



The Auburn Newsletter

Hawthorn Uniting Parish

Sunday 31st December 2017

Service Today

10am Worship Service

Rev Dr James Donaldson

Next Sunday

10am Worship Service

Rev Ivan Poole

Sunday Service

10 am weekly

Holy Communion:

monthly:

10 am: 3rd Sunday

Music in Liturgy:

monthly:

10 am: 4th Sunday

Morning Coffee

10.15am monthly

1st Thursday in the

Eileen Pawsey

Room

Church Council:

7.45 pm monthly

1st Wed in the

Pawsey Room

Church Lunch:

12 noon in the Hall

monthly 3rd Sunday

Craft Group:

2nd & 4th Tuesday

10am in the Music

Vestry.

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

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

Christmas 1

Organ prelude:

Greeting and Introduction

Hymn 303: *Hark the Herald Angels sing*

Call to Worship

Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.

Almighty God, and Father of light, a child is born for us and a son is given to us. Your Eternal Word came down from heaven in the silent watches of the night, and now your Church is filled with wonder at the nearness of her God.

Open our hearts to receive the new life in Christ and increase our vision, with the rising dawn of the incarnation; that our lives may be filled with his glory and his peace, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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Father God, when your precious Son became a tiny baby in a stable in Bethlehem in poverty and simplicity, you changed our world. As we imagine those surroundings, we join with the shepherds and the wise men in wonder and praise.

We thank you for our material lives, we praise you for our spiritual lives, and we trust in you for our eternal life.

Gracious God and Heavenly Father, we praise and glorify your Holy Name, for your great love shown to us in that first Christmas, in the birth of your Son our Saviour, Christ.

May the words of the hymns we sing; the message of the scriptures we hear; and the thoughts of the prayers we make, remind us of the One who came, and gave himself for us through grace and love; and who makes our living of our Christian faith possible.

Hymn 224: Joy to the world

Prayers of Praise Thanksgiving and Confession

Hymn 233: God rest you merry people all

Reading: Isaiah 61: 10 – 62: 3

Gospel Reading: St Luke 2: 22-40

Hymn 313: Good Christians all rejoice

Sermon

Offering

Offering Prayer (*Said together*)

**Glory be to You, O God, who has given us in Jesus;
your gift of love to a world in need. Forgive us, when our self-centredness leads us to concentrate upon ourselves and upon the material aspects of Christmas. Help us to focus upon Jesus, your gift of love, freely given to us. We offer you our gifts of love; these gifts of money, our time and our talents.
Take them and us, we pray, to bring glory to your name.**

Hymn 304: O Come all ye faithful. Verses 1,2, 3, ,6 and 7

Benediction

Organ Postlude

(You are invited to remain seated until the end of the postlude)

Reader: John Suriano

Next week: Alan Chuck

Genesis 1: 1-5;

Acts 19: 1-7;

Flowers: Wendy Chuck

Next week: Avril McHugh

Psalm 29;

Mark 1: 4-11;

Notices

Welcome to Rev James Donaldson, who is leading the service today.

The Auburn Seminar: All members of the congregation are invited to take part in a series of discussions on the future of the congregation, starting in February.

Early indications are that some are available to meet on a week-day afternoon and others say they can attend only at night. Sessions will be arranged accordingly.

A form indicating your preferred days and times will be provided in next Sunday's newsletter.

The seminar will require at least three sessions.