

ORDER OF SERVICE

10am, 24 December 2017

Advent 4 Love



‘Just before 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

On this day, the day before, we still wait

***Though we know the result, it is a holy anticipation
of light in darkness***

***of vulnerability within a power play
of poverty and presence***

of the symbolism, that the divine knows what it is like to be human.

We anticipate all this and more

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

WOV 221 'The first Nowell'

Words anon English c. 17th century (alt)

Music: English trad melody, harmony David Evans

The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell.
Born is the Sovereign of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued, both day and night. ***Refrain***

And by the light of that same Star
Three Wise Men came from country far,
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the Star wherever it went. ***Refrain***

Then enter'd in those Wise Men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offer'd there, in his presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. **Refrain**

Then let us all with loving hearts
Sing praises loud on every part;
And celebrate full this happy day,
When Jesus was born to lead the way. **Refrain**

WELCOME

Kia ora tatou.

Kia ora.

PRAYER

JESUS PRAYER

Jim Cotter paraphrase *on card*

LIGHTING THE RAINBOW ROOM CANDLE

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Susan Jones

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Candle of Love

HYMN

'Open, open, open the stable door'

Words and Music © 1993 Colin Gibson

Refrain

*Open, open, open, the stable door,
welcome, welcome, welcome, the baby's born,
enter, enter, join in the celebration,
fear not, here is room for us all.*

There's a flock of sheep and a cow and a donkey,
welcome, welcome.
Here's a puffing shepherd, three wise men wonky,
welcome, welcome. *Refrain*

What a crowd of folk come to see the baby,
welcome, welcome.
One of them is drunk and another's crazy,
welcome, welcome. *Refrain*

Fallen off the back of a skip just lately?
welcome, welcome.
Feeling rather bruised, yes, and shook up greatly,
welcome, welcome. *Refrain*

Can't afford a coat and the kids are crying,
welcome, welcome.
Haven't found a friend yet, but I'm still trying,
welcome, welcome. *Refrain*

BLESSING THE CHILDREN *(All stand)*

We hope you will enjoy the activities in the activity bags today.
We bless you. Amen.

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 CANDLES FOR THOSE WE REMEMBER WITH LOVE

THE WORD IN TEXTS

Jem Traylen

Gospel

Luke 1: 67,68, and 76-80

Contemporary reading

POMPALLIER LECTURE 2007: THE GREEN SEASON

(for the Catholic Institute of Theology, Aotearoa/New Zealand)

by Joy Cowley

I believe that every soul comes from God and can never be lost to God. I believe that we all have that little spark of the Divine in us that yearns to be reunited with God. I believe that from time to time in human history, larger sparks of the Divine have come to help and inspire us in our struggles. We call those people saints. Two thousand years ago, the great fire of God joined us in the person of Jesus Christ. He went through everything we could ever expect, including torture and death, to show us the truth of the way. I believe that he still companions us every part of the way and his love has the power to dissolve our fears. When we know that, we are in the Kingdom of Heaven, which in the Judaic tradition means enlightenment

RESPONSE

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

HYMN

AA 159 'Who is the Child?'

Words: © 1992 Shirley Erena Murray. Music by Colin Gibson

Music © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

Who is the child that is to be born,
who is the child?

Less than a wisp of straw in a stable,
brighter than the sun, the light from his candle,
this is the Christ,
this is the Christ,
this is the Christ!

Who is to sing the song of his birth,
who is to sing?

All whom the story touches and changes,
hopeful and healed, whom love rearranges,
these know the song,
these know the song,
these know the song.

Who is to dance the dance of his birth,
who is to dance?

Limbs that are leased a life into freedom,
hands that will hold the world in a welcome,
these know the dance,
these know the dance,
these know the dance.

Who are to be the bearers of Christ,
who are they now?

All who give birth to lively compassion,
carrying peace as dearest possession,
these bear the Christ,
these bear the Christ,
these bear the Christ.

OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER *(said together)*

On this Christmas Eve we particularly remember those who will need a church and a foodbank this holiday season for their season will not be as festive as others. May they find the help and community they need and may this money and this food help towards that So may it be 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 for its work

AFFIRMATION

by Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison,
Transitional Pastor, Spanish Springs Presbyterian Church, Sparks, NV

***We are an Advent people,
a people of hope.***

***For us, Advent is a time of waiting,
and so we wait.***

***We wait for the coming of the One
who is the fulfillment of God's promise,
the fulfillment of hope,
the declaration that we have been redeemed.***

***Even so, we are not a naïve people.
We know that the world in which we live
will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow.
We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist.
We know that death and separation
will continue to be a part of our lives.***

***But because we are an Advent people,
we know that none of these things will win in the end.***

***The Holy One is coming,
to make holy once again
all that was, is, and ever will be.***

***And in our waiting and our hoping,
we work and worship,
pray and play,
in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign
in our lives and in our world,
now and forever.***

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

Wendy Matthews

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

We think today of the people of Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Gambia and Mauritania. In New Zealand, we remember those in Parliament, and today we name Nikki Kaye of Auckland Central electorate and Matt King of Northland electorate. Here in the Central Presbytery, we pray for the leaders and people of Rongotea - St Luke's Uniting Church.

PRAYER FOR ST ANDREW'S

on card

HYMN

AA 9 'Carol our Christmas'

Words: © 1986 Shirley Erena Murray. Music by Colin Gibson
Music © 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

Carol our Christmas, an upside-down Christmas;
The snow is not falling and trees are not bare.
Carol the summer, and welcome the Christ Child,
Warm in our sunshine and sweetness of air.

Sing of the gold and the green and the sparkle,
Water and river and lure of the beach.
Sing in the happiness of open spaces,
Sing a nativity summer can reach!

Shepherds and musterers move over hillsides.
Finding not angels but sheep to be shorn;
Wise ones make journeys whatever the season.
Searching for signs of the truth to be born.

Right side up Christmas belongs to the universe,
Made in the moment a woman gives birth;
Hope is the Jesus gift, love is the offering,
Everywhere, anywhere, here on the earth.

Carol our Christmas, an upside-down Christmas;
Snow is not falling and trees are not bare.
Carol the summer, and welcome the Christ Child,
Warm in our sunshine and sweetness of air.

BLESSING

SUNG AMEN

THANK YOU

Peter Franklin

Our Musician today

Unless otherwise stated all hymns are used by permission CCLI Licence 341550

Words/music to new hymns and gathering statement, prayers and affirmation are original unless acknowledged. If Susan Jones is the worship leader any such 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

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	Lynette & Brian Burrell
Sound	Peter Cowley
Offering	Graham Howell and James Crone
Coffee/tea	Graham Howell and Jem Traylen and James Cone
Time with the Children	Susan Jones
Readings	Jem Traylen
Prayers of the People	Wendy Matthews
Musician	Peter Franklin
Rainbow Room Helper	Margaret Pannett

On duty Sunday 24 December 7:30 pm	
Welcoming	Roger Jones & Jeni Bryant
Sherry and Christmas cake	Maxine and Jim Cunningham, Jon Schrader
Sound	Peter Cowley
Offering	Paul Barber
Time with the Children	Susan Jones
Readings	Wendy Matthews and Trish McBride
Prayers of the People	Lynne Dovey
Communion	Trish McBride, Lynne Dovey, Andrew Matthews, Jim Cunningham
Musician	Peter Franklin
Rainbow Room Helper	Roger Jones
On duty 25 December 10am Christmas Day	
Welcoming	TBC
Sound	Peter Cowley
Time with the Children	Fiona McDougal
Readings	TBC
Prayers of the People	Fiona McDougal
Musician	Peter Franklin
Rainbow Room Helper	TBC
This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's	
Sunday 31 December 10am Sunday Gathering led by Rev Ross Scott	
Wednesday 3 January Cuppa and a Chat from 10.30am in the Centre	
Sunday 7 January 10am Sunday Gathering led by Bronwyn White	

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES

ADVENT, CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY SERVICES

December 24	7.30pm. Sherry/juice and Christmas cake before the Christmas Eve carol service & communion at 8pm, led by Susan Jones
December 25	10am A Christmas Day Gathering led by Fiona McDougal
December 31	10am Gathering led by Rev Ross Scott
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

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

ADVENT FOUR: LOVE 24 DECEMBER

After Cyclone Ian hit Tonga's Ha'apai group in 2014, Milika Tovi organised the clearing and replanting of our partner Ama Takiloa's demonstration garden in her village. Working together inspired everyone to do the same on their own plots of land. The gardens flourished until a drought hit later the same year.



Partner Story: Our Story is one of water

Milika Tovi knows what it is like to survive a major cyclone. With other residents of the Ha'apai Islands, she endured the worst storm to make landfall in Tonga. More severe weather patterns are due to climate change. Pacific peoples have gone to the world stage, urging deeper action to keep temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius. The Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC) is an important player educating people about climate change, helping with resettlement, and talking about its impact outside the region. Also, PCC brings together Pacific churches to look at gender based violence, self-determination for New Caledonia (Kanaky), Tahiti (Maohi Nui) and West Papua as matters of faith. The Christmas Appeal will support PCC's work across the "Oceania" continent.

Every day people living on the coast of the Pacific look out on a slowly rising ocean. At peak times its waters lap at their homes. In the worst, they flood.

Milika (pictured) endured high winds and heavy rains when Cyclone Ian battered Tonga's Ha'apai islands in 2014. The storm claimed one life, injured 14 more and destroyed over 50% of homes in the northeast. Tents were given to families in the emergency. Most now have new or repaired homes.

In other parts of the Pacific, communities have already relocated because of climate change. Carteret Islanders began moving from Papua New Guinea in 2006 after the community established its own relocation programme. In 2014, Vunidogoloa on Fiji's Vanua Levu island was relocated 2 km inland when the sea killed food crops and flooded their homes on a daily basis.

Churches have been supporting communities faced with uncomfortable choices. They help with coastal protection and discussions about what will happen next. Part of the community, the churches know culture and tradition are bound up with land and coast. Some people worry about what will happen to their community when they move from their customary land.

Speaking in Germany for the 2017 climate change negotiation, Frances Namoumou from PCC said, "This is a matter of survival. Losing our land to the sea means losing our identity as a people". It is important people can make the decisions about their own future and have adequate resources to retain their livelihoods and dignity in the process.



PCC's Frances Namoumou meets Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon at the 2017 Climate Change Conference

At meeting after meeting, Pacific peoples raise their fears for the future. They have found ways to share stories of danger and offer the world a path out of destruction. Church leaders have united in their concern for families who are losing land and livelihoods and fear for the future of their culture and tradition. They worry about

what is happening to their *moana* and are exploring ways to support the rights of climate migrants, (people losing their homes due to climate change).

Those living close to the water are doing all they can: planting sea resistant crops, organising evacuation procedures and protecting homes and livelihoods. Long term, they need food, water and safety that comes with climate justice. Only global action can stop rising temperatures, make sure those resettling will flourish, and provide funds for the most vulnerable families. PCC stands between the local and the global. When it speaks for the climate, it advocates for us all.

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

WELLINGTON REGIONAL HOSPITAL CAROL SINGING AROUND THE WARDS

Come and join us Christmas Eve, 24th December 2017, 7.00 pm. Please gather in the Atrium at 6.45 pm. We will divide into two groups. Spend about an hour singing in the various wards and conclude with a light supper. Wellington Hospital Chaplains

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. Over 600 New Zealanders take their lives every year, with countless more experiencing suicidal ideas or acting on these thoughts in the form of non-fatal suicide attempts. We are committed to changing this. International trainer, author and therapist from the UK - John Henden presents a unique approach to working with the suicidal person which reduces both suicidal thinking, and the burden on the helper.

Wellington – Two Day Workshop – \$250.00 pp + GST (covering both days)

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](http://marypotter.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2017/12%20Mary-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
Temporary 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

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