

Welcome

to the



**Scots International
Church Rotterdam**

a congregation of the
Church of Scotland International Presbytery

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Prayer at the turn of the Year

Eternal God - Creator, Son and Spirit -
at the end of the year, with your help,
we would let go of the past.

We would lay down our failures, guilt and shame,
and lift up our eyes and look to the future.

Let the grace of your presence
strengthen our resolve,
enlighten our minds, clarify our wills,
and inflame our hearts with love for you, and all people.

So may we live dedicated lives in peace,
and with courage, faith and cheerfulness,
throughout the year to come.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Adapted from a prayer by John Harvey
in 'Hay & Stardust' (Wild Goose Publications)

ORDER OF SERVICE

for Sunday 31 December 2017

Sunday 31 December 2017

Call to Worship - (*congregational lines **in bold***)

Alleluia! Praise the Lord from the heavens,

O praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all his angels,

O praise him, all his hosts.

Praise him, sun and moon,

praise him, all you stars of light.

Praise him, heaven of heavens,

and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord,

for he commanded and they were created.

And he established them for ever and ever;

he gave them a law which they might not transgress.

Let all creation praise the name of the Lord,

for his name alone is exalted,

his glory over earth and heaven.

And he has raised up the horn of his people,

a cause for praise from all his faithful,

the children of Israel, a people close to him.

Welcome

Prayer of Approach

Praise: Angels from the realms of glory

(MP 35)

- 1 Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight through all the earth;
heralds of creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth!

Come and worship

Christ, the new-born King;

*come and worship,
worship Christ the new-born King.*

2 Shepherds in the fields abiding,
watching by your flocks at night,
God with man is now residing:
see, there shines the infant light!
Come and worship . . .

3 Wise men, leave your contemplations!
brighter visions shine afar;
seek in Him the hope of nations,
you have seen His rising star:
Come and worship . . .

4 Though an infant now we view Him,
He will share His Father's throne,
gather all the nations to Him;
every knee shall then bow down:
Come and worship . . .

A Christmas Riddle

Praise: Still the night, holy the night

(CH4 309)

1 Still the night, holy the night!
Sleeps the world; hid from sight,
Mary and Joseph in stable bare
watch o'er the child belovèd and fair,
sleeping in heavenly rest,
sleeping in heavenly rest.

2 Still the night, holy the night!
Shepherds first saw the light,
heard resounding clear and long,
far and near, the angel-song,

'Christ the Redeemer is here!'
'Christ the Redeemer is here!'

3 Still the night, holy the night!
Son of God, O how bright
love is smiling from thy face!
Strikes for us now the hour of grace,
Saviour, since thou art born!
Saviour, since thou art born!

Prayer of Confession and The 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 for ever. Amen.

Praise: Meekness and majesty

(MP 465)

1 Meekness and majesty,
manhood and deity,
in perfect harmony,
the man who is God:
Lord of eternity

dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility
and washes our feet.

*O what a mystery,
meekness and majesty:
bow down and worship,
for this is your God,
this is your God!*

- 2 Father's pure radiance,
perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience
to death on a cross:
suffering to give us life,
conquering through sacrifice;
and, as they crucify,
prays, 'Father, forgive.'

O what a mystery . . .

- 3 Wisdom unsearchable,
God the invisible,
Love indestructible
in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity,
stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity
to the heights of His throne.

*O what a mystery . . .
this is your God!*

Reading: Galatians 4: 4 - 7

(p.1170)

4But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

7 So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

Post- Christmas Reflection

Praise: See! In yonder manger low

(CH4 313)

1 See! in yonder manger low,
born for us on earth below,
see! the tender Lamb appears
promised from eternal years.

Refrain:

Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'

2 Lo! within a manger lies
he who built the starry skies,
he who, throned in height sublime
sits amid the cherubim: [Refrain]

3 Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
what your joyful news to-day;
wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep? [Refrain]

4 'As we watched at dead of night,
lo! we saw a wondrous light:
angels, singing peace on earth,
told us of the Saviour's birth.' [Refrain]

5 Sacred Infant, all Divine,
what a tender love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this! [Refrain]

Reading: **Luke 2: 22 - 40**

(p.1028)

Jesus Presented in the Temple

22 When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”),

24 and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him.

26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.

27 Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required,

28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

29 “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

30 For my eyes have seen your salvation,

31 which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”

33 The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him.

34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother:
“This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in
Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,
35 so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a
sword will pierce your own soul too.”

36 There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of
the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her
husband seven years after her marriage,
37 and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never
left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and
praying.

38 Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks
to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking
forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

39 When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by
the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town
of Nazareth.

40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with
wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Reflection: “Tell it like it is – with love”

Praise: From heaven you came, helpless babe (MP 162)

1 From heaven You came, helpless babe,
entered our world, Your glory veiled,
not to be served but to serve,
and give Your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow Him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

2 There in the garden of tears
my heavy load He chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn,
‘Yet not my will but yours,’ He said.

This is our God . . .

3 Come see His hands and His feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

This is our God . . .

4 So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives enthrone Him,
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

This is our God . . .

Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Church News

Prayers for Others - Elder

Praise: Good Christians, all rejoice!

(CH4 322)

1 Good Christians, all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now give heed to what we say,
Jesus Christ is born today:
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christians, all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now you hear of endless bliss,
Jesus Christ was born for this:

he has opened heaven's door,
and all are blessed for evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christians, all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now you need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save,
calls you one and calls you all,
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

Closing responses:

Mysterious God, confounding our expectations,
meeting us where we least expect to find you,

GO WITH US NOW.

Child of the manger, healing our pain,
sharing our weakness,

GO WITH US NOW.

Source of life,
birth of God within our own experience,

GO WITH US NOW.

Go with us in our frailty,
stay with us on our journey,

**WALK BESIDE US, LIVE WITHIN US,
LEAD US TO GLORY, LEAD US HOME.**

Benediction and 3-fold Amen

Next Sunday - 7th January - Soup & Christmas Pudding Lunch
immediately after the Service - please complete your Christmas
celebrations by coming along to share a time of fellowship!

Are you in need of prayer or pastoral care?

Or do you know someone who is? Please put your requests in the prayer box on Sundays. Prayers can also be sent via the Prayer Coordinator, Irene Jardine, at pray.sicr@gmail.com

For pastoral care or a visit by an Elder or Minister, contact your Elder, the Church Office or the Minister.

Birthdays

This week we congratulate Helena Brhel/Brhelova, Jana Brhel/Brhelova, Stefan Stifanos, Cindel Fleming, Prince Adarkwah and Peace Acquaaah on their birthdays.

Would you like your birthday mentioned? Inform the Office Team!

What's on the agenda?

Sunday 7 January *Sacrament of Holy Communion* at 10.30am
– followed by Soup & Christmas Pudding Lunch

Sunday 14 January Service at 10.30am -
following which there will be an opportunity to remain behind
for *individual prayers* at the front of the Church.

Who's who Today

Minister: Rev. Derek Lawson

Elder: Bob Hensen

Children's message: Derek Lawson

Organist: Jan Hendrik v.d. Kamp

Bible Reader: Bob Hensen

Welcome: Carol de Groot & Jimmy van Putten

Crèche: Veronica & Marcel Kind-Pachano

Deacons-Counting: Frieda Enow & Emmanuel Asare-Awuku

Door: Eric Wenfua

Beamer and Recording: Andre v.d. Velden

Hospitality: Molly Foster

Flowers: Christmas Decorations

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For the beamer

Summary 24.12.17

Open plate	334.53
Envelopes	419.05
Coffee money (TBA)	3.50
Sunday School (n.a.)	0.00
Bank (weekly avg.)	282.00
Fixed rental weekly avg.	368.00
Additional rental avg	<u>322.00</u>
	€ 1,729.08

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Average weekly expenditure **€ 1,972.00**

Summary 25.12.17

Open plate	267.12
Envelopes	180.00
Coffee money (TBA)	0.00
Sunday School (n.a.)	0.00
Bank (weekly avg.)	0.00
Fixed rental weekly avg.	0.00
Additional rental avg	<u>0.00</u>
	€ 447.12

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Lessons & Carols Service proceeds T.B. A.

Summary Lessons & Carols 17.12.17

Open plate
Envelopes

Church News of 31.12.17 announced by the Elder

- Today's Worship Service falls on **the last Sunday as well as the last day of the current year.**

On behalf of the Consistory, the Council of this Church and on my own behalf I wish you a peaceful transition to a New Year filled with the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love of Jesus Christ.

- The Young Adults Christian Fellowship continues today at 12:30 in the attic of the Manse.

- The Ladies Bible Study Mondays 8pm @ Rev. Irene Bom's, takes a 3-week break for the Christmas holidays, resuming on Monday, 8 January. All ladies are welcome, also if you can only come every now and then.

- There is a **new list for next year's Bible reading & bringing Flowers.** Please put your name and email on the notice board.

- If you like to receive the SICR Weekly Bulletin in your mailbox every Thursday, make sure Ato Bob has your email address.

- If you did not hear these announcements properly, find them on the Notice Board downstairs, with a copy to take away.

- Please note: the spoken word counts!