



**Highland
International
Church
Inverness**

Sunday 13th December 2020

Highland International Church

Welcome & Notices

Welcome to our YouTube live-stream service:

<https://youtu.be/BJx6HJqx7W4>

HIC 10.00 am YouTube service (direct link):

[CLICK HERE](#)

HIC YouTube Channel:

[CLICK HERE](#)

HIC Website:

[CLICK HERE](#)

HIC Facebook page:

[CLICK HERE](#)

HIC Sunday sermons (2016-2020):

[CLICK HERE](#)

- **Sunday 13th December** (today)

10.00am – **Morning Service** – YouTube live link

7.00pm – **Evening Service** – in **Smithton Church, Murray Road, Smithton, IV2 7YU**. For all 35 who have booked in to attend.

- **Thursday 17th December** at 7.30pm

We meet as a church family by Zoom for **Bible study** and **prayer**.

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

10.00 am – **Morning Service** – YouTube live link

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

If you would like to attend our second ‘in-person’ evening Communion service next *Sunday 20th December* at 7.00pm then please phone / text / email Peter Humphris by this coming **Thursday 17th December**. Thank you!

(**01463 791782 / 07796 593 950 / peter@humphris.co.uk**)

*[A Risk Assessment has been carried out and approved. All necessary COVID-19 safety measures and restrictions will be observed and we have been given exclusive use of the Smithton Church Coffee Lounge/Hall. However, **we need to know who is coming before each Sunday** so that seats can be allocated for Track & Trace requirements.]*

Order of today's 10.00 am service

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Call to worship

'I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no Saviour. I have revealed and saved and proclaimed –

I, and not some foreign god among you.

You are my witnesses,' declares the LORD,

'that I am God.'

Isaiah 43 v 11, 12

1. **ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY**
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.
2. He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all;
and his shelter was a stable
and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor and meek and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3. And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child, so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above:
and he leads his children on to
the place where he is gone.

4. Not in that poor lowly stable
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high:
there his children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

CECIL FRANCIS ALEXANDER © PUBLIC DOMAIN

ARRANGED BY JOSH LUCAS

[PRAISE 372]

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.*

Bible reading (New International Version)

Genesis 50 v 15 – 21

¹⁵ When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “*What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?*” ¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, “*Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ ‘This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.’ Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.*”

When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “*We are your slaves,*” they said.

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “*Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.*”

And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

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**Chat with
the children**



Someone is coming!

1. A LONG, LONG TIME AGO

When Adam and Eve had sinned
The Lord God made a promise
That sin would never win

2. He would send a serpent crusher
Who would beat sin and death
So we could live in the garden
And have eternal rest

That was his promise

Long ago

Would he keep his promise?

The people really hoped so

Many years passed

But the King didn't show-oh

You know he didn't show-oh

So they hung on to

The only thing they ever knew

God always keeps his promises

God always does what he says

God always keeps his promises

So we can trust in him

Yeah, we can trust in him.

3. A long, long time ago
The prophet Malachi did say
The Lord God makes a promise
That he will win the day

4. He will come and bring great justice
And make a people for his own
He will send a special prophet
Who will change hearts of stone

***That was his promise
Long ago
Would he keep his promise?
The people really hoped so***

***Many years passed
But the King didn't show-oh
You know he didn't show-oh
So they hung on to
The only thing they ever knew***

***God always keeps his promises
God always does what he says
God always keeps his promises
So we can trust in him
[repeat]***

Yeah, we can trust in him.

5. A long, long time ago
When Jesus was going home
The Lord God made a promise
That one day he'd return
He'll keep his promise ...

PERFORMED & WRITTEN BY MICHAEL J TINKER
MAKATON BY BECKY GEORGE

Prayers for Others

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

1. O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

2. God of God,
Light of light,
Lo! he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'*Glory to God all glory in the highest!*'

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

4. Yea Lord, we greet thee,
born for our salvation:
Jesus, to thee be all glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

JOHN WADE © PUBLIC DOMAIN
ARRANGED BY PHIL MOORE
[PRAISE 367]

Bible Message



1.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM,

how still we see you lie!
Above your deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in your dark streets shining
is everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in you tonight.

2. O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King
and peace to all the earth.
For Christ is born of Mary
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven:
no ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell –
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel.

PHILLIPS BROOKS © PUBLIC DOMAIN
ARRANGED BY JOSH LUCAS
[PRAISE 368]

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.*

Bible verses

Psalm 33 v 11: The plans of the Lord stand firm for ever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Proverbs 19 v 21: Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

Acts 2 v 23: This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.

1 Peter 3 v 18: Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

Luke 2 v 9 – 11: An angel of the Lord appeared to [the shepherds], and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "*Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.*"

Romans 8 v 28: We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Quotations

William Still: "*Nothing so proves our guilt as the sense of condemnation which refuses to admit the possibility of mercy, and nothing so proves our blindness to the love of God as our blank unbelief of his real, complete and final forgiveness.*"

Charles Spurgeon: "*Providence... is a servant of grace.*"

John Calvin: "*Gratitude of mind for the favourable outcome of things, patience in adversity, and also incredible freedom from worry about the future all necessarily follow upon this knowledge [of the providence of God].*"

John Calvin: "*Ignorance of providence is the ultimate of all miseries; the highest blessedness lies in the knowledge of it.*"

