



Behold

CHRIST IS BORN

Chinese Presbyterian Church
Christmas Eve Service 2023





Christmas Letter

from Rev Chris Chan

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.”

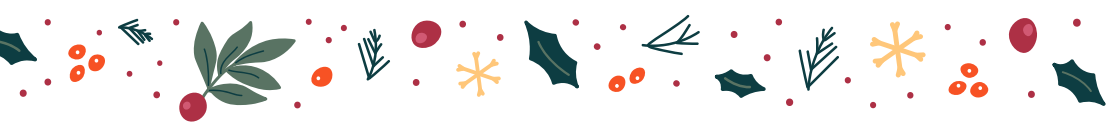
– Luke 2:14

The commercial world has implanted into our tradition the notion that Christmas is a time of good cheer, merrymaking, and goodwill towards others. For many who only have a vague idea about the biblical God, it may seem that this worldly Christmas atmosphere is very appropriate for the occasion, reflecting the niceness of a God who is keen to bless humankind with a blind eye towards sinfulness and injustice. The rendering of the above verse in the well-known King James version: “on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” reinforces this erroneous notion.

The words of the angels, “Glory to God in the highest heaven” point towards the manifestation of God's magnificent love for the world, which drove Him to give His only begotten Son to come in absolute humility as a helpless baby in a manger to commence His journey as suffering servant for us. The angels' proclamation “and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests” promises that for those **who find favour in the Holy God** shall have peace, even in this broken world. No, it is not a promise of superficial good cheer for everyone regardless of their attitude towards God, but a profound peace in the hearts of those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, a peace that transcends adversity, even in hostility and wars of this world because they have been reconciled to the Holy God, who will never leave them or forsake them.

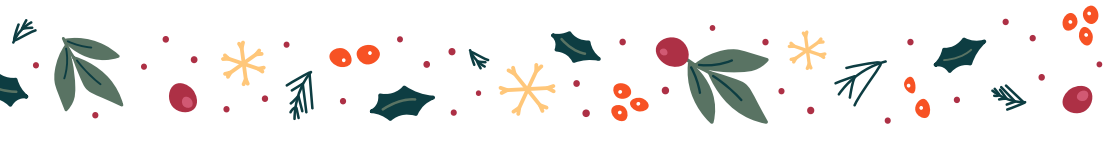
May the Lord open our eyes to behold truly the glory of God this Christmas, and take hold of the promised peace by receiving Christ as Lord of our lives.





Order of Service

Welcome		Ben Johnston
Bible Reading	Matthew 1:18-25	Adam Chor
Worship in Song	Joy To The World Angels We Have Heard On High	
Children's Item		Johnny Tse
Bible Reading	Matthew 2:1-12	Adam Chor
Pastoral Prayer		Phillip Lowe
Offertory Collection	O Holy Night	
Message	The Interruption of Wonder	Steaven Cheung
Song of Response	Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee	
Benediction		





Offeratory for PresAID

Tonight's offertory collection will be given to PresAID's Christmas Appeal 2023. PresAID, Presbyterians Assisting In Development, provide aid and development to like-minded Presbyterian and Reformed denominations in Developing Countries throughout the world.

Please donate via the pew envelopes or transfer online to
BSB 032-044 Account 225830

Although not tax deductible, if you want a receipt please write your name, amount and email address on the envelope or email the treasurer at treasurer@cpc.org.au.

CPC Sunday Activities

Worship Services

9am	Family English Service
9am	Mandarin Service
10:30	Cantonese Service
12pm	English/Cantonese Service
4pm	English Service

Ministries

9am/10:30am	Sunday School (creche to year 6)
10:45am	CYA (year 7 to 12)
11am	Living Word and Adult Seminar

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.

– Isaiah 9:6