



# St Ives Uniting Church

## Christmas Day 2021

### Welcome and lighting of the Christ Candle

Hymn: TiS 304 O Come all ye faithful (verses 1,2,6,7)

### Prayers of adoration and confession

#### Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace to us:

'Your sins are forgiven.'

**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: TiS 319 Child in the manger

### Bible readings

#### **Isaiah 9:2-7**

Beth Dulin

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

<sup>3</sup> You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest,  
as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For as in the day of Midian's defeat,  
you have shattered the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

<sup>5</sup> Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood  
will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Luke 2:1-14**

Hazel Ruskin

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register.

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**: A Christmas to remember

**Hymn**: TiS 313 Good Christians all rejoice

**Offering and prayer**

**Prayer for others**

**The Lord's prayer**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as 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 forever.  
Amen.

**Hymn**: TiS 268 Joy to the world

**Christmas blessing**

**Postlude**

**Organist**

**John Hughes**

