

# Sunday 10am Service (O2T1)

## 1 December – Advent 1

Welcome (Lead Sue, Music Julia)

### Call to Worship

All creation holds its breath. **The time is almost here.**

The heavenly choir of angels waits for its cue to sing.

**Excitement is all around us.**

Prepare your hearts—The grace of God takes on human form.

Good news! Emmanuel, God-with-Us, comes to us.

**We gather to make ready our hearts for the coming of Christ, our hope.**

### Song: Forever

Give thanks to the Lord

Our God and King

His love endures forever

For He is good He is above all things

His love endures forever

Sing praise sing praise

With a mighty hand

And an outstretched arm

His love endures forever

For the life that's been reborn

His love endures forever

Sing praise sing praise

Sing praise sing praise

**Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong**

**Forever God is with us, Forever forever**

From the rising to the setting sun

His love endures forever

And by the grace of God

We will carry on  
His love endures forever  
Sing praise sing praise

CCLI Song # 3148428 Chris Tomlin © 2001 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Crossroad Distributors Pty. Ltd.) worshiptogether.com CCLI License # 156788

### **Song: From the Squalor**

From the squalor of a borrowed stable,  
By the Spirit and a virgin's faith;  
To the anguish and the shame of scandal  
Came the Saviour of the human race.  
But the skies were filled with the praise of heaven,  
Shepherds listen as the angels tell  
Of the Gift of God come down to man  
At the dawning of Immanuel.

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,  
Humble servant in the Father's hands,  
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit,  
Filled with mercy for the broken man.  
Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain,  
Joys and sorrows that I know so well;  
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again –  
I will follow my Immanuel.

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,  
He was lifted on a cruel cross;  
He was punished for a world's transgressions,  
He was suffering to save the lost.  
He fights for breath, He fights for me,  
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell;  
And with a shout our souls are free –  
Death defeated by Immanuel.

Now He's standing in the place of honour,  
Crowned with glory on the highest throne,

Interceding for His own beloved  
Till His Father calls to bring them home!  
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds  
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell;  
But the Bride will run to her Lover's arms,  
Giving glory to Immanuel!

Stuart Townend Copyright © 1999 Thankyou Music (Adm. by CapitolCMGPublishing.com excl. UK & Europe, adm. by Integrity Music, part of the David C Cook family, songs@integritymusic.com) License # 156788

## **Advent Wreath**

This week is the first Sunday of Advent, and we are reminded again of the hope that Christ's coming brings for everyone.

This year, the invitation comes to us again. It is an invitation to slow down, to relearn a pace of life that is unhurried so that we can focus on a life lived in God's light. This life is one filled with hope, peace, joy and love. Jesus encourages us to live in 'readiness' – always aware that Christ's coming is immanent and avoiding the temptation of growing absorbed in self-interest and personal pleasure.

Each year we light candles and the flame helps us find our way. In darkness we lose direction. We cannot see where we have been or where we are going. A single candle, flickering brightly, helps us find our way again. In God's Word the prophet Isaiah describes God as being the light of the world. "Arise, Jerusalem, and shine like the sun; The glory of the Lord is shining on you! Other nations will be covered by darkness, but on you the light of the Lord will shine; The brightness of his presence will be with you."

The first candle is lit.

### ***Poem:***

Light one candle; see it glow  
Brightly, so that all may know  
How one candle shows the way  
Making our darkness as bright as God's day.

## **Puppets: Everybody Get Ready**

**Everybody get ready! (Everybody get ready!)  
Get ready for the Lord (Get ready for the Lord)**

**Get ready (get ready)  
Get set (get set)  
And go!**

God had a great plan  
His son becomes a man  
His sacrificial lamb  
To take away the sin of the world

Wiseman and shepherds come  
To see the promised one  
Praise God for what he's done  
It's Jesus the king of the world

His life was free from blame  
He bore our sin and shame  
He's coming back again  
To show that he's the king of the world

**Everybody get ready! (Everybody get ready!)  
Get ready for the Lord (Get ready for the Lord)  
Get ready (get ready)  
Get set (get set)  
And go!**

Written by Colin Buchannan. Used by permission CCLI Licence 156788

## **Prayer for Children (Sue)**

### **Gloria**

**Glory to God in the highest, And peace to God's people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,  
You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### **New Testament Bible Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18 (Christine)**

<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died,<sup>[a]</sup> so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

### **Message**

#### **Offering Song: I cannot tell**

I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,  
Should set his love upon the sons of men,  
Or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wanderers,  
To bring them back, they know not how or when.  
But this I know, that he was born of Mary  
When Bethl'em's manger was his only home,  
And that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,  
And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered,  
As with his peace he graced this place of tears,  
Or how his heart upon the cross was broken,  
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.  
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted  
And stays our sin and calms our lurking fear  
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden;  
For still the Saviour, Saviour of the world is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,  
How he will claim his earthly heritage,  
How satisfy the needs and aspirations  
Of east and west, of sinner and of sage.  
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,  
And he shall reap the harvest he has sown,  
And some glad day his sun will shine in splendour  
When he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,  
When at his bidding every storm is stilled,  
Or who can say how great the jubilation  
When every heart with love and joy is filled.  
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,  
And myriad myriad human voices sing,  
And earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer,  
'At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!'

© Words: Public Domain | Music: Public Domain All rights reserved. www.ccli.comCCLI Licence # 156788

### **Thanks for the Offering**

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us.  
In the upside-down world of the gospel,  
we measure our wealth not by what we have,  
but what we can give away.  
Let us give away generously, in this offering,  
To bless your church, your people, your creation.

### **Prayer of Confession**

In penitence and faith let us confess our sins to Almighty God  
**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,**  
**We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,**  
**And in what we have failed to do:**  
**We have not loved you with our whole heart,**  
**We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;**  
**We repent and are sorry for all our sins.**

**Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Declaration of forgiveness**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith, pardon us and set us free from all our sins, strengthen us to do his will, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Prayers for the Church and our World (Colin L)**

#### **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.**

#### **The Great Thanksgiving (Julia with Jaq & Karin)**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God. We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life,  
He offered the one true sacrifice for sin  
And obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.  
Therefore, with angels and archangels,  
And with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation,  
This bread and wine and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we  
who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood. On  
the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread and when he had given you  
thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
"Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me".  
After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his  
disciples, saying, "Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new  
covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as  
often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded:

proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,

His mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,

and looking for his coming again,

we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,

His one perfect and sufficient sacrifice

for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son,

and bring us with all your people

into the joy of your eternal kingdom;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom,

in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours forever and ever.**

**Amen.**



We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body.

**For we all share in the one bread**

### **Prayer**

Gracious God, we thank you that in this sacrament  
you assure us of your goodness and love.

Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving

and help us to grow in love and obedience

that we may serve you in the world

and finally be brought to that table

where all your saints feast with you for ever.

Father,

**we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit**

**to live and work to your praise and glory.**

### **Notices (Sue)**

#### **Song: Amazing Grace My Chains Are Gone**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now I'm found

Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear

And grace my fears relieved

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed

**My chains are gone I've been set free**

**My God my Savior has ransomed me**

**And like a flood His mercy rains**

## **Unending love amazing grace**

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine  
You are forever mine

CCLI Song # 4768151 Chris Tomlin/John Newton|Louie Giglio  
© 2006 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Crossroad Distributors Pty. Ltd.) CCLI License # 156788

## **Blessing**