

The Anglican Church of Australia  
Diocese of Wangaratta

## The Parish of Kilmore

with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook

**21st December 2014**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**



**HYMNS: 269, 161, 295 [Tune 83], 279, 273**

*Welcome to any guests to our worship  
please stay and enjoy hospitality with us after the service.*



*The Annunciation*

*Introit hymn*

Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

We are the body of Christ

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*All may exchange a sign of peace*

## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

We have lit three candles: one for hope, one for peace, and one for joy. Today we light the fourth candle—the candle of love. With this flame we signify the love of God that surrounds and fills us at all times, but that we recognise in a special way in the Christmas story. There is no greater power than love. It is stronger than rulers and empires, stronger than grief or despair, stronger even than death. We love, because God loves us.

***[The fourth candle, the candle of Love is lit.]***

[All Sing]

*O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*



**[The people are invited to join in the dialogue responses.]**

Loving God, we open ourselves to you in this Christmas season.

**As this candle is lit, light our lives with your imagination.**□

Show us the creative power of hope;□

**teach us the peace that comes from justice.** □

Fill us with joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared;□

**magnify your love within us.**□

Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,□

**that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

May we know the hope, the peace, the joy, the love, and the certain knowledge□

**that God is always coming into the world.** □

We will seek God, not in a long ago stable or ancient manger,

**but in the people we meet and the depths of our own hearts.**□

May the blessing of Christmas make you a blessing to others;

□may the peace of the season pervade all that you do.□

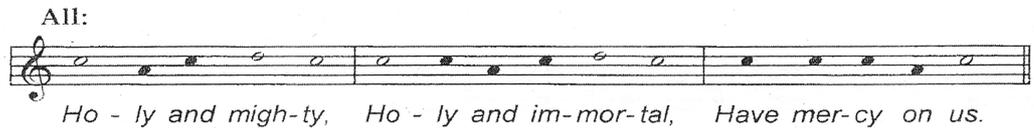
**We will welcome the challenge of discipleship.**

*The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book*

## **SENTENCE**

This child will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. *Luke 1.32–33.*

# Trisagion



## THE COLLECT

Gracious God, whose eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will: prepare our hearts for his coming again and keep us steadfast in hope, that we may be ready for the coming of his kingdom; for his sake, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

**2 Samuel 7.1-11,16**

*A reading from the second book of Samuel*

King David was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him. He said to Nathan the prophet, ‘Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.’ Nathan replied to the king, ‘Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you.’ But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying: ‘Go and tell my servant David, “This is what the Lord says: are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’” ‘Now then, tell my servant David, “This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people shall not oppress them any more, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. “The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: Your house and your kingdom shall endure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.”’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**For the PSALM**

**The Magnificat 161**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans*

Paul writes, 'Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith – to the only wise God be glory for ever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Here I am, the servant | of the Lord;

let it be with me according | to your word.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!****GOSPEL****Luke 1.26-38***A reading from the holy gospel according to John***Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, let your will be done with us according to your word, that we might be vessels of your Presence, eager to pray, and swift to proclaim your power in our lives.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

O God, in days to come your house will be established upon your holy mountain, and your joy shall reign. We pray for all in your church as we prepare to meet the coming of the redeemer; we pray for all who minister in your name; for John our Bishop and our parish, that you might teach us your ways and we walk in your paths.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, for those who would seek power through terror; for all who are traumatised and dismayed by the Sydney seige, for the families of the dead and all who mourn; for Moslems facing retribution; for the people of Pakistan dealing with the atrocity of Taleban extremism, and the families of the 120 children slaughtered; we pray your peace be made manifest in every corner of the earth.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In your kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear for in you all things are possible; we pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind, for the homeless and the unemployed, all in need and we pray for those on our hearts and those who have requested prayer;

**Request for prayer from:** *Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Alex Impols, Cathy Moseley, & Melissa & family, Seth Gunther, Cliff & Gwen Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Tom Scrivens, Dianne Mitsakis, Gavin Linard, Rose & Paige Linard, and Anna & Keith Linard, Mark Bennetts, Barry Watts, Lidia, Katie, Abraham & Anne Formosa, Peter Jones, Lillian, Franca Caia*

that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and bring relief to all who suffer.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In the fulness of time, O God, you sent your son, born of our sister Mary, to come among us as our Emmanuel; we thank you for your Presence with us, and we commend to you the recently departed and those who years mind;

**Year's mind:** *23rd Kevin Elson, McGregor Kean, Edie Pattinson, Rick Calliste; 24th Edna Moore, Kathy Hincks, John Kirby; 25th Christine Marshall, Alan Tomlinson; 27th Wilby Milburn, Alice Hughes.*

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord, **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

Loving God - as we approach the day of Christ's birth hear us as we pray for ourselves....; help us to throw wide the doors of our hearts in preparation and to sense the importance of what happened so long ago when Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel; to remember the words of the angels and the prophets and the teachers of old, and to celebrate all the promises that you made through them; and that even now you are seeking to work in us and through us to fulfill those same promises.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

Accept our prayers in the name of the one for whom we wait, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray... **Our Father in heaven.... [pg 124].**

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### **Post communion prayer**

God of new beginnings, you draw near to us in word and sacrament to strengthen and renew us; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit, may your light so shine through us that all may be ready to welcome your Son at his coming.

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### **Reflections on the Readings**

The Annunciation and the Magnificat are at the heart of this week's worship. Mary's experience of becoming the mother of the Coming One is revealed to be not just about her giving birth to a child, but about her participating in bringing a whole new world to birth. The light of God's Reign radiates through the stories associated with Advent 4, most especially the Magnificat which expresses the justice and peace that Mary's child will bring. And so, this week, as we finish our time of preparation, we discover that we're not just waiting for a person – however divine he may be. We're waiting for a radically new way of being that embraces not just Jesus, or those involved in his birth, but the entire cosmos! And as we sing of the glory of God found in the Christ child, let us enter into the subversiveness of this radical story of God infiltrating the world to bring to us freedom, and grace, and fresh opportunity to embrace the passion of God for the whole world. Let there be peace on earth and good will to all.

*Adapted from John van de Laar (2014) [www.sacredise.com](http://www.sacredise.com)*

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# Notices

**\*\*Tonight\*\* Festival of Carols at Christ Church 6.30 pm** preceded by a BBQ at 5.00pm. Meat will be provided, please bring salads to share. The children from Church 4 Kids, will be dressing up and assisting with the nativity and singing and need to be there by 5.30pm to get costumes and instruments. Please invite families, neighbours and friends to come and sing carols and hear again the Christmas story. People needed to assist as welcomers, to help with the BBQ or help dress the children - please see Fr Kim or Caroline.

## **Festival of Lessons and Carols Raffle**

We are having a raffle (Christmas basket of goodies, preserves and wine, and small basket of toiletries) to raise funds to assist with costs and for the Christmas Bowl Appeal. Tickets are \$1 each. Your support is needed and your generosity appreciated. Tickets available at the back of Christ Church and Fr Kim has tickets for other centres.

**Missing!** The embroidered altar cloth from Christ Church has been missing for the last few years - if anyone knows where it is or has taken it to wash and forgotten about it, please can you check and return or let us know. Also missing are two large fly netting food covers. Again, thanks if these have possibly been taken home to wash but it would be great to have them back now summer is here. Thank you – Caroline.

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## Opportunities to celebrate at Christmas Services

Wednesday 24 December	11.30pm	Midnight Mass	St Matthews, Broadford
Thursday 25 December	9.00am	Christmas Mass	Christ Church, Kilmore
	11.00am	Christmas Mass	St Stephens, Tallarook
	4.00pm	Christmas Mass	Transfiguration, Pyalong

### Parish life this week

Fourth week of December – *It's Christmas!*

Wednesday 24th 11.30pm Midnight Mass, St Matthews

Thursday 25th 9.00am Christmas Mass Christ Church

11.00am Christmas Mass St Stephens

4.00pm Christmas Mass Transfiguration

Friday 26th **[STEPHEN, DEACON & MARTYR]**

10.00am Christmas Mass Willowmeade

Op Shop Closed

Saturday 27th **[JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST]**

Op Shop, Closed

### SERVICES

**Next Sunday: 28th December 2014 – First Sunday after Christmas**

Isaiah 61.10-62.3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4.4-7; Luke 2.22-40

Christ Church	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11.00am	Morning Prayer
St Stephens	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration	4.00pm	No service this day

### Parish Clergy:

**Rector** Revd Dr Kim Benton 9 Union Street Kilmore 3764 Ph 5782 1155  
m 0407569343; [kim@revkim.org](mailto:kim@revkim.org)

**Priest (PTO)** Fr John Young 9/40 Powlett St Broadford 3658  
Ph 5784 2224

PO Box 289 Kilmore 3764

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