

*Jesus*  
THE REASON  
FOR THE  
SEASON




## **25 DECEMBER 2021 CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

Speaker : Revd Dr Joshua Sudharman

Sermon Title : **Falling in love with Jesus**

Text : John 1:1-14



**And the Word became flesh and dwelt  
among us, and we have seen his glory,  
glory as of the only Son from the Father,  
full of grace and truth.**

**John 1:14**



### **COLLECT**

#### **Christmas Day**

All praise to you, Almighty God and heavenly king, who sent your Son into the world to take our nature upon him and to be born of a pure virgin. Grant that, as we are born again in him, so he may continually dwell in us and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen

## Warm welcome to St John's Chapel

- ❖ A very special welcome to friends and visitors who are with us today at this Christmas service. We are so glad for your presence and friendship.
- ❖ We warmly welcome our guest preacher Revd Dr Joshua Sudharman (Warden, St Peter's Hall) and his family with us.

## Baptism

We give thanks to God for his grace and mercy upon the following who will be baptized on Christmas Day:

Adult: Lee Bee Loon Serene

Infants: Ang En Rui Hannah, Thaddeus Ho, Noah Ng En Jie,  
Zander Reigh Singh, Cody Yee Ke Di

## Covenant Renewal Service

There will be a Covenant Service on **Saturday 1 January, 4.30pm & Sunday 2 January 2022, 9.00am** in our sanctuary. It will be a time of thanksgiving and renewal of our covenant with God.

## 2021 Tithe and Freewill Offering

As the Lord enables and provides for you, church members and regular worshippers are requested to return their Tithe to the Lord for year 2021 and also give their Freewill Offerings to God, before Friday, 31 December 2021. This will enable us to match 2021 expenditure to 2021 income in a timely and appropriate manner for budget management purposes. Thanks be to God for every gracious provision.

## John 1:1-14

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 He was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.
- 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.
- 9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.
- 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.
- 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,
- 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
- 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

# The Heart Of Christmas

Charles Dickens' novel *A Christmas Carol* was released on December 19, 1843, and has never been out of print. It tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a wealthy, sour, stingy man who says, "Every idiot who goes about with 'Merry Christmas,' on his lips, should be boiled with his own pudding!" Yet, one Christmas Eve, Scrooge is radically changed into a generous and happy man. With great humour and insight, Dickens' book captures the universal longing for inner peace.

As a young man, the apostle Paul opposed Jesus and His followers with a vengeful spirit. He "made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison" (Acts 8:3). But one day he encountered the risen Christ, and his life became a different story (Acts 9:1-16).

In a letter to Timothy, his son in the faith, Paul described that life-changing event by saying, even though he was "*a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man . . . the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus*" (1 Timothy 1:13-14).

Jesus was born into our world and gave His life so that we can be forgiven and transformed through faith in Him. This is the heart of Christmas!

***A change in behaviour begins with Jesus changing our heart.***

(Source: David McCasland, ***Our Daily Bread***,  
<https://odb.org/SG/2014/12/19/the-heart-of-christmas>)