



**Highland
International
Church
Inverness**

Sunday 20th December 2020

Highland International Church

Welcome & Notices

Welcome to our YouTube live-stream service:

<https://youtu.be/F4r6hBA5JpU>

HIC 10.00 am YouTube service (direct link):

[CLICK HERE](#)

HIC YouTube Channel:

[CLICK HERE](#)

HIC Website:

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HIC Facebook page:

[CLICK HERE](#)

HIC Sunday sermons (2016-2020):

[CLICK HERE](#)

- **Sunday 20th December** (today)

10.00am – **Morning Service** – YouTube live-stream

7.00pm – **Evening Communion Service** – in
**Smithton Church, Murray Road,
Smithton, IV2 7YU.**

For all 37 who have booked in to attend.

- **Thursday 24th December** (Christmas Eve)

7.00pm – We meet as a church family by Zoom for
a **Christmas Eve** special gathering.

- **Friday 25th December** (Christmas Day)

This year we won't be holding a **Christmas Day** service.

- **Sunday 27th December** (next Sunday)

James will be on holiday next Sunday 27th December. Once again, we have been invited to join with our brothers and sisters in Ealing IPC Church in London. The service is at **6.00pm** and is a YouTube live-stream. You can join in using this internet link:

[**https://www.youtube.com/c/ipcealing**](https://www.youtube.com/c/ipcealing)

Order of today's 10.00 am service

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Call to worship

“Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvellous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music.”

Psalm 98 v 1 – 4

1. JOY HAS DAWNED UPON THE WORLD,

Promised from creation:
God's salvation now unfurled,
Hope for every nation.
Not with fanfares from above,
Not with scenes of glory.
But a humble gift of love:
Jesus born of Mary.

2. Sounds of wonder fill the sky
With the songs of angels,
As the mighty Prince of Life
Shelters in a stable.

Hands that set each star in place,
Shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother's breast,
Vulnerable and helpless.

3. Shepherds bow before the Lamb,
Gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands
Prophecy the story.
Gold, a King is born today,
Incense, God is with us,
Myrrh, His death will make a way,
And by His blood He'll win us.

4. Son of Adam, Son of heaven,
Given as a ransom,
Reconciling God and man,
Christ our mighty Champion.
What a Saviour, what a Friend,
What a glorious mystery:
Once a babe in Bethlehem,
Now the Lord of history.

***What a Saviour, what a Friend,
What a glorious mystery:
Once a babe in Bethlehem,
Now the Lord of history.***

Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (said together)

[MATTHEW CH.6, V.9-13, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION © 2011]

*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.

*And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.*

*For yours is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever.*

Amen.

Video: “The First Christmas Song”

1. **SILENT NIGHT! HOLY NIGHT!**

all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin, mother and child:
holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace;
sleep in heavenly peace!

2. Silent night! holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glory streams from heaven afar:
heavenly hosts sing: '*Hallelujah,*
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.'

3. Silent night! holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light:
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

JOSEPH FRANZ MOHR & JOHN FREEMAN YOUNG
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Bible reading (New International Version)

Luke 2 v 1 – 7

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ 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. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ 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.

(A) The Purpose of God's Providence

1. **SEE HIM LYING ON A BED OF STRAW:**

a draughty stable with an open door;
Mary cradling the babe she bore-
the Prince of glory is his name.

***O now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord appear to men:
just as poor as was the stable then,
the Prince of glory when he came.***

2. Star of silver, sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies;
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the Saviour of the world!

O now carry me to Bethlehem ...

3. Angels, sing again the song you sang,
bring God's glory to the heart of man,
sing that Beth'lem's little baby can
be salvation to the soul.

O now carry me to Bethlehem ...

4. Mine are riches, from your poverty,
from your innocence, eternity;
mine, forgiveness by your death for me,
child of sorrow for my joy.

O now carry me to Bethlehem ...

MICHAEL PERRY © MRS B PERRY / JUBILATE HYMNS
[PRAISE 374]

Bible reading (New International Version) **Luke 2 v 8 – 16**

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to 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. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.’*

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

¹⁴ *‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.’*

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, *‘Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.’*

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

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(B) The Proclamation of God's Gospel

1. **O COME, ALL YOU UNFAITHFUL;**
come, weak and unstable
Come, know you are not alone
2. O come, barren and waiting ones,
weary of praying
Come, see what your God has done

***Christ is born,
Christ is born,
Christ is born for you***

3. O come, bitter and broken,
come with fears unspoken
Come, taste of His perfect love
4. O come, guilty and hiding ones,
there is no need to run
See what your God has done

***Christ is born,
Christ is born,
Christ is born for you***

[BRIDGE]

HE'S THE LAMB WHO WAS GIVEN, SLAIN FOR OUR PARDON
HIS PROMISE IS PEACE FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE

HE'S THE LAMB WHO WAS GIVEN, SLAIN FOR OUR PARDON
HIS PROMISE IS PEACE FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE

5. So come, though you have nothing,
come, He is the offering
Come, see what your God has done

SEE ISAIAH. 1:18; IS. 42:1-3; IS. 55:1-3; MATTHEW. 1:21;
MT. 11:28-30; MT. 12:18-20; ROMANS 5:8; REVELATION. 5:12

MUSIC AND WORDS BY BOB KAUFMAN AND LISA CLOW
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(C) The Praise of God's Glory

1. HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING,

*'Glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!'*

Joyful, all you nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,

'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King!'

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King!'

3. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail, the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild, he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die;
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King!'

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Closing Benediction

*The grace of the **Lord Jesus Christ**
and the love of **God**
and the fellowship of the **Holy Spirit**
be with us all. Amen.*

“It seems, then,” said Tirian, smiling himself, “that the stable seen from within and the stable seen from without are two different places.”

“Yes,” said the Lord Digory. “Its inside is bigger than its outside.”

“Yes,” said Queen Lucy. “In our world too, a stable once had something inside it that was bigger than our whole world.”

**C S LEWIS,
THE LAST BATTLE**

