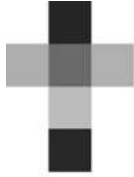


Welcome to the



Scots International Church Rotterdam

- a congregation of the
Church of Scotland International Presbytery

FAMILY WORSHIP for the 4th Sunday in



including the Sacrament of Baptism and Profession of Faith

Minister: Rev. Derek G. Lawson
Email: DLawson@churchofscotland.org.uk
Phone: 010 412 5709 or 06 3059 9641

Bible Readings for the Coming Week

Monday, December 23: Luke 1:46b-55; 2 Samuel 7:18, 23-29; Galatians 3:6-14
Tuesday, December 24: Isaiah 9:2-7; Ps.96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14
Wednesday, December 25: Isaiah 52:7-10; Ps.98; Hebrews 1:1-4; John 1:1-14
Thursday, December 26: Psalm 148; Wisdom 4:7-15; Acts 7:59-8:8
Friday, December 27: Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:22-31; 1 John 5:1-12
Saturday, December 28: Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:13-23; Matthew 18:1-14

A final Advent thought

**O Pilgrim God, abandoning that which is no longer needed:
come with us on our journey, show us how to travel lightly,
keeping only what we need to grow.**

From 'Advent Antiphons'
in *The Pattern of Our Days*

Family Christingle Service for the 4th Sunday in Advent 22 December 2019

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

Because God chose not a palace but a stable,

we bear witness to the light.

Because God chose to be one of us, not apart from us,

we bear witness to the light.

Because God chose the margins, not the centre,

we bear witness to the light.

Because a woman said yes when she could have said no,

we bear witness to the light.

For nothing is impossible for God.

Introit: **Hymn 316 Love came down at Christmas**

Welcome & Prayer of Approach

Lighting of the 4th Advent Candle - a Candle of love



Hymn: A candle is burning

1. A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
a candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry
sky,
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.
2. A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease.
For Jesus is coming to show us the way,
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.
3. A candle is burning, a candle of Joy,
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow,
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.
4. A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above.
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.

Children's Message

Song: Emmanuel

(SSS2014 no. 16)

1. Sing a song, a song of joy
Come along and see the boy
A baby boy who from heaven came
Emmanuel is His Name

CHORUS:

Emmanuel - God is with us
Emmanuel - God is with us
Emmanuel - God is with us
God is with us - Emmanuel

2. Shepherds heard the angels sing
Bringing news of a baby king
So they went without delay
To see the baby in a manger where he lay

3. Wise men came from afar
They were led by a star
They brought him gifts, gifts of joy
Gold and myrrh and frankincense for the boy

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.**

Hymn 280 Alleluia! Hurry the Lord is near

Readings:

Isaiah 7: 10 – 16

10 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz,

11 “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

13 Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also?”

14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

15 He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right,

16 for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

Romans 1: 1 – 7

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—

2 the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures

3 regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David,

4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

5 Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name’s sake.

6 And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

7 To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection: *“The significance of the Christ-child”*

Hymn 468 Son of God, eternal Saviour

What’s a Christingle?

Hymn: Sing Christingle! (Tune of ‘Give me oil in my lamp’)

The Christingle begins with an orange,
telling us of the world Lord God made.
For creation is full of his glory;
all around we see his love displayed.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, it’s the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.

Every year we give thanks for the seasons,
and the fruits of the earth to share.
The Christingle is here to remind us
that the love of God is everywhere.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!...

God of love, we give thanks now for Jesus;
we remember his birth again.
But the red ribbon round the Christingle
tells the story of his cross and pain.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!...

To complete the Christingle:
a candle, shining out in the darkest night.
Jesus promised to lead us and guide us;
come and celebrate the world’s true light.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!...

Distribution of the Christingles

Hymn 312 Away in a manger

Reading: **Matthew 1: 18 - 25**

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about : His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Reflection: *“Prince of Peace”*

Offering & Prayer of Dedication

Admission by Profession of Faith of Fane Mensah and Marlies Peters
- during which we will say **The Apostles Creed** (words at Hy.628)

Church News

Prayers for Others - Elder

Hymn: The time has come (Tune: Sussex Carol, No.294)

1. The time has come when from the past,
prophetic words ring true at last;
though earth's hostilities increase,
God's promise is of lasting peace.
Hallelujah! Prepare the way.
Hear what God's chosen prophets say.
2. The time has come to make it known
that every tear and pain and groan
is registered in heaven above
to be redeemed by holy love.
Hallelujah! Prepare the way.
Only love lifts us from dismay.
3. The time has come to make amends:
earth and its people should be friends.
Erase the policies of death,
spread hope with every vital breath.
Hallelujah! Prepare the way.
God gladly comes to earth to stay,
4. The time has come to share good news,
to sweep the floor and mend the shoes,
prepare to protest, praise and dance
for God is eager to advance.
Hallelujah! Expect a birth:
God's gracious feet will touch the earth.

Benediction and 3-fold Amen

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.

If you want to become a Member by profession of faith, please speak with Derek as soon as possible so he can arrange to meet with you and include this in a service in January.

Birthdays (names only in the printed version in the church)
Would you like your birthday mentioned? Inform the Office Team!

What's on the agenda?

Wednesday 25 Dec 10.30am Family Celebration of Christmas
Sunday 29 Dec 10.30am Christmas Celebration Continued!

Who's who Today - Minister: Rev. Derek Lawson

Elder: Frieda Enow

Children's message: Richmond Mensah

Organist: Natavan Gulieva

Bible Reader: Teun Karreman

Welcome: Pam & Steve Russell

Crèche: Jaco & Christa Jacobs

Offering & Counting: Bridget Teisman & Evelyn Koomson

Door: Bob Hensen

Beamer: Ricky Lim

Sound: Stanley Murithi

Hospitality: Rinus Dekker & Azmi Wahab

Flowers: Mavis Fleming & Flower Arrangers

E-mail SICR: info@scotsintchurch.com

Website SICR: www.scotsintchurch.com

Church Office: 010 412 4779

Bank account: NL62 RABO 0373741006

ING bank a/c no: NL17 INGB 0000 175187

Church Entrance : Schiedamsesingel 2, Rotterdam.

Church Office Address: Schiedamsesingel 6, 3012 BA Rotterdam.

Church News for 22.12.19 to be read by the Elder

The **Wednesday Pilgrims Fellowship Group** takes a break over the holidays and continues in the New Year on 15th January @ 19:45 at Rev. Irene's Bergpolderpolderstraat 53a. Further dates 22nd and 29th.

The form for ***adherents to request to be placed on the Electoral Roll*** is available from Ato Bob. If you don't know whether you are a Member or an Adherent, Ato Bob can help you to find out.

Both the Crèche and the Youth Group urgently need additional volunteers. See Christa, Saskia or Ato Bob.

This afternoon from 5.30 pm, we will have our Christmas Tea and Carols unplugged. You are all welcome,

Look for a sample of the SICR Weekly Bulletin on the notice board and subscribe with your email to editor-herald@live.com