

St Andrew's on The Terrace

Hato Anaru o Te Parehua

Founded 1840

ORDER OF SERVICE

10 January 2015



First Sunday of Epiphany - 'Through the Waters'



Epiphany

ɪˈpɪf(ə)ni,ɛ-/ noun: Epiphany

1. the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi (Matthew 2:1–12).
2. the festival commemorating the Epiphany on 6 January.
noun: epiphany; plural noun: epiphanies
3. a moment of sudden and great revelation or realization.

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: drop, cover and hold.

GATHERING

The word is out, no longer a closely guarded family secret.
All the world can come,
see, hear, smell, touch and taste this sensation.
Bursting on to the world's scene
on this public riverbank
is the man whom Christmas signposts signalled;
the one to whom they pointed
while around them swirled the winds of God whispering;
"New life is now revealed! Realised in human form;
Essence distilled into Existence."

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

AA 113 'Our life has its seasons'

Words: © Shirley Murray. Music: © Colin Gibson

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,
*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,
But there's never a time....

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,
But there's never a time....

OPENING RESPONSES *(please remain standing)*

The wrappings of Christmas have been ripped away

The gift is revealed to all

Let us give thanks for what this means for our lives

For what can be realised within us as a result

For what we can experience of the essence which is God

As we share our existence with this Christ

WELCOME

Kia ora tatou. *Kia ora.*

PRAYER

JESUS PRAYER

Jim Cotter paraphrase on card

LIGHTING THE RAINBOW ROOM CANDLE

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!

THE WORD IN TEXTS

Joan Tyler

Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 43: 1-7

Gospel

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Contemporary reading

'St John the Baptist .1. St John's Eve'

By Malcom Guite in *Sounding the Seasons*

In our poetic journey through the sacred seasons of the year we have come to midsummer! The traditional Church festival for this beautiful, long-lit solstice season is the Feast of St. John the Baptist, which falls on June 24th, [Northern Hemisphere] which was midsummer day in the old Roman Calendar. Luke tells us that John the Baptist was born about 6 months before Jesus, so this feast falls half way through the year, 6 months before Christmas!

The tradition of keeping St. John's Eve with the lighting of Bonfires and Beacons is very ancient, almost certainly pre-Christian, but in my view it is very fitting that it has become part of a Christian festivity. Christ keeps and fulfills all that was best in the old pagan forshadowings of his coming and this Midsummer festival of light is no exception. John was sent as a witness to the light that was coming into the world, and John wanted to point to that light, not stand in its way, hence his beautiful saying 'He must increase and I must diminish', a good watchword for all of those who are, as the prayer book calls us, the 'ministers and stewards of his mysteries'.

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/tag/baptism/>

Midsummer night, and bonfires on the hill
Burn for the man who makes way for the Light:
'He must increase and I diminish still,
until his sun illuminates my night.'

So John the Baptist pioneers our path,
unfolds the essence of the life of prayer,
unlatches the last doorway into faith,
and makes one inner space an everywhere.
Least of the new and greatest of the old,
Orpheus on the threshold with his lyre,
he sets himself aside, and cries "Behold
the One who stands amongst you comes with fire!"
So keep his fires burning through this night,
beacons and gateways for the child of light.

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

'Through the Waters'

Susan Jones

HYMN

'Worship our God in the beauty of holiness'

Tune: WOV 382 Was Lebet

O worship our God in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down with reverence and glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore for divine is the name!

Low on the floor lay your burden of carefulness,
ever with love will it be borne for you,
your sorrows be comforted, prayerfulness answered,
and your steps guided as best for you too.

Fear not to enter God's courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth you have reckoned as yours;
for truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to bring to the cause.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
will be received for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship our God in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down with reverence and glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore for divine is the name!

A RECOGNITION OF FAITH

We recognise those moments of epiphany

- we've all had them -

when we have suddenly realised

everything has changed;

When we have seen deep down inside us

and found there what we did not expect.

Instead of the dark, greedy, grasping selfishness

we have been warned of all our lives,

we have discovered within, instead, light;

light which children's drawings sketch around angels

light which softly glows with compassion and welcome,

beckoning us to own our inner rich resource

which is so like God

as to be no different from that we call divine.

We recognise, in those moments of discovery,

in those glimpses of the truth,

we can never be the same again;

even if the waters are deep and dark

we will be led through them

by a loving guide

who is, sometimes, ourselves.

And thankfulness rises deep within.

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

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. **Please introduce yourself before you begin.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Patricia Booth

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

We think today of the people of Malaysia and Brunei. We pray for understanding between people of different faiths and religions. In New Zealand, we remember those in Parliament, and today we name Nicky Wagner and Maurice Williamson and the people of their electorates of Christchurch Central and Pakuranga.

Here in Wellington, we pray for the leaders and people of St Margaret's Presbyterian Church, Silverstream.

PRAYER FOR ST ANDREW'S

on card

HYMN

AA 156 'Where the road runs out'

Music and words: © Colin Gibson

Where the road runs out and the signposts end,
where we come to the edge of today,
be the God of Abraham for us,
send us out upon our way.

*Lord, you were our beginning, the faith that gave us birth.
We look to you, our ending, our hope for heaven and earth.*

When the coast is left and we journey on
to the rim of the sky and the sea,
be the sailor's friend, be the dolphin Christ,
lead us on to eternity.

Lord, you were our beginning...

When the clouds are low and the wind is strong,
when tomorrow's storm draws near,
be the spirit bird hovering overhead
who will take away our fear.

Lord, you were our beginning...

BLESSING

SUNG AMEN

THANK YOU

Rosemary Collier

Our musician today

Unless otherwise specified all our music is used by permission CCLI Licence 3341550

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 blue "Belonging" form (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

Thanks to this week's volunteers	
Welcoming	Jeni Bryant, Graham Howell
Sound	Tony Cowdry
Offering	Ann Barrie, James Cone
Coffee/tea	Dawn Cowdry, Peter Bacos, Katrina Harper
Time with the Children	Chris Carey-Smith
Readings	Joan Tyler
Prayers of the People	Patricia Booth
Musician	Rosemary Collier
Rainbow Room Helper	In recess, toys at the back of Church

On duty Sunday 17Jan16	
Welcoming	Tony & Sandra Kirby
Sound	Frank Cook
Offering	Norman & Linda Wilkins
Coffee/tea	Janet Horncy, Richard Keller, Ross Young
Time with the Adults	
Readings	Lynne Dovey
Prayers of the People	Mike Wespel-Rose
Musician	Heather Cameron
Rainbow Room Helper	In recess, toys at the back of Church

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Sunday 10 January 10am Sunday Gathering led by Susan Jones
Wednesday 13 January Cuppa and a Chat from 10.30am in the Centre
Wednesday 12.15pm Lunchtime Concert series will resume on Wednesday 10 February
Thursday 14 January 12.30pm Centering Prayer in the Centre
Sunday 17 January 10am Sunday Gathering led by Susan Jones

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Jan 17 10am Sunday Gathering led by Susan.

Jan 24 10am Sunday Gathering led by Jim Cunningham

Jan 31 10am Sunday Gathering led by Frank Hanson

Please note: Susan will be on leave from Monday Jan 18 to Thursday Feb 4th.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE TPPA

During January there will still be activity regarding TPPA. If you wish to keep up-to-date with developments please check the following websites;

"Its Our Future" <http://itsourfuture.org.nz/what-is-the-tppa/>, or the Greenpeace website: www.greenpeace.org/new-zealand/en/take.../Say-no-to-the-TPPA/

You can read what the government says about it at: <http://mfat.govt.nz/Trade-and-Economic-Relations/2-Trade.../index.php> The Combined Trade Unions also have TPPA information on their website. www.union.org.nz/ Go to www.itsourfuture.org.nz for details of ways you can be involved.

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	Sandra Kirby
Parish Council Clerk	Maxine Cunningham
Treasurer	Paul Barber
Facilities Management Group	Douglas Wood
Pastoral Convenors	Fiona McDougal, Brian Burrell, Linda Wilkins
Church Music Coordinator	Vivien Chiu
Theologian in Residence	Lloyd Geering
Presbytery Representative	Heather Macfarlane
Concert Coordinator	Marjan van Waardenberg
Rainbow Room Coordinator	Chris Carey-Smith
Church, Conference and Arts Manager	David Medland
Office Assistant	Karyn Bishop
Custodian, SATRS Administrator	Peter Cowley
Roster Coordinator	Rosemary Lawrence

St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

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