# St Andrew's on The Terrace

*Hato Anaru o Te Parehua* Founded 1840

# **ORDER OF SERVICE**

30<sup>th</sup> December 2012



# First Sunday after Christmas Honouring 2012 - looking to 2013



The sermon story happened here

#### 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. AA is the NZ hymnbook *Alleluia Aotearoa*. We will sing the hymns without announcement.

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

#### **GATHERING**

With faith to face our challenges,
With love that casts out fear,
With hope to trust tomorrow,
We accept this day as the gift it is - a gift of life and a call to live more

Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life.

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

As our congregation gathers lift our lives, with love amaze; offer some melodious treasure, fill our hearts with wondering praise. Crashing brass and singing cymbals, soaring organ, sound and light; fill this space with awe and thunder, lift us through the veil of night.

Then a sudden, silent stillness holds an echo in the air: on a knife edge, balanced, waiting, in the silence, you are there.

As Our Congregation Gathers

Tune: 'Nettleton' 87 87D

Joy beyond imagination, love incarnate, hope to hold, faith we cannot sound or fathom, gripped in wonder, we behold

#### **OPENING RESPONSES**

God of our yesterdays and God of our tomorrows we ask that you be with us now, God of our today.

# May it be so.

God of vision and new possibilities open our hearts and minds to the reality of your presence.

## May it be so.

The world is always radiant.

Whether at night under the dimmest starlight, or at noon under the brightest sun, the world is giving forth a vast legend.

It only awaits the involvement of the eye, the engagement of the ear.

So let us live this moment in all its fullness, for in it is all realization, all time.

#### WELCOME

**PRAYER** 

LORD'S PRAYER on card

#### LIGHTING THE RAINBOW CANDLE

#### TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Rainbow Room is on recess this Sunday because of the school holidays. There are toys at the back of the church that children are welcome to enjoy.

#### **PASSING THE PEACE**

#### REMEMBERING THE PAST AND PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

(First candle is lit)

We light this candle remembering all the children who were baptised this year:

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

(Second candle is lit)

We light this second candle bearing in mind all those couples: who have celebrated anniversaries of their relationship this year, those who are newly committed to each other, and especially those who have celebrated silver and golden jubilees.

This light beams for their mutual happiness, and for their strength to uphold each other even in difficult situations.

(Third candle is lit)

We light this third candle remembering all those who have experienced grief and loss this year: 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.

(Fourth candle is lit)

We light this fourth candle commemorating all the people, near and far, who had to live under wars and have suffered violence and anxiety this year.

This light beams that we and they may have a real and lasting peace.

(Fifth candle is lit)

We light this fifth candle remembering all those who have visited our church for a first time and decided to call St. Andrews 'home' this year.

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

(Sixth candle is lit)

We light this sixth candle mindful of the people who have often put their lives at risk to maintain our freedoms, reconciliation and peace this year.

This light beams as a symbol of hope even in the midst of experiences of powerlessness and suffering.

# (Seventh candle is lit)

We light this seventh candle remembering what we have done to care for those who are vulnerable through food banks, advocacy and the Living Wage campaign. Also we look for success in our support for the Marriage Amendment Bill.

This light beams as a symbol of being a Gospel presence in the world that God loves.

(Eighth candle is lit)

We light this eighth candle thankful for how many have been given a greater understanding of reality and the wonder of our world through lectures, sermons, discussions and concerts held here.

This light shines like inspiration, truth and wonder that illuminates our minds and shows us the way that is truly the human and godlike way.

(Ninth candle is lit)

We light this ninth candle having each and everyone of us in mind, supporting each other in our strengths 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 and everyone of us on the new pathways we will tread.

# (Tenth candle is lit)

We light this tenth candle aware that this coming year will bring opportunities and challenges to bring fullness of life, healing and the incarnation of God into the lives of others.

This light beams to show us the worth of others and our purpose to hold up that reality like a mirror before them.

**HYMN** 

Faith Has Set Us on a Journey

Words: Shirley Murray. FFS 14, Tune: Venture

Faith has set us on a journey past the landmarks that we know, taking risks with no insurance but the Word that tells us "Go!" Friend or job or home or lover we may need to leave behind, outworn truths and ways of thinking, baggage to the past consigned.

Some are swags of easy conscience who with others hitch a ride, some are tourist-package Christians, dollar-safe, with Book and guide. There are others on this journey - those who long and pray and search, heave the stones to free the structures, love the Christ and leave the Church.

We are this unlikely people in the Body knit as one, company of clowns and cripples - some are wise and some can run. Prophets are our travel agents, gospel-makers lay this road: to the place of peace and promise faith will take us into God.

WORD IN TEXTS Fiona McDougal

Gospel Luke 2:40-52

## A contemporary reading

The child is missing by Heather Pencavel

The child is missing - a moment's inattention, then the lurch of the heart, the sinking of the stomach 'I thought he was with you.'

The child is missing - the ache of longing, even after years even when you know he is safe, even when there are other children, 'I wonder what he's doing now?'

The child is missing - wandering the streets without a home: home is where blows are struck, and darkness brings abuse and now 'She's gone - good riddance!'

The child is missing - he slept last night in this shop doorway till they came with guns, street cleansing, and he died. 'They got Carlos - tonight it might be us.'

Parent God Hannah knew where Samuel was, and missed him. Mary and Joseph found Jesus in the end, safe in the Temple learning - what agony of fear his parents feel, how much they love him.

Children disappear every day and are not always found though they are often missed.

We remember all missing children and their parents: children kidnapped and afraid, the runaways, the disappeared,

May we learn how to build homes where everyone is valued, communities where everyone is safe, and a world where all children are able to grow strong in mind and body as Jesus did. (Adapted)

#### **RESPONSE**

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us, *We give thanks.* 

REFLECTION Norman Wilkins

A suggestion for a Christian New Year's Resolution

**HYMN** 

*I am the light of the world*VU 87 Tune Light of the world

'I am the light of the world! You people come and follow me!' If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery of what you were meant to do and be.

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and the shepherds have found their way home, the work of Christmas is begun: R
To find the lost and lonely one, to heal the broken soul with love, to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food, to feel the earth below, the sky above! R

To free the prisoner from all chains, to make the powerful care, to rebuild the nations with strength of good will, to see God's children everywhere! R

To bring hope to every task you do, to dance at a baby's new birth, to make music in an old person's heart, and sing to the colours of the earth! R

#### 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.

#### **OFFERING**

God, these gifts recognise that in our personal and individual ways we are committed to make this a better world. Give wisdom and enterprise to those who will put these gifts to use so that what is achieved may be indeed very good. Amen.

We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the table and those given to support the mission of the church through automatic payment.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Graham Howell** 

PRAYER FOR ST ANDREW'S

on card

#### **HYMN**

God of life, in Christ you lead us, guiding us along the way.
In our past, through joys and sorrows, you have been our strength and stay.
Keep us faithful, true disciples, in our learning and our praise, celebrating past and present, consecrating future days.

God of words and Word Incarnate, words that challenge and embrace, grant us boldness in our speaking, while we know your loving grace. Give us words both clear and winsome, loving hearts and listening ears, celebrating past and present, consecrating future years.

God of music, psalms and anthems,
help us sing your faith anew:
melodies expanding worship,
harmonies enriching too.
May our lives be hymns in action,
tuned to Christ in note and rhyme,
celebrating past and present, consecrating future time.

God of days and years and eons, still you call as in the past.

Work undone demands our labour; justice yearns for peace at last.

Yours the vision and the challenge; ours the mission and the praise, celebrating past and present, consecrating future days.

#### **BLESSING AND SUNG AMEN**

May the love that gives to life its beauty, the reverence that gives to life its sacredness, and the purposes that give to life its deep significance be strong within each of us and lead us into ever deepening relationships with all of life.

May it be so! Amen.

Thanks to Jane Keller, our pianist this morning.

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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 might like to 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 a "Belonging" form (at the back of the church) and hand it to a minister or a welcoming team member.

# Thanks to this week's volunteers

Welcoming: Jon Schrader, Tbc

Sound: Tbc

Offering: Joan Tyler, Tbc

Coffee/tea: Tbc

On duty Sunday 6 Jan

Welcoming: Tbc

Sound: Peter Cowley

Offering: Kath Kerr, Jon Schrader

Coffee/tea: Tbc
Time with the Children: Tbc

Readings: Frank Hanson

Prayers of the People: Tbc

Musician: Peter Franklin

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's			
Sun 30 Dec	10 am	Sunday gathering led by Rev Norman	
		Wilkins	
Sun 6 Jan	10 am	Sunday gathering led by Margaret	
Mon 7 Jan		Church office open	

# ROSTER SIGN-UP FOR CHRISTMAS AND JANUARY SERVICES

On the back table there is a clip-board with a roster for the services coming up later this month – Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and the Sundays in January and 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Additional readers are also needed for next Sunday's service of readings and carols.

If you wish to participate in the service, please write your name on the roster.

Thank you.

# ITEMS FOR DCM FOODBANK IN JANUARY 2013:

Cereals (other than Weetbix); Spreads (Jam, Honey, Marmalade, Vegemite, Peanut butter); Tinned fish; Pasta sauces; and Single serve meals. Thank you for your support.

## 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**

Senior Minister	Margaret Mayman
Parish Council Convenor	Sonia Petrie
Parish Council Clerk	Maxine Cunningham
Treasurer	Paul Barber
Saving St Andrew's Convenor	Lynne Dovey
Pastoral Convenors	Colma Froggatt, Fiona McDougal
Music Coordinator	Jane Keller
Theologian in Residence	Lloyd Geering
Presbytery Commissioner	
Concert Coordinator	Marjan van Waardenberg
Rainbow Room Coordinator	Monika Demuth-Barber
Parish Manager	David Medland
Custodian	Peter Cowley

# St Andrew's on The Terrace

# www.standrews.org.nz

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