



ST STEPHEN'S UNITING CHURCH

197 Macquarie St, Sydney

An Oasis of Christian Worship, Thought and Action

Minister: Position Vacant

Director of Music: Mark Quarmby

Choral Conductor: Dr David Hood

Organ Scholar: Joshua Ryan



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www.ssms.org.au

18 January 2015 – 10.00 am

Epiphany 2

led by David Gill

This morning we welcome members of the Combined Churches
Messiah Choir and their conductor, Peter Kneeshaw.



The Gathering of the People of God

Organ Prelude

'Intrada' from 'Miniature Suite for Organ'

John Ireland (1879 - 1962)

Greeting

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

Call to Worship

Hymn 127 *Holy God, we praise your name* (Großer Gott)

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

...This is the Gospel.

Thanks be to God.

Doxology 772 *Worship, honour, glory, blessing* (Austria)



Wor - ship, ho - nour, glo - ry, bless ing, Lord we of - fer
to your name; young and old, their praise ex - press - ing,
join your good - ness to pro - claim. As the saints in
heaven a - dore you, we should bow be - fore your throne;
as your ang - els serve be - fore you,
so on earth your will be done.

Passing of the Peace

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

The Service of the Word

Reflection

Hymn

When in our music, God is glorified (Engelberg)



- 1 When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried,
"Alleluia!"
- 2 How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound
"Alleluia!"
- 3 So has the church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue:
"Alleluia!"
- 4 And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the Light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
"Alleluia!"
- 5 Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always,
"Alleluia!"

Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet:

A light to our path.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-9

1 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. **2** The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. **3** His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; **4** but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. **5** Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. **6** The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. **7** The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. **8** The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. **9** They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

First Chorus

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Isaiah 40:5

Second Reading

St Luke 2:1-14

1 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** All went to their own towns to be registered. **4** 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. **5** He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. **6** While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. **7** 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. **8** In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9** Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **10** 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: **11** to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. **12** This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, **14** "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

Second Chorus

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.

Luke 2: 14

Third Reading

Isaiah 53:1-6

1 Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? **2** For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. **3** He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. **4** Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. **5** But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. **6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Third Chorus

Surely He hath borne our griefs

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows! He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

Isaiah 53: 4-5

Fourth Reading

Revelation 21:1-7

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; **4** he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." **5** And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." **6** Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. **7** Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Lord, may your word live in us:

And bear much fruit to your glory.

Fourth Chorus

Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. **Revelation 19:6**
The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord,
and of His Christ: and He shall reign for ever and ever. **Revelation**
11:15 KING OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS. **Revelation 19:16**

Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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.**

Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 380 *Thine be the glory* (Maccabæus)

Blessing

... and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ.

Threefold Amen

Organ Postlude

1st Movement from Sonata No. 1 in C sharp minor

Basil Harwood (1859 -1949)

Adapted from *Uniting in Worship 2* (2005)
Bible Readings taken from the *New Revised Standard Version* (1989)