



# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

open doors ... open hearts ... open minds ...

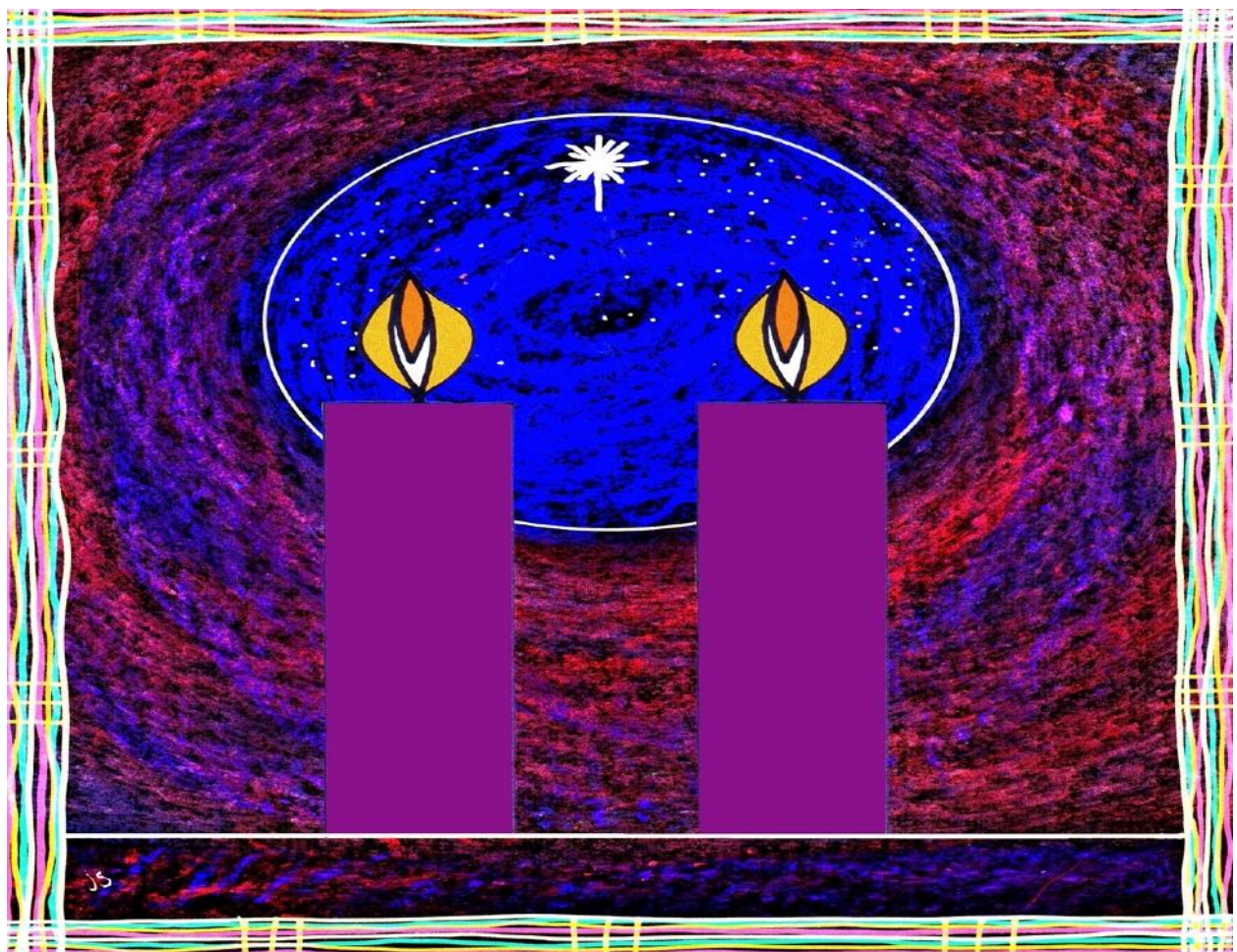
6 December 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

*A generous faith community—centred on Jesus, seeking wisdom for life and acting with compassion—in the heart of Grafton since 1842.*

Welcome to our worship this morning as we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Church year.

*President*                      The Revd Canon Camellia Flanagan, TSSF  
*Director of Music*        Mr Robert Eather



# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

## Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

### Introit

Cantors

*Conditor alme siderum* – Plainsong

### Invocation and Greeting

*The presiding minister greets the people.*

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

### Prayer of Approach

Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
born in David's city of Bethlehem,  
born like him to be a king:  
be born in our hearts at Christmas,  
be King of our lives today.  
Amen.

### The Advent Wreath: Second Sunday of advent

*Advent 2* [26 (A&M 2013)]

Cantors

Prophet voices loudly crying,  
making pathways clear;  
glimpsing glory, self-denying,  
calling all to hear.

Through their message – challenged, shaken –  
hearts awaken: God is near!

Today we light the first and second candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE.

*The candles are lit.*

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.” — Colossians 3:15

Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. **Amen.**

### **Prayers of Penitence at the Advent Wreath**

*Ukrainian Orthodox Kyrie Eleison [TIS 736]*

Cantors

Heavenly Father,  
you call us to repent of our sins:  
soften our proud and stubborn hearts.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you declared the forgiveness of God:  
teach us to forgive one another.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit,  
you search our hearts and show us the truth:  
direct us in your way of righteousness.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive us our sins,  
open our eyes to God’s truth,  
strengthen us to do God’s will  
and give us the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

Merciful God,  
you sent your messengers the prophets  
to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:  
give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,  
that we may greet with joy  
the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 85:1-2 & 8-13

Cantors

- 1 O Lord, you were gracious to your land:  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.*
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people:  
and covered all their sin.*
- 8 I will hear what the Lord God will speak:  
for he will speak peace to his people,  
to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.*
- 9 Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:  
and his glory shall dwell in our land.*
- 10 Mercy and truth are met together:  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;*
- 11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth:  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.*
- 12 The Lord will also give us all that is good:  
and our land shall yield its plenty.*
- 13 For righteousness shall go before him:  
and tread the path before his feet.*

## Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

*Alleluia.*

Cantors

*Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
and people shall see the salvation of God.*

*Alleluia.*

The Lord be with you  
and also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Sermon

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray that the good news of salvation may inspire the Church and all the world.

As you have given the message of hope to your people in all ages, fill the Church with zeal to proclaim the gospel of Christ that all may repent and live in peace. We pray for Murray our Bishop, Greg our Dean, Camellia our Priest and Grant our Deacon. Renew the baptism of all your people and send your Holy Spirit to guide us in your kingdom on earth.

**Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Make straight the crooked places of the world and lead the nations into the way of peace. Reveal your glory so that all people shall see it and become your own.

**Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Bless us, our families and friends, that we may seek the good and avoid the evil. Be close to those who do your work in obscurity and poverty. Give them the comfort of your presence and shield them from danger. We pray for those in need: Joy Baldwin, Gail Gilmore, Ruth Kingsley, Eileen Rogan, Jessie Usher and those carried in our hearts ... (*pause*) ...

**Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

We pray for those who have come out of the wilderness into new life thinking of Laurie Marchant. We also pray for those whose year's mind occurs this week: Eric Graham, Thomas Borton, Elsie Hale, Samantha Gray, and June Oxenford. Look upon them with eyes of mercy, counting them righteous through the love of Christ.

**Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Let us pray the Cathedral Prayer together:

**Living and eternal Christ bless the ministry of this Cathedral as a place of pilgrimage and prayer. May our doors always be open to pilgrims, may our hearts always be open to one another, and may our minds always be open to new truth. Draw us deeply into the mystery of your life, your death and your resurrection, now and always. Amen.**



# THE GREETING OF PEACE

## The president says

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. cf Luke 1.78 & 79

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
And also with you.

# THE OFFERTORY

## Hymn

Cantors

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry [TIS 270]**

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
come then and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings from the King of kings.*

*Then cleansed be every heart from sin;  
make straight the way for God within;  
prepare we in our hearts a home  
where such a mighty guest may come.*

*For you are our salvation, Lord  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without your grace we waste away  
like flowers that wither and decay.*

*To heal the sick stretch out your hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let your light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.*

*To him who left the throne of heaven  
to free us all, let praise be given;  
and praise be to the Father done,  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One.*

Charles Coffin 1676-1749 *tr.* John Chandler 1806-76 *alt.*

The gifts are brought to the Lord's Table.

As this bread was scattered  
and then gathered and made one,  
so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.

**Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

Wisdom has built her a house;  
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

**Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.  
Accept and use our offerings for your glory  
and for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our 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 by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary  
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross,  
and rising to new life,  
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,  
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

We thank you that when he shall come again  
in power and great triumph to judge the world,  
we may with joy behold his appearing,  
and in confidence stand before him  
who redeems us from sin and death  
and makes us heirs of everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name.  
for ever praising you and saying:

*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.*

Christ Church Mass (Philip Mathias)

Merciful God, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise.

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

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The celebrant breaks the bread.**

As this broken bread was once many grains,  
which have been gathered together and made one bread:  
**so may your Church be gathered  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

### **The celebrant says**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Holy things for holy people.  
Broken things for broken people.

## Communion Anthem

*Advent Message* – Martin How

## Notices

### THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

#### The president says

God for whom we wait,  
we thank you that you have fed us  
with the bread of life  
and the cup of salvation.  
As we joyfully await your Son,  
keep us ever watchful  
that we may be ready to stand before him  
on the day of his coming.

**Most loving God,  
you send us into the world you love.  
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit.**

#### Blessing

Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

#### Organ Postlude

*Chorale Prelude "Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her"*  
*BWV 700* – J S Bach

The order of service is according to *A Prayer Book for Australia*, copyright 1995, the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation; published under the imprint of Broughton Books, and reproduced with permission. Hymns are from *Together in Song*, and are reproduced with permission under CCLI Licence No. 1966. Some liturgical texts are from the *Common Worship* website of the Church of England. Used with permission. The prayers for the lighting of the Advent Wreath are by the Revd Matthew Kozlowski.

## **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

### **Sundays during Advent**

9.00am, Cathedral

### **13 December**

11.00am All Saints, Lawrence

### **20 December**

Organ Recital: Music for Advent & Christmas

**Wednesday 10.00am** services will continue until December 23 then pause until the first Wednesday in February.

### **Christmas Eve**

6.00pm Children's Service: Carols in the Cathedral Gardens

11.00pm Midnight mass

### **Christmas Day**

9.00am Eucharist

## **ORGAN MUSIC FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**

Since we cannot have our traditional Advent Carols & Lessons this year due to COVID restrictions we are arranging for a special organ recital on the evening of Sunday, 20 December with a program of Advent and Christmas music. The time has not yet been finalised, but make your plans to join us now: either in the Cathedral or online as we shall live stream the event for those not able to be present in Cathedral.

## **CAROLS IN THE CATHEDRAL GARDENS**

This year the Cathedral Children's Christmas Service with the blessing of the crib will be an outdoor carols service, with Bishop Murray Harvey. More details to follow, but note the time (6.00pm on Christmas Eve) and spread the word among family and friends.

**Cathedral Parish Directory**  
[www.graftoncathedral.org.au](http://www.graftoncathedral.org.au)

<b>The Dean</b>	The Very Revd Dr Gregory Jenks dean@graftoncathedral.org.au	0426 067 344
<b>Canon Pastor</b>	The Revd Canon Camellia Flanagan priest@graftoncathedral.org.au	0417 928 914
<b>Deacon</b>	The Reverend Grant Sparks deacon@graftoncathedral.org.au	0418 995 535
<b>Associate Minister Families &amp; Children)</b>	Mrs Leanne Harvey families@graftoncathedral.org.au	0402 278 323
<b>Director of Music</b>	Mr Robert Eather music@graftoncathedral.org.au	0458 093 292
<b>Parish Office</b>	Mr Roger Millard office@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 2844
<b>Cathedral Bookshop</b>	bookshop@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 3958
<b>Cathedral OpShop &amp; Pantry</b>	Mr John Adlington (OpShop) Mrs Moe Jones (Cathedral Pantry)	02 6642 1906

**Prayers for those in need**

Joy Baldwin  
 Cheryl Cook  
 Sue Cotter  
 Kathryn Douglas  
 Gail Gilmore  
 Gladys Gray

Brian Holley  
 Fay Kelly  
 Ruth Kingsley  
 Joan Marr  
 John McAnally

Kay Metcalfe  
 Eileen Rogan  
 Val Rogers  
 Muriel Shepherd  
 Tammy Uren  
 Jessie Usher

**Remembering those who have died**

**Recently departed:** Laurence Marchant

**Year's Mind:** Eric Graham, Thomas Borton, Elsie Hale, Samantha Gray, June Oxenford.

## Around the Parish this Week

- Today**                    **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
9.00am - Cathedral Live Online:  
<https://www.graftoncathedral.org.au/this-sunday>
- Weekdays**            **Morning Prayer & Evening Prayer** are said at 8.30am and 5.30pm every day except Sunday mornings. Join us by Zoom using this link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2379732870?pwd=eFRvaEpiWmJxaDZldDlkdVJiNm9Zdz09>
- Both the **Bookshop** and the **OpShop** have now re-opened. Other parish activities remain suspended, unless otherwise advised.
- Afterschool Kids Club:** This will resume after school returns in 2021.
- Wednesday worship:** 10.00am
- Cathedral Youth Group** meets on alternate Friday nights (6.00–8.00pm) . For details email [families@graftoncathedral.org.au](mailto:families@graftoncathedral.org.au).
- Please ensure that we have your **email address** and **mobile** number so we can reach out to you with information, news and pastoral support.
- If you need **pastoral care** or other support, please call either Dean Greg, Canon Camellia or Deacon Grant.
- PLEASE MAINTAIN HIGH LEVELS OF VIGILANCE AND PERSONAL HYGIENE AS WE SEEK TO LIMIT THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS**
- Next Sunday**            **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
9.00am - Cathedral Live Online:  
<https://www.graftoncathedral.org.au/this-sunday>  
11.00am - All Saints Church, Lawrence



*Please visit the Cathedral web site for the latest news, additional information, and the text of sermons as well as video recordings of many special moments in our life as a faith community: [www.graftoncathedral.org.au](http://www.graftoncathedral.org.au)*