



# St Ives Uniting Church

25 December 2025

## Christmas Day

### Call to worship and welcome

For to us a child is born,

**to us a son is given,**

and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called

**Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,**

**Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Of the greatness of his government and peace

**there will be no end.**

We light the Christ Candle

**May it kindle in us the hope, peace, joy and love of Christ.**

**Hymn:** 304 O come, all ye faithful (verses 1,5,6,7)

### Opening prayers

### Assurance of forgiveness

God sent the Son into the world,

not to condemn the world,

but that the world might be saved through him.

Those who believe in him are not condemned.

**Hallelujah! Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth**

**peace to those on whom his favour rests**

**Hymn:** 322 The North wind is tossing the leaves

### Bible readings

**Luke 2:16-21**

Jenny Huckson

<sup>16</sup>[The shepherds] hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary

treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

<sup>21</sup> On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

## **Hebrews 1:1-12**

John Huckson

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

<sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say,  
"You are my Son; today I have become your Father"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

<sup>6</sup> And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,  
"Let all God's angels worship him."

<sup>7</sup> In speaking of the angels he says,  
"He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire."

<sup>8</sup> But about the Son he says,  
"Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever;  
a sceptre of justice will be the sceptre of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup> You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions  
by anointing you with the oil of joy."

<sup>10</sup> He also says,

“In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

<sup>11</sup> They will perish, but you remain;  
they will all wear out like a garment.

<sup>12</sup> You will roll them up like a robe;  
like a garment they will be changed.

But you remain the same,  
and your years will never end.”

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon:** Jesus, the Son of God.

**Hymn:** 313 Good Christians all, rejoice

**Prayers for the world and all people**

**The Lord’s prayer**

**Blessing**

**Hymn:** 268 Joy to the world

**Postlude**

**Pianist**

**Lawrence Peak**



