

# Welcome to the Scots International Church Rotterdam

A congregation of the Church of Scotland International Presbytery

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

May we know the blessing of God as we worship together.



**The Light in the darkness has arrived,  
'and he shall be called...**

**Wonderful Counsellor,  
Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,**

Merry Christmas  
and a Happy  
New Year



## House Groups/Bible Studies

Pilgrims House Group Mondays at 7.30pm

Returns on 9 January

Contact Irene Bom on 06-52576892

Manse House Group Schiedamse Vest 121

Returns late January

Contact Graham (contact details on last page)

If you are interested in house groups email  
Marten & Mikayla our Fellowship Coordinators  
(mikayla.souman@gmail.com)

## Something to Celebrate

Congratulations to Christa Jacobs, Sophie  
Tataw Bessem and Stanley Chege Murithi on  
their birthdays this week.

## Friday OPEN Afternoons

We are on holiday until Friday 06 January  
Welcome from 12:00 – 15:30  
Many thanks to the team for all  
their hard work during 2022



## Daily Devotional Readings

## Pray for today's Worship Team

Preacher: Graham Austin

Prayer: Molly Foster

Children's talk: Richmond Mensah

Bible Reader: Molly Foster

Music: Jan-Hendrik v.d. Kamp & Jaco Jacobs

Beamer & Live streaming: Ricky Lim

Sound: Stanley Murithi


Hospitality: Christmas Volunteers

Welcoming: Ruud Witte & Silvia Scott

Flowers: Mavis Fleming

Counting: Molly Foster & Dee Austin

Door: Olaf de Zanger

<b>Monday 26</b>	<b>Psalm 148; Wisdom 4:7-15; Acts 7:59-8:8</b>	<p>Do you want a daily 'Thought for the Day' direct to your mobile? Then join the 'Thought for the day' WhatsApp group by texting: 06 3059 9641</p> 
<b>Tuesday 27</b>	<b>Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:22-31; 1 John 5:1-12</b>	
<b>Wednesday 28</b>	<b>Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:13-23; Matthew 18:1-14</b>	
<b>Thursday 29</b>	<b>Psalm 20; Jeremiah 31:15-22; Luke 19:41-44</b>	
<b>Friday 30</b>	<b>Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18</b>	
<b>Saturday 31</b>	<b>Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19</b>	

**Welcome to the Service**  
**Christmas Day: The Light shines in the Darkness**

At the beginning of the service you will be asked to stand as the Bible is brought forward.

**Call to worship**

Leader:	He came, so strangely into our world
Response:	<b>So long ago, so poor, so helpless</b>
Leader:	He came, and His coming changed our world
Response:	<b>He was an infant, dependent on His mother</b>
Leader:	But he was also our God
Response:	<b>And with His coming a great light has shone</b>
Leader:	On the people who walked in darkness
Response:	<b>A light that will never be dimmed.</b>

Musical item with Jan-Hendrk and Jaco, 'O come, All ye faithful'

**Welcome**

CH4 304 vs 1, 3, 4

1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see you lie!  
Above your deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in your streets is shining  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in you tonight.

2. O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to all on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary,  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.

**Reading: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7**

2 The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

6 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.

7 Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and for ever.  
The zeal of the Lord Almighty  
will accomplish this.

**Song: O little town of Bethlehem, cont.**

3. How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him,  
still the dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Immanuel!  
Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

**Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,

as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, for ever.  
Amen

## Children's Talk

### Song

1. Crackers and turkeys  
and pudding and cream,  
toys in the windows that I've never seen.  
This is the Christmas that everyone sees,  
but Christmas means more to me.  
*It's somebody's birthday I won't forget,  
as I open the things that I get.  
I'll remember the inn and the stable so bare,  
and Jesus who once lay there.*

2. Everyone's out shopping late every night,  
for candles and presents  
and Christmas tree lights.  
This is the Christmas that everyone sees,  
but Christmas means more to me.  
*It's somebody's birthday I won't forget,  
as I open the things that I get.  
I'll remember the inn and the stable so bare,  
and Jesus who once lay there.*

3. Christmas morning, the start of the day,  
there's presents to open and new games to play.  
This is the Christmas that everyone sees,  
but Christmas means more to me.  
*It's somebody's birthday I won't forget,  
as I open the things that I get.  
I'll remember the inn and the stable so bare,  
and Jesus who once lay there.*

Ian White © 1987 Little Misty Music

### Wonderful Counsellor

#### CH4 313 vs 1, 2, 5

1. See in yonder manger low,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.  
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;  
Hail redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

2. Lo, within a stable lies  
He who built the starry skies,  
He who, throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim.  
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;  
Hail redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

5. Sacred Infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was thine  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this.  
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;  
Hail redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

Edward Caswell (1814-1878)

### Mighty God

1. It was on a starry night,  
when the hills were bright,  
earth lay sleeping,  
sleeping calm and still;  
then in a cattle shed,  
in a manger bed  
a boy was born,  
King of all the world.  
*And all the angels sang for Him,  
the bells of heaven rang for Him;  
for a boy was born,  
King of all the world. (x2)*

2. Soon shepherds came that way,  
where the baby lay,  
and were kneeling,  
kneeling by His side,  
to celebrate his birth  
bringing peace on earth;  
a boy was born,  
King of all the world.  
*And all the angels sang for Him,  
the bells of heaven rang for Him;  
for a boy was born,  
King of all the world. (x2)*

Joy Webb © Salvationist Publishing and Supplies Ltd

## Prince of Peace.

CH4 303 (vs 1, 2, 5)

1. It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth,  
to touch their harps of gold:  
'Peace on the earth, good will to you  
from heaven's all-gracious King!'  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
to hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

5. For lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophet bards foretold,  
when, with the ever-rolling years,  
still dawns the Age of Gold,  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendours fling,  
and all the world give back the song  
which now the angels sing.

Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876)

We give our offering as we listen to musical item  
from Jan-Hendrik and Jaco, 'Silent night & The first Noel'

## Dedicating the Offering and Prayer for Others

### Everlasting Father

CH4 306

1. O come all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold Him,  
born the King of angels;  
*O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!*

2. God of God,  
Light of light,  
lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;  
very God,  
begotten, not created:  
*O come, let us adore Him,...*

3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
'Glory to God  
in the highest':  
*O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!*

4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father  
now in flesh appearing:  
*O come, let us adore Him,...*  
Latin (18<sup>th</sup> century) tr. Frederick Oakley (1802-1880)

## Benediction and Threefold Amen

Musical item from Jan-Hendrik and Jaco,  
'Hark! The herald angels sing & We wish you a merry Christmas

Please remain standing as the Bible is carried out.

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