## **24. December 2020**



## Preparation for Christmas, Part 5 "The gift of God's love"

The promise is fulfilled, it has come true. God becomes visible to us.

Jesus' favourite disciple will later say:

"The Word became flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that he has from the Father as only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth." (In 1:14)

What grace God offers us with the coming of his Son!

What dignity he bestows on his creatures, so that he himself takes on our form and becomes truly human!

How much he must love us!

How much he wants us to love him so that he can give us gifts.

"Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received - one gift replacing another" (Jn 1:16).

and we are children of God!

"But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believed in his name who were born not from human stock or human desire or human will but from God himself." (Jn 1:12-13)

What power does a child of God have?

It is the power of love. With it we penetrate the heart of God and it penetrates our heart.

It is Love that transforms us.

Love gives us the true beauty

Love gives the final splendour to everything. Love never stops!

"Though I command languages both human and angelic - if I speak without love, I am no more than a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. And though I have the power of prophecy, to pe-netrate all mysteries and knowledge, and though I have all the faith necessary to move moun-tains - if I am without love, I am nothing. Though I should give away to the poor all that I possess, and even give up my body to be burned - if I am without love, it will do me no good whatever. Love is always patient and kind; love is never jealous; love is not boastful or con-ceited, it is never rude and never seeks its own advantage, it does not take offence or store up grievances. Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but finds its joy in the truth. It is always ready to make allowances, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes. Love never comes to an end. But if there are prophecies, they will be done away with; if tongues, they will fall silent; and if knowledge, it will be done away with." (1 Cor 13:1-8)

Christmas is the gift of God's love!

How can our Heavenly Father tell us more clearly?

The coming of Jesus is God's great declaration of love to us human beings!

We of Harpa Dei want to respond to his infinite love with songs this night and declare our love to the Lord.

We invite you all to the Christmas concert at midnight European time, on our YouTube channel

(https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpegxz3g93rBc\_yJFLQ\_Ngw/videos). Tell other people, the angels will be there too. They love it when the Lord is praised! After all, it was they who brought the good news to the shepherds:

"In the countryside close by there were shepherds out in the fields keeping guard over their sheep during the watches of the night. An angel of the Lord stood over them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Look, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And all at once with the angel there was a great throng of the hosts of heaven, praising God with the words: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favours." (Lk 2:8-14).

So until later! Let us unite in praise to God!