



WODEN VALLEY UNITING CHURCH

<https://woden-valley.uca.org.au/>



9:30 a.m. Worship – Christmas Day

Jesus practised radical inclusion! All are welcome here.

We Gather as People of God

The Gong sounds 3 times

Prelude Music

Lighting the Community Candle

Acknowledgement of Country

Call to Worship

This is the day when love is born among us.

We come to rejoice in God's great gift.

Light has dawned, hope has taken flesh,
and heaven has drawn near.

Christ is born among us!

Come with joy, come with gratitude,
come just as you are.

There is room for all at the manger.

Let us worship the God who has come to dwell with us.

Song – O Come all ye Faithful – TiS 304 v1, 2, 3, 6, 7

Welcome

Advent Wreath

God is with us

God is with us

We light a candle, symbol of the great light of God that dawns.

The sun rises this morning and light spills across all of
creation. God is with us.

Christ is born

Seeds have sprouted, leaves unfurled, flowers
blossomed and bark unbound. Creation rejoices at the
presence of our Creator – wondering at God's fresh-formed human
flesh - unfathomable fragility, unfailing love, unstoppable life

God is with us

Hope sprouting

Peace unfurling

Joy blossoming

Love unbounding

God is with us

Born for us in human kinship, in the midst of creation

Jesus is our Hope

Born for us in human solidarity, in the midst of cultures

Christ is our Peace

Born for us in human vulnerability, in the midst of community

Christ is our Joy

Born for us in human embrace, in the midst of God's own cosmos

God is Love

In this time and place

God is with us – Emmanuel!

Song – Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Mission Praise 121

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

His name is called Emmanuel

God with us,

Revealed in us.

His name is called Emmanuel

(repeat)

Prayer of Approach

Passing the peace

Song - Once in Royal David's City - TiS 312 v 1, 2, 4, 5

We Reflect on the Word for our time

Readings from the Bible

Luke 2:1-7

The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** All went to their own towns to be registered. **4** Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. **5** He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. **6** While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. **7** And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Song - Away in a Manger. – TiS 318

Luke 2: 8-20

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before 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, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

Reflection – Room for All

We Respond to the Word

Song - The First Nowell – Tis 301 v 1, 2, 3, 5, 6

Care Candle is lit

Prayers for the People

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 in the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Song – Joy to the World! – TiS 268

We Go out into the World

Blessing and Sending

The Candles are extinguished

Postlude

References for OOS: illustration; CCLI licence#546647

Order of Service has congregation responses printed in **bold**

Leader: Julie Connah

Readers: Colin Boreham and Even Mann

Music: Helen Swan