect to hold three sessions. More information after Christmas.

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The Auburn Newsletter

Hawthorn Uniting Parish

Sunday 24th December 2017

Service Today

10am Christmas Eve
The Promised Messiah

Tomorrow

10am Christmas Day
Rev Bertram Mather

Welcome to all who worship at Auburn today.
Please remain for tea or coffee in the church after the service.

The Promised Messiah

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Prelude: *Variations on 'Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen,*
Gerald Near (2008)

Hymn 264: Hark! a herald voice is calling

The lighting of the fourth Advent candle

The Bidding Prayer (*please stand*)

This Christmastide, let it be our joyful task to hear once again the message of the angels and to journey in our minds to Bethlehem. There let us see this thing which has come to pass – a babe lying in a manger.

We shall hear in the scriptures how Almighty God has lovingly cared for us from our early days of disobedience in the Garden of Eden until our redemption by the Christ Child.

But first let us pray for the needs of the world today – for peace on earth and goodwill among all nations. And let us remember the poor, the hungry, the persecuted, the sick, and those who mourn.

Almighty God, we ask you to hear our prayers and to accept our praises for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

Hymn 313: Good Christians all, rejoice

Sunday Service

10 am weekly

Holy Communion:

monthly:
10 am: 3rd Sunday

Music in Liturgy:

monthly:
10 am: 4th Sunday

Church Council:

7.45 pm monthly
1st Wed in the
Pawsey Room

Church Lunch:

12 noon in the Hall
monthly 3rd Sunday

*NB: Dates and times
may occasionally
change documented
in the pew sheet
notices*

First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-19

In the Garden of Eden, God tells Adam that the serpent will be punished

Read by John Suriano

Choir: *Adam and Christ*

1. What Adam's disobedience cost,
let holy scripture say:
mankind estranged, an Eden lost,
and then a judgement day:
each day a judgement day.

2. An Ark of Mercy rode the flood;
but man, where waters swirled,
rebuilt, impatient of the good,
another fallen world:
an unrepentant world.

3. A little Child is Adam's heir,
is Adam's hope, and Lord.
Sing joyful carols everywhere
that Eden is restored:
in Jesus is restored.

4. Regained is Adam's blessedness:
the angels sheathe their swords.
In joyful carols all confess
The Kingdom is the Lord's:
the glory is the Lord's!

(Words: F. Pratt Green; Melody and Bass: Jeremiah Clarke (d. 1707))

Second Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18

God promises Abraham that his children will be blessed

Read by Daphne Arthur

Hymn 296: From heaven above

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2-7

The prophet foretells the birth of Christ

Read by Bruce Macrae

Hymn 294: Behold a rose is growing

Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 11: 1-9

Isaiah speaks of the peace that Christ will bring to the world

Read by Anne Friend

Hymn 293: Unto us a boy is born

*(During the hymn the Offering will be received and
the people remain standing for the prayer of Thanksgiving)*

Fifth Lesson; Luke 1: 26-38

The Angel Gabriel appears to the Virgin Mary

Read by Alan Chuck

Hymn 302: The angel Gabriel from heaven came

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

The birth of Jesus is described by St Luke

Read by Wendy Chuck

Hymn 268: Joy to the world!

Seventh Lesson: Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds journey to the manger

Read by James Pettit

Hymn 292: Infant holy,

Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2:1 -12

Three wise men follow the star and are led to Jesus

Read by Ruth Bartle

Choir: *Hush! my dear, Lie still and slumber*

Hush! my dear, lie still and slumber,
Holy Angels guard thy bed!
Heav'nly blessings without number
gently falling on thy head.
How much better thou'rt attended
than the Son of God could be,
when from Heaven He descended,
and became a child like thee!

Soft and easy is thy cradle:
coarse and hard thy Saviour lay,
when His birthplace was a stable
and His softest bed was hay.
See the kindly shepherds round Him,
telling wonders from the sky!
Where they sought Him, there they found Him,
with His Vigin-Mother by.

Lo, He slumbers in His manger,
where the meanest oxen fed;
peace my darling, here's no danger!
Here's no one a-near thy bed!
May'st thou live to know and fear Him,