

ORDER OF SERVICE

31 December 2017

Christmas 1



Another view of Christmas

WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE

Wherever you are on your faith's journey,
wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to,
whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome here.

Please join in the congregational responses printed in ***bold italics***.

Please stand if you are able, for the hymns and the offering prayer.

We usually sing the hymns without announcement.

To use the ***loop system*** in the church, turn your hearing aids on to the appropriate setting.

Printed copies of the reflection are available at the back of the church for people with extreme hearing loss. For others they can be picked up at the end of the Gathering.

Please note your nearest fire exit.

The church and hall have been earthquake strengthened. In an earthquake: drop, cover and hold.

GATHERING

Spirit of life, bring to us beauty.

The beauty of coloured wild flowers and ripened fruit.

Bring to us strength.

***The strength of torrents of rain-filled rivers
and the quiet strength of a Pohutukawa's roots,
holding on to shoreline cliffs.***

Bring to us pleasure.

***The pleasures of maple syrup on pancakes
and the wind grabbing a kite and taking it high.***

Bring to us wisdom.

***The knowledge that new life springs up without help.
In spite of everything we do or do not do.***

Spirit of life, come to us

that all the energy and power of the seasons of the year
will make us tall and smiling and expectant.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

AA72 'In this familiar place'

Words & Music by Colin Gibson

Words & Music © 1994 Hope Publishing Co.

In this familiar place

I know the mystery of your grace.

Refrain:

For the love that I receive, for the truth that I believe,

I praise and thank you; for this here and now.

In halting song and word
the music of your voice is heard. *Refrain*

Among these friends of mine
I taste the company divine. *Refrain*

Within this narrow sphere
I learn that you are everywhere. *Refrain*

WELCOME

Kia ora tatou.

Kia ora.

Please stand

RECOGNISING THE SACRED

As we gather together for the last time this year;
in these seasons of Christmas, New Year, and Summer,
may we give thanks for the past,
and celebrate the future, yet unknown,
which shall be woven out of our possibilities and realities,
our hopes and our fears.

People face the North

We turn to face the direction North
the season of Summer and the element of water,
and search it for a blessing we might carry into that future.
The gift of the North is love, for it speaks of great endurance.

Love offers us, above all else, the power of strength in adversity.

***May we hold love in our hearts...
and bring to our future the gentle power
of strength in adversity.***

We bring blue, colour of water,
stronger than any obstacle, and place love
in our circle, the world.

If you are wearing blue move to the North and stand

Silence

People turn right and face the East

We turn to face East, the direction of the rising sun,
the season of Spring and the element of air,
and search it for a blessing we might carry into that future.

The gift of the East is wisdom.

In the morning light we can see and know
and understand more clearly.

It speaks of the breath of new life on earth.

Wisdom offers us, above all else, the confidence
to know ourselves more fully.

***May we hold wisdom before us and with it...
bring to our future the confidence to know
ourselves more fully.***

We bring white, colour of air, wrapping all life,
and place wisdom in our circle, the world.

If you are wearing white move to the east.

Silence

People turn right and face the South

We turn to the South, the direction of Winter
and the element of earth,
and search it for a blessing we might carry into that future.

The gift of the South is mystery, for,
in the silent darkness of the earth, possibility
stretches toward its future light.

Mystery offers us, above all else, the courage to dream
and wait and dream again.

***May we hold mystery in our depths of our being...
and bring to our future the courage to dream
and wait and dream again.***

We bring green, colour of the earth,
fertile with possibility, and place mystery
in our circle, the world.

If you are wearing green move to the south

Silence

The people turn right and face West

We turn to the West the place of the setting sun,
the season of autumn and the element of fire,
and search it for a blessing we might carry into that future.
The gift of the West is beauty,
for it speaks of great peace and serenity.

Beauty offers us, above all else, the freedom to live
in wonder and gratitude.

***May we carry beauty in our lives...
and bring to our future the freedom
to live in wonder and gratitude.***

We bring red, colour of fire, dancing
and casting light, and place beauty
in our circle, the world.

*If you are wearing Red move to the west
For the rest please find the gift of the colours you are wearing.*

Silence

Look at this day!
For it is life, the very life of life.

In its brief course lie all the verities and realities of your existence:
the bliss of growth, the glory of action, the splendour of beauty.

For yesterday is but a dream,
and tomorrow is only a vision,
but today, well lived, makes every yesterday
a dream of happiness
and every tomorrow a vision of hope.

Look well, therefore, to this day. (Sanskrit/ep)

(MTWinter/wpws. Adapted by G Vosper & R Hunt for the Common Dreams 2 Conference, Melbourne 2010)

PASSING THE PEACE

Feel free to pass the peace with those nearby or move to greet others further away. Passing the peace consists of shaking hands and saying "Peace be with you." The response is "Peace be with you" or just "And with you." Or, simply saying "Hello" is a good idea. Also feel free to simply observe if you wish!

LIGHTING THE RAINBOW ROOM CANDLE

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Sue McRae

BLESSING THE CHILDREN *(All stand)*

We hope you will enjoy worship working with the activity pages.
We bless you. Amen.

HYMN

AA 113 'Our life has its seasons'

Words © 1992 Shirley Erena Murray. Music by Colin Gibson.
Music © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

Our life has its seasons, and God has the reasons
why spring follows winter, and new leaves grow,
for there's a connection with our resurrection
that flowers will bud after frost and snow.

*Refrain: So there's never a time to stop believing,
there's never a time for hope to die,
there's never a time to stop loving,
these three things go on.*

There's a time to be planting, a time to be plucking,
a time to be laughing, a time to weep,
a time to be building, a time to be breaking,
a time to be waking, a time to sleep. *Refrain*

There's a time to be hurting, a time to be healing,
a time to be saving, a time to spend,
a time to be grieving, a time to be dancing,
a time for beginning, a time to end. *Refrain*

THE WORD IN TEXTS

John Morgan

Epistle

Colossians 3: 12-17

Gospel

Luke 2: 22-40

RESPONSE

For the Word in scripture,
for the Word among us,
for the Word within us,
we give thanks

REFLECTION 'My chat with Santa'

Ross Scott

Litany for the Past Year

Let us remember and celebrate the past year.

First candle is lit

We light this candle remembering the children
who were baptised/attended the Rainbow Room this past year.

***This light beams so that all young people may be able
to grow up receiving affection and protection.***

Silence

Second candle is lit

We light this second candle remembering all those
who have experienced grief and loss in our congregation:
the death of a loved one,
the ending of a significant relationship,
the loss of employment.

This light beams for their continuing comfort and support.

Silence

Third candle is lit

We light this third candle remembering all those who
have shared in ministry in this place:
Ministers, lay preachers, organists and singers,
those who offered pastoral care
or reminded us of our wider community,
those who visited hospitals, nursing homes,
cooked meals or offered transport.

***This light beams with the acts of compassion
offered by/shared in our midst.***

Silence

Fourth candle is lit

We light this fourth candle remembering all those who have visited our congregation in recent times and decided to call this place 'home'.

This light beams in order that we continue to explore and enjoy everything we have received, as a gift.

Silence

Fifth candle is lit

We light this fifth candle mindful of those who have called us to risk the way of Jesus: to create inclusive and safe, open, and honest communities for all.

This light beams as a symbol of hope in the midst of both challenge and comfort.

Silence

Sixth candle is lit

We light this sixth candle having each and every one of us in mind, bearing each other in strength and weaknesses, anxieties and hopes.

This light beams on the pathways we have welcomed and where we didn't want to go. It will continue to shine for each of us on the new pathways we will tread.

Silence

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY OF ST ANDREW'S

*People share notices and visitors are welcomed. If you have a notice, please move to the front row, ready to speak **briefly** from the lectern.*

For the benefit of newcomers, please introduce yourself before you begin.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

We think today of the people of Central African Republic and the Congo. In New Zealand, we remember those in Parliament, and today we name Tutehounuku Kaoako and Melissa Lee list MPs. Here in the Central

Presbytery, we pray for the leaders and people of Stratford - St Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

PRAYER FOR ST ANDREW'S

on card

OFFERING PRAYER

Amen

We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the table, and those which wing their way electronically from our banks to the church's account.

HYMN

AA 87 'Lift high the cross'

Words: George W Kitchin, Shirley Erena Murray (adp)

Music: Sydney H Nicholson

Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Co.

*Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his glorious name!*

Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout!
if we are silent, even stones cry out. *Refrain*

Jesus, you wept to see our human strife,
teach us compassion for each human life. *Refrain*

Peace was your plea, and peace your loving theme,
let peace be our passport, peace a living dream. *Refrain*

Great is the cost of walking on this road,
to follow and suffer with the Son of God. *Refrain*

Worlds to be born and children yet to be
come, take up this song into eternity. *Refrain*

BLESSING

Our time in this sacred
place may have ended,
but our connection to each other
and our respective communities remain.
May our God.....

SUNG AMEN

THANK YOU

Vivien Chiu
Our Musician today

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 Words/music to new hymns and gathering statement, prayers and affirmation are original unless acknowledged. If Susan Jones is the worship leader any liturgy will have been written by her. These words can be used in other worship and small group situations without seeking permission. Please acknowledge the source.

*There is a 2-hour parking limit on the street in the Wellington CBD on Sundays.
 If you are staying for an after-church activity, you can move your car into the car park,
 or move to a new space on the street.*

We welcome all visitors and invite you to stay for morning tea or coffee.

Please sign the visitors' book at the back of the church.

We hope you enjoyed worshipping with us. At St Andrew's we want you to feel at home—to join in with the activities of our community of faith, or to come and find your own spiritual place in your own time. If you would like more information about St Andrew's or to explore becoming a member or associate member, please fill in one of the welcome leaflets (at the back of the church) and hand it to a minister or a welcoming team member.



AUDIO REFLECTIONS

Sunday reflections are usually available on our website.

<http://www.standrews.org.nz/sunday-gathering/orders-of-service>

GENEROUS GIVING

St Andrew's depends on the generous giving of members and friends. If you would like to make a donation or support our work through planned giving, please contact our Parish Office or Treasurer. Bank account for donations is: St Andrews on The Terrace, BNZ Lambton Qy, 02-0534-0004022-02

SUNDAY ROSTERS

A folder with an outline of each duty is now kept on the back table. If you are unable to do your rostered duty please arrange a swap/substitute and inform the office. Thank you.

Thanks to this week's volunteers

Welcoming	Richard Keller and Trish McBride
Sound	Paul Satherley
Offering	Fiona McDougal and Joan Tyler
Coffee/tea	Jon Schrader and Linda & Norman Wilkins
Time with the Children	Sue McRae
Readings	John Morgan
Prayers of the People	TBC
Musician	Vivien Chiu
Rainbow Room Helper	Pam Fuller

On duty Sunday 7 January

Welcoming	Pam Fuller
Sound	Jennifer Bush-Daumec
Offering	Paul Barger and John Morgan
Coffee/tea	Peter Bacos, Peter Cowley, Sonia Groes Petrie, Katrina Harper
Time with the Children	Graham Howell
Readings	Norman Wilkins
Prayers of the People	Lynne Dovey
Musician	Judy Dumbledon
Rainbow Room Helper	Graham Howell

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Sunday 7 January 10am Sunday Gathering led by Bronwyn White
Wednesday 10 January Cuppa and a Chat from 10.30am in the Centre
Sunday 14 January 10am Sunday Gathering led by Rev. Barrie Keenan

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES

ADVENT, CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY SERVICES

January 7 10am Gathering led by Bronwyn Angela White
January 14 10am Gathering led by Rev Barrie Keenan
January 21 10am Gathering led by Rev Dr Jim Cunningham
January 28 10am Gathering led by Rev Ken Irwin

KEEPING THE CHURCH HEALTHY AND SAFE

In recent months a lot of work has been done sorting cupboards. Sometimes we have changed where goods are stored. Please return objects and especially hazardous substances to where you found them, even if it is a strange and new location for you. If you notice anything unsafe around the buildings please let the Office know. Incident reporting forms are available in the foyer, please use them if anything happens so we can follow up and eliminate or minimise risks.

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

GET A CWS APPEAL ENVELOPE TODAY IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONATED

NORTHLAND KIDZ CLUB'S SUMMER PROGRAMME – BEFORE & AFTER XMAS

Each day we're out-and-about. Lots of our old favourites (ice-skating, go-karting, mini-golf, Time Cinema, ten-pin bowling) and beaches, parks, play areas and swimming pools. We'll be on the ferry to Somes/Matiu Island, attending Circus School, learning jazz musical theatre style dance, touring Government House and the Lego Exhibition at Te Papa. \$45 per child per day (third child onwards : \$20), 8.30 a.m to 6 p.m each day. Check (www.nkc.org.nz), or contact Jan (022-140-2612), e-mail (nkc.jan@gmail.com).

PREVENTING SUICIDE

A series of one or two-day workshops on reducing suicide using the Solution Focused Approach.

Visit the website for more information -

<http://zerosuicidesolutionfocused2018.grow.co.nz/venue>

MARY POTTER HOSPICE

Mary Potter Hospice's new Patron, Kerry Prendegast asks us to please give generously this Christmas. Read newsletter here: marypotter.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Mary-Potter-Hospice-Summer-Newsletter-2017.pdf
marypotter.org.nz. Donate here: <http://marypotter.org.nz/support-us/donations>

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE

To create a lively, open Christian faith community,
to act for a just and peaceful world, and to be catalysts for discovery,
compassion and celebration in the capital.

MINISTRY AT ST ANDREW'S – THE TEAM

Minister	Susan Jones
Parish Council Convenor	Lynne Dovey
Parish Council Clerk	Colma Froggatt
Treasurer	Paul Barber
Facilities Management Group	Douglas Wood
Pastoral Convenors	Linda Wilkins and Maxine Cunningham Lois Robertson, Brian Burrell
Church Music Coordinator	Vivien Chiu
Theologian in Residence	Lloyd Geering
Presbytery Representative	Colma Froggatt
Concert Coordinator	Marjan van Waardenberg
Rainbow Room Coordinator	Jess McKnight
Centre Manager	Laetitia Brunell
Office Administrator	Jillene Everett
Custodian, SATRS Administrator	Peter Cowley
Facilities Assistant	Lillian Norman
Centre Assistant	Hilary Penwarden
Roster Coordinator	Rosemary Lawrence

St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

30 The Terrace – P O Box 5203, Wellington 6145

Office Hours: 9 am – 5 pm Monday to Friday

Phone (04) 472-9211

office@standrews.org.nz



Rev Dr Susan Jones

Office: (04) 472-9376. Home: (04) 909-9612. Cell: 027-321-4870

minister@standrews.org.nz

