

## HYMNS

36 Hark the glad sound  
53 The people that in darkness sat  
57 Ye servants of the Lord  
41 Lo, he comes

## PRAYERS

- For the Church: in the Anglican Church of Hong Kong (Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui) we pray for Emmanuel Church Pokfulam, the Revd Robert Martin  
- For our world  
- For the sick, especially, Valery Garrett, Stephen Cherry  
- For the departed, especially Ruth Cherry, Tang Kwong Ping.

*If you would like to include anyone by name in our prayers, please let Hugh or Will know.*

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*Thank you to all our volunteers!*

*Next Sunday No Morning Service!*

VOLUNTEERS	TODAY	Midnight Mass 24/12
Welcomers	Clive Rough	Fei Fei Li
Altar Server	Julianne Baria	
Readers	Juliet Ide	Juliet Ide
	Alison Harada	Judith Crosbie-Chen
Intercessions	Judith Crosbie-Chen	
Offertory & Collection	Fei Fei Li	
Chalice	Jeff Blount	
	Ronald Yuen	
Refreshments	<b>Christmas refreshment</b>	

**This afternoon Violin and Organ Recital at St Stephen's 3pm, with our new part time organist Jessie Lau.**

**St Stephen's Parish Retreat Jan 27, Shek O Deepening our Faith.  
Set aside time to come close to God.  
Book your place with Will.**

**After Christmas, Will is going away from Dec 27 to Jan 15.**

### *Christmas Services*

*24th Christmas Eve (No morning service)  
5pm Crib Service with Carols  
for young families.  
11pm Midnight Mass*

*25th Christmas Day  
10am Christmas Family Eucharist with Carols*

If you're not free one Sunday morning, try Sunday 6pm at St John's Cathedral.  
Tonight: 9 Lessons & Carols  
Next Week: No 6 o'clock service

Please follow our facebook page;  
St Stephen's Chapel Stanley Hong Kong

<https://www.facebook.com/ststephenschapel/?fref=ts>

*The colour of the priest's stole and the veil covering the chalice is purple for preparing.*

*Please join us for tea and coffee after church.*

The Revd Will Newman  
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Chapel Secretary Fei Fei Li  
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# St. Stephen's Chapel

Stanley, Hong Kong

A daughter church of St. John's Cathedral  
in the Anglican / Episcopal Diocese of Hong Kong Island  
[www.ststephen.org.hk](http://www.ststephen.org.hk)

17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017

The Third Sunday of Advent

9.30am Holy Eucharist  
The Revd Will Newman



*St John The Baptist with The Scribes and Pharisees.*

*1<sup>st</sup> Reading from the book of Isaiah*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

*Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11*

*Reader: This is the word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.*

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*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians*

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

*1 Thessalonians 5.16-24*

*Reader: This is the word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.*

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THE GOSPEL

Priest: Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

*John 1.6-8, 19-28*

*Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
All: Praise to you, O Christ.*

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