

## ***WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD***

Voluntary: i) Chorale Prelude on "Vom Himmel hoch"     Johann Pachelbel  
                  ii) Pastorale     Domenico Zipoli

### **Call to Worship**

“But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman,  
born under the law...”     *Galatians 4:4*

**Hymn**: 320 Joy to the world

*Antioch*

1. 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.
  
2. Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
  
3. 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, wonders of His love.

***We bring to God our prayers and  
The Lord's Prayer***

**Our Father,  
Which art in heaven  
Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in 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,  
forever.  
Amen**

***We hear the Word of God***

Old Testament:           **I Samuel 2:18-20, 26**  
                                  *(Read By Lawrence Hall)*

<sup>18</sup> Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy girded with a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup> And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup> Then Eli would bless Elka'nah and his wife, and say, "The Lord give you children by this woman for the loan which she lent to the Lord"; so then they would return to their home.

<sup>27</sup> And there came a man of God to Eli, and said to him, "Thus the Lord has said, 'I revealed myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt subject to the house of Pharaoh.

Amen

**Children's Time**

***We respond to God's Word with our Offering***  
*(Children invited to help with the Offering)*

Offertory: The Holy Boy

John Ireland

**Prayer**

*Children leave for Crèche and Sunday Club*

1. Of the Father's love begotten  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.
2. By His word was all created;  
He commanded: it was done;  
Heaven and earth and depths of ocean,  
Universe of three in one;  
All that sees the moon's soft shining,  
All that breathes beneath the sun,  
Evermore and evermore.
3. O that birth for ever blessèd,  
When the Virgin, full of grace,  
By the Spirit's power conceiving,  
Born the Saviour of our race,  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
First revealed His sacred face,  
Evermore and evermore.
4. This is He Whom seers and sages  
Sang of old with one accord,  
Whom the voices of the prophets  
Promised in their faithful word;  
Now He shines, the long-expected;  
Let creation praise its Lord,  
Evermore and evermore.
5. All the heights of heaven, adore Him;  
Angel hosts, His praises sing;  
Powers, dominions bow before Him,  
And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore.

6. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,  
And, O Holy Ghost to Thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,  
And unwearied praises be,  
Honour, glory, and dominion,  
And eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore.

***We bring to God our Prayers of Confession***

***We hear the Word of God***

New Testament:           **Colossians 3:12-17**

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Amen

**Intimations**

**Hymn:** 317 Before the world began

*Incarnation*

- 1           Before the world began  
          one Word was there;  
          grounded in God he was,  
          rooted in care;  
          by him all things were made,  
          in him was love displayed,  
          through him God spoke and said  
          'I am for you'.

2 Life found in him its source,  
death found its end;  
light found in him its course,  
darkness its friend;  
for neither death nor doubt  
nor darkness can put out  
the glow of God, the shout  
'I am for you'.

3 The Word was in the world  
which from him came;  
unrecognised he was,  
unknown by name;  
one with all humankind,  
with the unloved aligned,  
convincing sight and mind  
'I am for you'.

4 All who received the Word,  
by God were blessed,  
sisters and brothers they  
of earth's fond guest.  
So did the Word of grace  
proclaim in time and space,  
and with a human face,  
'I am for you'.

Sermon

## **Clothing**

*We bring to God our prayers  
of Thanksgiving and Intercession*

1. Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*Come and worship*  
*Christ, the new-born King.*  
*Come and worship,*  
*worship Christ, the new-born King.*
  
2. Shepherds in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant Light:  
*Come and worship*  
*Christ, the new-born King.*  
*Come and worship,*  
*worship Christ, the new-born King.*
  
3. Wise men, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:  
*Come and worship*  
*Christ, the new-born King.*  
*Come and worship,*  
*worship Christ, the new-born King.*
  
5. Though an infant now we view him,  
he will share his Father's throne,  
gather all the nations to him;  
every knee shall then bow down:  
*Come and worship*  
*Christ, the new-born King.*  
*Come and worship,*  
*worship Christ, the new-born King.*

6 All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising  
to the eternal Three in One:  
*Come and worship*  
*Christ, the new-born King.*  
*Come and worship,*  
*worship Christ, the new-born King.*

**Benediction and Threefold Amen**

Voluntary: Variations sur "In dulci júbilo"

Denis Bédard