





# A Time to Remember 2025

# Gathering Music

Be Still For The Presence Of The Lord

Agnus Dei Amy Grant

Angel Sarah McLachlan

For Good from *Wicked* 

Choir Introit

Welcome

Ian Douglas

## Hymn

### In The Bleak Midwinter

This carol reflects the sense of longing and anticipation, similar to the way the Israelites awaited the promised deliverer. The lyrics evoke a sense of yearning for God's presence, and the imagery of a cold, desolate world mirrors our deep need for hope and salvation.

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

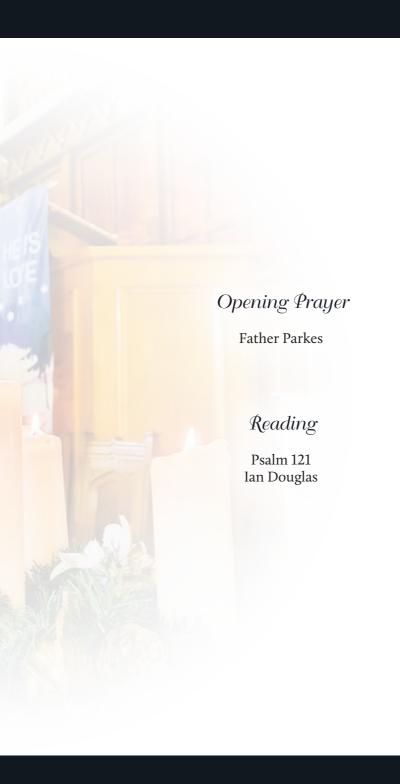
Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain; Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim worship night and day,
A breastful of milk, and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, whom angels fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel which adore.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there, Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; But only His mother, in her maiden bliss, Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

Christina Georgina Rossetti (1830-1894)



## Hymn

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

A hymn that speaks of our yearning for hope and light in times of darkness. I invite you to allow the words to resonate with your heart, offering a space to reflect, breathe, and find peace in God's presence.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height, in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe:

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave:

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery:

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight:

## Reading

Gates of Prayer from the Reform Judaism Prayerbook Alma Rae

In the rising of the sun and in it's going down,
We remember them;
In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of the winter,
We remember them;
In the opening of the buds and in the warmth of the summer,
We remember them;
When we are lost and sick at heart,
We remember them;
When we have joys that we yearn to share,
We remember them;
So long as we live, they too shall live,
For they are now a part of us,
As we remember them.

## Reading

### **Father Parkes**

Luke, Chapter 24: verses 1-10

The Resurrection of Jesus

Looking for the Living One in a Cemetery

At the crack of dawn on Sunday, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial spices they had prepared. They found the entrance stone rolled back from the tomb, so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn't find the body of the Master Jesus.

They were puzzled, wondering what to make of this.

Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said, "Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?"

Then they remembered Jesus' words.

They left the tomb and broke the news of all this to the Eleven and the rest. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them kept telling these things to the apostles, but the apostles didn't believe a word of it, thought they were making it all up.

Short Reflection

Ian Douglas

## Hymn

## The Lord's My Shepherd

Familiar words from Psalm 23, often chosen as words of comfort.

If you have ever attended a funeral service, you have almost certainly heard the reading of Psalm 23. It's quite possibly the most famous psalm in the Bible (and there are 150 of them!), almost certainly because of its connection to funerals and ultimately death. And there's no question that it is a comforting passage in that regard. However some believe that Psalm 23 is a psalm about life, not death. But without life there is no death. This modern version is reflective in its composition, and a repeated chorus reminds us that we can trust in God, and know that his goodness is with us always.

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me lie in pastures green. He leads me by the still, still waters, His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone, And I will trust in You alone, For Your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness, And He anoints my head with oil, And my cup, it overflows with joy, I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.

## Reading

John, Chapter 14: verses 1-7 read by Stanley Cook

Jesus the Way to the Father

### The Road

"Don't let this rattle you. You trust God, don't you? Trust me.

There is plenty of room for you in my Father's home. If that weren't so, would I have told you that I'm on my way to get a room ready for you? And if I'm on my way to get your room ready, I'll come back and get you so you can live where I live.

And you already know the road I'm taking."

Thomas said, "Master, we have no idea where you're going. How do you expect us to know the road?"

Jesus said, "I am the Road, also the Truth, also the Life.

No one gets to the Father apart from me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well.

From now on, you do know him.

You've even seen him!"

# Short Reflection

Alma Rae

# Invitation to Light Candle

Ian Douglas

There are tables at the front corners should you wish to come forward to light a candle.

Reflective Music

while those present come forward to light candles
Over The Rainbow
Eva Cassidy

# Time to Remember

Names of those bereaved to be read out Member of the Potts Team

Prayer

Father Parkes

Invitation to Tea and Coffee

lan Douglas

## Closing Hymn

## O Little Town Of Bethlehem

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 dark streets shining
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in you tonight.

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.

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.

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 Emmanuel.

# **Benediction**

Ian Douglas

Closing Music

O Come, O Come Emmanuel Instrumental







## "Absent At The Table, Present In The Stars

As the Christmas season is drawing near We celebrate love and a child born in a stable But we reflect on some sadness in the year For some family and friends cannot join this years table

But the memory we have of them at their best Keeps their presence alive all year round Though they are now at everlasting rest In your heart they will always be found

Though they are gone they are never forgotten by you Only one thing is eternal and that is your love The pain and the sadness proves the love true They're absent at the table, present in the stars above Hunter Hannah



