

St Andrew's on The Terrace

Hato Anaru o Te Parehua
Founded 1840

ORDER OF SERVICE

24th December 2012

Christmas Eve



Madonna and Child
Tobie Giddio, 2010

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 to sing if you are able. We will sing the hymns without announcement.

*Please note your nearest fire exit.
The church and hall have been earthquake strengthened.
In an earthquake: drop, cover and hold.*

INTROIT: ST ANDREW'S SINGERS

Gloria

Words and Music: Colin Gibson

OPENING RESPONSES

From the east to the west,
flowing towards all people on earth,
comes the gentle light of hope
born in human form.

Watch and see, the wonder of the gift.

On this Christmas Eve, among friends and strangers,
may we celebrate the fullness of life,
in the presence of God, source of love and justice.

CAROL

It came upon a midnight clear

Edmund H. Sears 1849

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
With news of joy foretold,
"Peace on the earth, good will to all
From heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
Love's banner all unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
Over all the weary world.

Above its sad and lowly plains
Old echoes plaintive ring,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever circling years
Shall the time foretold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

We have waited with hope
 for God to bring justice and righteousness.
We have waited with peace
 for God's shalom to be felt.
We have waited with joy,
 celebrating the things God has already done.
We have waited with love,
 awed by how God's love has been shown to us.

Tonight we light this candle
to celebrate the light of God, coming into the world
in the birth of Jesus.

***O God of hope and peace, joy and love
From that stable so long ago
your light shines out
into every corner of the world.
Help us to sing with angels
of the joy of your coming.
Help us to live by your light not only today,
but throughout the whole year,
so that tidings of peace and goodwill to all
will truly transform everything.***

CAROL*Dream a dream*

Words: Shirley Murray. Music: Charlotte Murray

Dream a dream, a hopeful dream
as children do on Christmas Eve
imaginings, surprising things
to hold and to believe.

Dream a time, this Christmas time
when no-one's hungry or afraid;
that weapons go, and harvests grow,
that friends are met and made.

Dream a peace, our planet's peace,
the greening of the earth at play,
the holy ground where life is found,
where God has touched the clay.

Dream a gift, the Christmas gift
that changes everything we see:
the shimmering of angel,
the Child, the Mystery.

Children come to the front

STORYTIME FOR CHILDREN**CAROL***Away in a manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head,
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and lift us to heaven, to live with you there.

PASSING THE PEACE

The Holy Child of peace has come to dwell among us!
Let us share the peace with one another.
Christ has come among us!
The peace of Christ and the joy of Christmas be always with you.
And also with you.

SOLO

Mantle of Blue

Georgia Gray

By Frank Bridge. Words by Padraic Colum

GOSPEL

Luke 2: 1-7

Cam Smart

The Birth

Luke 2: 8-14

Joan Tyler

The Angels

Luke 2: 15-20

Brian Burrell

The Shepherds

CONTEMPORARY READING

Anna Smith

Advent Triptych 3 by Shirley Murray

REFLECTION

Margaret Mayman

Peace born among us and through us

ST ANDREW'S SINGERS

Peace Song

Words and music: Dorothy Buchanan

For you my friend I have one wish,
I wish that you will find
The way to know and love your friend,
Which comes from peace of mind.

No more of warring hate or doubt,
No talk or thought of gain,
Time now for sowing seeds of joy:
La paix, la joie, l'amour.

Peace, shalom,

Pax, aroha,

La paix, la joie, l'amour

Peace to all who search for truth,

Peace and joy and love.

If we would buy with effort peace,
The cost to us would be
Our search for fortune, petty needs,
We'd find tranquility.

To find your true self seek for peace
With head and hand and mind,
With friends and lovers unite for peace,
Peace and joy and love.

*Peace, shalom,
Pax, aroha,
La paix, la joie, l'amour
Peace to all who search for truth,
Peace and joy and love.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Mike Wespel-Rose

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Eternal Spirit, Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Love-maker,
source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
loving God, in whom is heaven.
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom come on earth!
With the bread that we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.*

COMMUNION

St Andrew's is an open community and all are invited to the table. 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 to share in the communion. This sacred meal is for all people.

COMMUNION HYMN

Where is the room?

Shirley Erena Murray

1. Where is the room,
Where is the house of Christmas?
Where shall we welcome Jesus,
Where are the signs of home?
Where are the signs of home?
2. Let Christ have space,
place at the heart of living,
centre for birth's new breathing,
cradle for hope and peace,
cradle for hope and peace.
3. Let there be room,
room for the friend and stranger,
room without hurt and anger,
room for whoever come,
room for whoever come.
4. Let love be here,
love from the Christmas stable,
love at our open table,
love to be shared all year,
love to be shared all year.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Michael Morwood (adapted)

On this special night of nights
once again we celebrate a Creative Mystery we name God.

A serendipitous creativity beyond our words
and beyond our images.

A presence which undergirds our human existence
in all its complexity and all its diversity.

All our collected human wisdom is a
visible expression of this Creative Mystery,
active in all places, at all times,
in individuals and cultures,
seeking expression in the creation of a just and peaceful world.

As Christians we rejoice in the birth of Jesus
in whom we see the fullness of human possibility:
to make God visible in our lives.

In Jesus we have seen this Mystery
come to expression in human form.

Like us he grew in wisdom.

Questioning.

Searching for meaning.

Shaping convictions.

Enacting justice.

Experiencing love

and coming to know love's connectedness with God.

Jesus stood firmly in his own religious tradition
and preached good news to all people
dreaming of a better world.

We rejoice that Jesus led people
to discover the sacred in the ordinary:

***in the crowd,
in the rejected ones,
in everyday life,
in human yearnings to be better people,
and in being neighbour to one another.***

And so we recall the ancient story...

At the end of a journey, among friends, gathered round a table,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks,
broke it and shared the bread with his friends,
asking them to gather in memory of him,
and to live in a covenant of love,
with their God.

***Let us share this bread and be strengthened,
loving as Jesus loved and
bringing peace and justice to the world.***

We take this wine,
mindful of our responsibility
to be bearers of forgiveness, tolerance and understanding.

We drink committing ourselves to allow the Spirit of generosity
that took flesh and moved so boldly in Jesus
to move in our lives.

***To this commitment we give our 'Amen'
and offer it as our Christmas gift
to our family, friends and neighbours
and to all the earth.***

God of life, with this bread and this wine,
we celebrate the birth and life of Jesus,
and we offer ourselves to follow his way.

***Bless us and these gifts,
so that we may take light and hope,
love and peace, into the world,
now and forever. Amen.***

COMMUNION IS SHARED

Communion is served by intinction (dipping). Come to the front of the church and receive the bread (or gluten-free cracker), taking a piece large enough to dip into the wine (silver cup) or grape juice (pottery cup). Eat the bread dipped in wine/juice.

You will be given a carol candle as you return to your seat.

We share in the bread of life, the cup of blessing, the light of the world.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Corelli and Bach

Fiona McDougal, Flute
Mike Wespel-Rose, Guitar

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT (remain seated)

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you, who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light:

*come and worship
Christ the newborn King,
come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Silent night, holy night;
all is calm, all is bright.
Round the virgin mother and child
Holy infant so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night;
shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.

Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn king,
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and all life reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to live as one with earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hail the heaven-born prince of peace!
Hail the child of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.

Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn king.

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold the
fond desire of nations

Yes, child, we greet you,
Born on Christmas morning,
Jesus, to you be all glory given.
Word of creation,
now in flesh appearing.

*O come in adoration, O come in adoration,
O come in adoration, Christ is born.*

ST ANDREW'S SINGERS

O Hear the Angel Voices
Arranged by Larry Shackley

BLESSING

Dorothy McRae-McMahon

May the star go ahead of us toward the Holy One
The night be filled with the sound of singing
And the morning bring the hush of peace on earth.
Amen.

RECESSIONAL CAROL

Joy to the world! The Promised One
has come shalom to bring.
Let ev'ry heart prepare a room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Saviour reigns:
let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

Graceful and true, the Saviour rules,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of the way of peace,
and wonders of God's love,
and wonders of God's love,
and wonders, wonders of God's love.

***A retiring offering will be received for the
Christian World Service Christmas Gift Appeal.***

*Thank you to everyone who participated in the service this evening and
to Peter Franklin, Jane Keller, Georgia Gray, Clare Brockett
Fiona McDougal (flute), Mike Wespel-Rose (guitar),
and the St Andrew's Singers for the music.*

Christmas Day Celebration Worship
St Andrew's on The Terrace
9:30 a.m. tomorrow
Everyone Welcome!

The church office is closed for the holidays.

We will re-open on Monday 7 January.

For urgent pastoral care matters contact Margaret on 027-226-4608.

For building matters after 28 December call Peter on 022-610 2910.

*Roster sign-up sheet for Christmas Day and Sundays until Waitangi Day is
at the back of the church. Please sign up if you can help.*



St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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.
