



Prince of Peace

CHRISTMAS EVE AT
CHINESE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
SURRY HILLS



The Everlasting Gift of the Son

REV. CHRIS CHAN

The most familiar verse in the Bible that succinctly encapsulates the gospel message says "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16) The gift of God's Son is expressed in the past tense, referring to the coming of Jesus Christ to earth as a baby in Bethlehem. That was over 2000 years ago. Truly done and dusted? Is our celebration at Christmas merely a commemoration of a past event and a showing of our appreciation, like on ANZAC Day? Is it just a one-day of nostalgia and conditioned "happiness", after which we return to the busy reality of the present?

Christmas is far more than that. In that verse, the consequences of Jesus's birth is expressed in the present, i.e. of continuing significance. That lowly birth of the Saviour 2000 years ago was a world-changing event, the effect of which impacts humanity henceforth till the end of the world and beyond. He came with the specific mission of dying for the sin of the world so that we can be forgiven. The consequences of that is eternal – at any time "whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life". They can look forward to entering the heavenly kingdom for eternity because of what Christ has done for us. Moreover, since His coming at the first Christmas, He has never left us. He dwells in believers' lives through His Spirit, hence one of His names in the Bible is Emmanuel, meaning God with us. He journeys with us in everyday life through thick and thin, as mentioned in today's passage foretold by the prophet Isaiah some 700 years before the birth of Jesus – He is continually our:

- Wonderful Counselor – our excellent personal advisor and guide as well as companion and comforter;
- Mighty God – the second Person of the one true God who is in control of all things and executes a wonderful plan for each one of His people;
- Everlasting Father – He is a Saviour who is father-like in His loving kindness in caring and protecting us; and
- Prince of Peace – the mediator who reconciles sinful people like ourselves to the Holy God, as well as removing alienation and hostility between people.

It is because of that kind of relationship with the Saviour that life becomes abundant for those who believe in Him, as Jesus promised.

It is for that everlasting gift of the Son of God, Jesus Christ that we celebrate with joy and thankfulness today for the past, present, and future. If you do not yet know Him personally, He is calling you today through the Christmas message to seek and find Him.

Order Of Service

WELCOME

ADAM & ALISON

CAROLS

O COME ALL YOU UNFAITHFUL
PRINCE OF HEAVEN

BIBLE READING

EPHESIANS 2:14-18

LOVINA

CAROLS

JOY TO THE WORLD (JOYFUL JOYFUL)
CHRISTMAS DAY
O HOLY NIGHT

PRAYER

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

SOPHIA

CAROLS

COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS
O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL
(HIS NAME SHALL BE)

CHILDREN'S TALK

MARK

BIBLE READING

ISAIAH 9:6-7

OWEN

SERMON

THE EVERLASTING GIFT OF THE SON:
OUR PRINCE OF PEACE

REV. CHRIS CHAN

COLLECTION

REFLECTION

CAROLS

MANGER THRONE
KING OF KINGS

CLOSING PRAYER

ADAM & ALISON





WORSHIP SERVICES

9am	Family English Service
9am	Mandarin Service
10:30	Cantonese Service
12pm	English/Cantonese Service
4pm	English Service (Young Adults)

MINISTRIES

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

CHRISTMAS EVE COLLECTION

CPC General Fund
BSB: 032044
Account number: 225830

This year's collection from the Christmas services will be given to:

- World Vision Hong Kong, to support those affected by the Tai Po fire disaster in Hong Kong
- First Nations Gospel Ministry, for outreach work among First Nations people in Australia

These donations are not tax-deductible.

