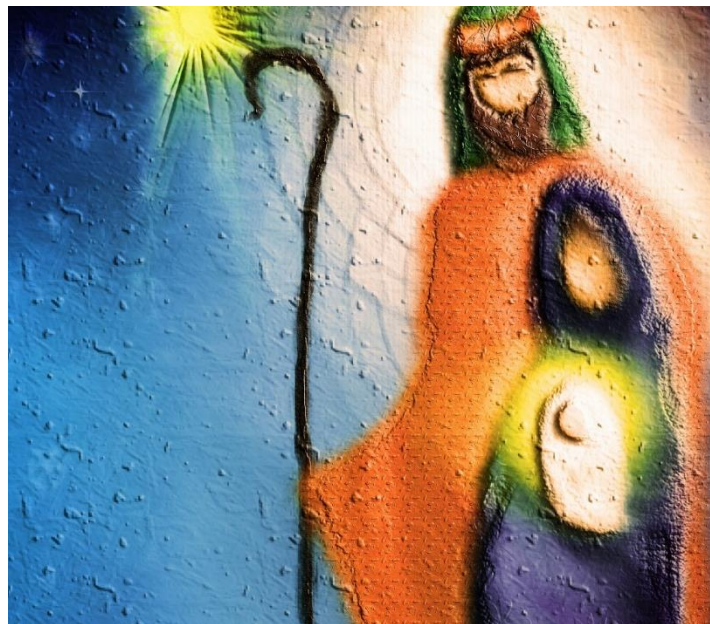


**WESLEY WELLINGTON**  
**75 Taranaki Street**  
[www.wesleychurch.org.nz](http://www.wesleychurch.org.nz)

**Christmas Eve Service**  
**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> 2022**

*Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia*  
*Welcome to this House of Prayer*



**We are a multi-racial Christian community:**  
**Methodist in affiliation – Ecumenical in intention**  
**Diverse in theology – Inclusive in outreach.**

**Kia ora koutou katoa — Talofa Lava**  
**Malo e lelei — Bula Vinaka Greetings to you all!**

**Order of Service - Combined Service  
Xmas Eve Service 2022**

**Worship leader – Rev Utumau’u Pupulu  
Organist – Vivien Chiu**

**Welcome and Safety Briefing  
Lighting of the Candles**

**Call to worship**

Sing, choirs of angels  
**Sing in exaltation**

Let the shepherds in the fields rejoice  
**Let the stars in the sky  
worship the newborn king**

For heaven has come down to earth  
**Salvation has come to our homes this day**

Sing, choirs of angels  
**Sing in exaltation.  
Amen.**

**Carol**

Samoan Choir

**Opening Prayer**

God of love, choirs of angels sang to your glory  
on the night of Jesus’s birth  
Open our mouths to sing your praise  
that we might join the heavenly chorus  
**As the shepherds left their sheep in the fields  
may we leave our cares behind  
that we too may find the hope of our salvation  
in the Christ child.**

On this most holy of nights  
may our worship befit the Prince of Peace  
who came to show us the depths of you love.  
**Amen.**

**Carol**

10am Singing group

**Leader: Gracious God,**

With joy and thanksgiving, we gather as your people.

We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth.

**In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts  
that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time.**

Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world.

Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts,

**"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God  
favours."**

**This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem.**

**Amen.**

**Carol: 'Joy to the world'**

H&P 77

**English**

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.

**Samoan**

Ia olioli tatou nei

Ua pule le Alii

Ia tatou pepese ma faafetai

Osana ia Iesu

Osana ia Iesu

Osana, Osana ia Iesu

**Fijian**

Ni drodro tu na uciwai,

Se tubu mai na co,

Sai Kemuni sa dau lewa

Me vaka tu oqo,

Me vaka tu oqo,

Me vaka, vaka tu oqo.

## **Tongan**

‘Ofa ka ko ha ‘ofa e,  
Ho’ ‘ofa kia au.  
‘Ofa ne ‘ikai ke mamae, ‘Ofa ne fai ke a’u,  
Koe’uhi pe ko au!  
Koe’uhi pe ko au!  
Koe’uhi, koe’uhi pe ko au!

## **English**

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, and wonders of his love.      - *Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

## **Prayer:**

Rev Nicola Teague Grundy

Faithful God, your light has sustained generations of the faithful through darkness, despair, and confusion. Come and bless us by your Holy Spirit, as we gather to celebrate the Advent of the incarnate Light of Life, the birth of Christ, the Saviour of the World.

As Good News was proclaimed in the darkness of night, so speak your Word to us again tonight. As peace on earth was proclaimed to shepherds abiding their sheep on the hillsides, so grant your peace to us wherever we find ourselves residing this evening. As messengers proclaimed your favour to all creation, so may we rejoice in your favour upon us, for you have made us in your image, reconciled us in Christ, and are restoring us in his image by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

God of love open our eyes to the light of Christ which glows in the darkness of a world engulfed in apathy, pain and loss; a world separated from you. Speak to us now that we may hear the good news of your salvation. Bring us into the wonder of your presence.

Fill us with that light and carry it out with us into our lives. Amen.

## **Carol: Tongan Choir**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

**Silence: Moment of Peace**

**Prayer:**

Rev Simote Taunga

Gracious Lord be the God of our Christmas celebration. We rejoice with the shepherds over the good news of Jesus' birth. We join in the praises of the angelic choir, saying: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favours!"

Almighty God, you have favoured us with the greatest gift ever given--your only begotten Son, light of true light, God of true God. May we never take this your gift for granted; may our songs of praise never fade, and may we treasure it in our hearts always and forever. Bless all of us here gathered in worship as well as our loved ones at home. May peace and joy ring in our hearts and reverberate through our communities tonight in the name of Jesus the new-born King. Amen.

**Carol: Fijian Choir**

**Reading: Psalm 96 God the Supreme King**

Samoan

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples. For great is

the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Honour and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts. Worship the Lord in holy splendour; tremble before him, all the earth. Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity." Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

### **Silence: Moment of Thanks**

#### **Prayer:**

Rev Nicola Teague Grundy

Gracious God, creator and lover of the universe, be born in us again, as you were born long ago. Be born in us as you continue to be born again and again in the words and deeds of faithful people. Be born in us as light, As hope, as joy, as peace, as love, as justice. Be born in us so that we may be the body of Christ in this time and this place.

Shine in our hearts and bring us to the manger with such longing for your love, bathed in the light of Hope. Remind us that you are our Hope and that through you will come Peace which will reign in our hearts forever.

**Amen.**

#### **Carol: 'O little town of Bethlehem.....'**

**H&P 113**

1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.
2. O morning stars together,  
proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,

and peace to all the earth!  
For Christ is born of Mary,  
and gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.

3. How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous Gift is given!;  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of His Heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still,  
the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today!  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

*Phillips Brooks (1835-93)*

**Reading: Titus 2: 11-14 A loyal Soldier of Christ**

Tongan

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

**Silence: Moment of Confession**

**Prayer:**

Rev Simote Taunga

Christ among us, Light of the World, heal our brokenness, and bring us to wholeness, ease our pain, and bring us hope, strength, and life. Give us new heart, new hope, and a new song, that our prayers and deeds may be one. We ask it in your name. **Amen.**

1. **English**

O come all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him,  
Born the King of angels:  
    O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
    O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. **Tongan**

Ko e 'Otou,  
Tupu mei 'Otua;  
Na'e 'ikai ngaohi kae fakatupu mai  
Maama ne ulo:  
    Mei he Maama mu'a, Mou omi ke tau lotu,  
    Mou omi ke tau lotu, Mou omi ke tau lotu, mo fakafeta'i.

3. **Fijian**

Kalou dina sara,  
Vu ni lagilagi,  
Yaco me vakataki keda oqo:  
Luve i Tamana,  
Sega ni ka buli.  
    Mai vakarokoroko, Mai vakarokoroko,  
    Mai vakarokoroko vei Karisito.

4. **Samoan**

Tonu viiga  
A le au agelu,  
Ave viiga i le Tupu o le Lagi,  
Faamanu atu  
I lana Afioga  
    O mai, tatou lotu, O mai, tatou lotu,  
    O mai, tatou lotu ma faafetai.

5. **English**

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation;



O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God,

all glory in the highest;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

**Reading: Luke 2:1-15 The Birth of Jesus**

10am

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!" As the angel choir withdrew into heaven, the shepherders talked it over. "Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us."

**Silence: Moment of Hope**

**Prayer:**

**Loving God, thank you for this night and for all it represents. Thank you for the hope you bestow, the peace you bring, the love you pour out, and the joy you give. We praise you most of all for Jesus, your Word**

**made flesh. May he light our way as the holy star lit the way for the wise men. Amen**

**CAROL: ‘Silent night, holy night ....’**

*H&P Tune: Stille Nacht*

**1. English**

Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin, mother and child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

**2. Fijian**

Bogi buto, mai vei co  
Sipi e ra moce no  
Agilosu sa rairai,  
Vakatawa yadra mai  
Na mesaia sa sucu  
Luve ni kalo

**3. Samoan**

Po paia, Po filemu  
Ua fanau mai Iesu  
I le fale o manu  
I Peteleema le nu’u  
Na iloa ai le fetu  
Ua fanau mai Iesu

**4. Tongan**

Po malu, ko si’i po  
Hifo ai e ‘Alo  
Mele mo Sosefo na mamata  
Fanautama ‘a tangata  
‘Oi Si’ene totofa  
‘Oi Si’ene totofa

5. **English**

Silent night, holy night  
Son of God love's pure light  
Radiance beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus Lord at thy birth  
Jesus Lord at thy birth

*Joseph Mohr*

**Closing Message**

Rev Utumau'u Pupulu

**Carol: 'Hark! The herald angels sing'**

H&P 106

1. Hark! The herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King,  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful, all you nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
    Hark! The herald angels sing  
    Glory to the newborn King.
  
2. Christ by highest heaven adored;  
Christ the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time, behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Please with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus our Immanuel.  
    Hark! The herald angels sing  
    Glory to the newborn King.
  
3. Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise the ones of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.

## **Benediction**

Walk in darkness no longer  
**We will walk in the light of Christ**  
Sing of Christ's birth with the choirs of angels  
**We will sing with the heavenly host**  
Go and proclaim the good news  
**Jesus Christ is Born.**  
**Amen.**

## **The Grace**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all,  
Amen.**

**HAVE A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS  
FROM US ALL AT WESLEY CHURCH**