



# St Ives Uniting Church

29 December 2024

## Christmas 1

**Call to worship and welcome**

**Hymn:** 303 Hark the herald angels sing

**Prayer of adoration**

**Responsive reading:** Psalm 148

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord.

**Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights above.**

<sup>2</sup> Praise him, all his angels;  
**praise him, all his heavenly hosts.**

<sup>3</sup> Praise him, sun and moon;  
**praise him, all you shining stars.**

<sup>4</sup> Praise him, you highest heavens  
**and you waters above the skies.**

<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
**for at his command they were created,**

<sup>6</sup> and he established them for ever and ever—  
**he issued a decree that will never pass away.**

<sup>7</sup> Praise the Lord from the earth,  
**you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,**

<sup>8</sup> lightning and hail, snow and clouds,  
**stormy winds that do his bidding,**

<sup>9</sup> you mountains and all hills,  
**fruit trees and all cedars,**

<sup>10</sup> wild animals and all cattle,  
**small creatures and flying birds,**

<sup>11</sup> kings of the earth and all nations,

**you princes and all rulers on earth,**  
<sup>12</sup> young men and women,  
**old men and children.**  
<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
**his splendour is above the earth and the heavens.**  
<sup>14</sup> And he has raised up for his people a horn,  
**the praise of all his faithful servants,**  
**his chosen people, the people close to his heart.**  
**Praise the Lord.**

## **Prayer of confession**

### **Assurance of forgiveness**

Hear Christ's word of grace, "Your sins are forgiven".

**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn:** 123 Be still my soul

## **Notices**

Lawrence Peak

## **Bible readings:**

### **Luke 2:41-52**

Rob Mayrick

<sup>41</sup> Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. <sup>43</sup> After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. <sup>44</sup> Thinking he was in their company, they travelled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup> When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. <sup>46</sup> After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup> When his parents saw him,

they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

<sup>49</sup> "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>51</sup> Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

For the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### **Colossians 3:12-17**

Shirley Luttrell

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

<sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

<sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

For the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon:** Chosen people

**Hymn:** 276 There's a light upon the mountains

**Offering**

**Offering response:** 768 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

**Prayers of intercession and the Lord's prayer**

**Hymn:** 569 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

**Prayer for the new year**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude**

**Organist**

Jim Abraham