

St. Paul's Church  
The Anglican Parish of Rothesay  
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2016

4:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist – Children's Service  
*The Book of Alternative Services*



Organ Prelude

**Carol 138 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**

**The Gathering of the Community**

*Celebrant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.  
*All* **And also with you**

*Celebrant* Almighty God,  
*All* **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Collect for Christmas**

*Celebrant* Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Old Testament Reading Isaiah 9:2-7**

*Read by Pam Iype.*

**The Christmas Gospel** *(please stand)*

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

*All* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**Luke 2: 1 – 14**

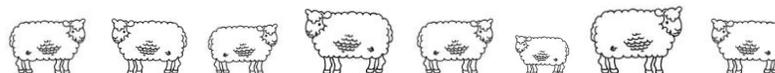
*Reader* The Gospel of Christ.

*All* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**The Birth of Jesus: A St. Paul's Christmas Play**

Voice 1: Sarah Harrigan      Voice 2: Kylie Streeter  
Mary: Sophia Parsons      Joseph: Hunter Mullinger  
Archangel: Emilie Harrigan  
Angels: Abbie Dykeman & Addie Montgomery  
Stable Animal: Liam McNutt  
Shepherds: Sean Johnston & Julian Lord  
Set Assistants: Ella Lord & Ethan Lord

*And a whole flock of sheep!*



**Offertory Carol 126 "Away in a Manger"**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you

*All* **And also with you**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* We give you thanks and praise almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word through whom you have created all things. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. In fulfillment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people. He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence. Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of his name.

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me." We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your servant Jesus Christ. **Amen**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,  
*All* **Our Father ...**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* We break this bread of life, and that life  
is the light of the world.

*All* **God here among us, light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the people of God  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*If you receive Communion in your own church, you are welcome to receive Communion with us tonight. Children are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please come forward down the centre aisle and return to your pew by the side aisle.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Celebrant* Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*All* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Glory to God,  
*All* **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

**Carol 154 "Joy to the World"**

Organ Postlude