St Andrew's on The Terrace

Hato Anaru o Te Parehua Founded 1840

ORDER OF SERVICE

24 December 2015



CHRISTMAS EVE









'On a night like this.'

WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE

You are most welcome here at St Andrew's on this night of all nights in the Christian calendar. Everyone is welcome here wherever they have come from, whoever they are, whatever they believe or whatever they do not believe.

We hope you will all find this service significant and important in your Christmas celebrations.

Congregational responses are printed in bold. We will sing the carols without announcement. Stand if you are able, but feel free to remain seated if that is more comfortable for you.

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

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

An offering will be gathered tonight for the Christian World Service Christmas Gift Appeal. All money will go to that Appeal whether in an official envelope or not. If you're not prepared, just let the plate go by. CWS envelopes can be used to send a contribution later. CWS works with partners around the world. Money given is therefore spent by local aid agencies. The 2015 CWS Christmas Appeal supports groups in Gaza, South India, Nicaragua, Vanuatu and Uganda.



We hope you will enjoy this Christmas Eve Gathering. We are glad you are here

ORGAN PRELUDE Peter Franklin

INTROIT
The St Andrew's Singers

'Pohutukawa Carol'

Words E A Forsman. Music Douglas Mews Conducted by Vivien Chiu

GATHERING

On such a night as this there was a birth; we do not know the date, we do not know the season but it was on a night like this.

On such a night as this we gather to remember this birth

and to consider what difference that birth makes for all the births which have followed it, including our own, and for all those births which will follow in the future. On such a night a baby, dislocated and relocated, as we are often relocated and dislocated became one of us to experience the glory of being human.

PROCESSIONAL CAROL

'It came upon the midnight clear'

Words © Edmund H Sears Music (arr) © Arthur Seymour Sullivan

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 be 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.

OPENING SENTENCES *please remain standing*This night we open our hearts

to mystery, holiness and awe

This night we wait for something to be born in us

Hope and joy and peace and love

On such a night as this two millennia ago the world changed

on this night our lives can change too

WELCOME

Kia ora tatou.

Kia ora.

SOLO 'Comfort Ye'

Jamie Young (Tenor) & Peter Franklin (Organist)

From The Messiah by G F Handel

AN ADVENT WREATH LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE

Bronwyn White

This **first candle of hope** which we light

is to remember those whom we have loved and lost.

(First candle is lit)

We pause to remember their name, their face, their voice,

the memory that binds them to us in this season

in the hope that they will continue to make a difference to our lives

May God's caring love surround them and us

Annemarie Treadwell

This **second candle of peace** we light

is to mend the pain of loss;

the loss of relationships,

the loss of jobs, the loss of health, the loss of home.

(Second candle is lit.)

We pause to gather up the pain of the past and offer it to God, asking that we receive the gift of peace.

Refresh, restore, renew us we pray, and lead us peacefully into the future.

Cameron Smart

This third candle of joy we light is to remember

ourselves this Christmas time.

(Third candle is lit.)

We pause to remember past weeks and months and years:

the disbelief, the anger, the down times,

the poignancy of reminiscing,

hugs and handshakes of family and friends, all who stood with us.

We give thanks for the support we have known.

Let us remember dawn defeats darkness for 'joy comes in the morning'.

Joan Tyler

This **fourth candle of love** we light is to remember the gift of love which the Christmas story offers us. (Fourth candle is lit.)
We remember that Creativity God companions us, sharing our life, being with us, Emmanuel

Let us remember new possibilities now in the present.

Spirit of God, calm our hearts so we can hear your still, small voice

on such a night as this.

CAROL

SILENCE

Children are invited to come to the front

,

'Away in a Manger'

Words © George Stuart (adapted)
Music © William James Kirkpatrick WOV 242 Cradle Song

Away in a manger, no pillow or bed, the baby boy Jesus is born in a shed; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the baby boy Jesus asleep on the hay.

While cattle are standing, the baby's asleep sought after by shepherds who leave all their sheep; and wise men bring treasures; they've come from afar to give gifts to Jesus; they followed a star.

Yes, Jesus is near me, I know he will stay close by me for ever and love me each day; all children are blessed by him, we will all share a wonderful friendship in his tender care.

STORYTIME FOR THE CHILDREN

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Jon Schrader

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 what God has already done.

We have waited with love,

awed by how God's love has been shown to us.

Tonight we light the Christ candle to celebrate the light of God, coming into the world though the birth of Jesus. (Christ candle is lit.)

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 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 our world.

CAROL

'Joy to the World!'

Words Isaac Watts (alt.) Music 'Antioch' G F Handel WOV 224

Joy to the world! A new age dawns
It comes, 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! Delight in good; 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

Joy to the world! Let justice come,
To all who need release;
For prisoners held in chains,
the damaged and the anxious,
let them find freedom now,
let them, let them find freedom now.

Graceful and true, the Saviour brings compassion all may share for poor and homeless, so may they find their life becomes more fair their life becomes more fair their life, their life becomes more fair.

PASSING THE PEACE

The Holy Child of peace has come to dwell among us, let us share the peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you. *And also with you.*

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!

CAROL

COC 48 'Where is the room?'

Words © Shirley Murray. Music © David Dell

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?

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.

Let there be room, room for the friend and stranger, room without hurt or anger, room for whoever come, room for whoever come.

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. THE WORD IN TEXTS

Luke 2: 1-7 Annemarie Treadwell

The Birth

Luke 2: 8-14 Cameron Smart

The Angels

Luke 2: 15-20 Pam Ormsby

The Shepherds

ST ANDREW'S SINGERS

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

Words & Music by John Rutter Fiona McDougal, Flute. Conducted by Vivien Chiu

Contemporary reading

Bronwyn White 'Here and There.'

from What Was it Like? By Susan Jones

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 'On a night like this' Susan Jones

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Sue McRae

JESUS' PRAYER

Jim Cotter paraphrase

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.

OFFERING FOR CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE

OFFERING PRAYER (said together)

This money is given so those in need in Nicaragua, Uganda, South India, Gaza and Vanuatu will find the support they require. We pray for the partner organisations who will utilise this money and make decisions about its use. May they have the strength and wisdom they need. May it be so, AMEN

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

St Andrew's is an open community and all are invited to Christ's 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 participate in the communion.

This is God's meal for all people.

COMMUNION HYMN

'Come now, Lord Jesus'

Words © 1992 Shirley Erena Murray. Music arr. Roy Tankersley COC 14(ii)

Music © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

Come now, Lord Jesus, enter our Christmas be to us no stranger in this new made manger.

Come, small and human, born of a woman, yet a child much greater of our own Creator.

Come, cold and crying, comfort denying, in your body feeling hurt as well as healing.

Come, poor and simple, our flesh your temple no place to receive you, few yet to believe you.

Come, gift and token, bread to be broken — star and sign still point you, myrrh will yet anoint you.

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

We find on the table bread much like that Mary and Joseph might have brought on their journey, wine and juice from vineyards on stony hillsides; made from wheat of the field and grape of the vine, ingredients for the menu of this feast of life.

We gather around this table, the table of Christ; we claim our place here, by right of invitation, by virtue of being human by the grace of being loved without condition or limit.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Christ be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts! We lift them up!

Let us give thanks

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give thanks that Jesus includes children, boys and girls; includes adults of all sorts, types and orientations,

those of every colour and personality.

We give thanks that we can approach this table,

no matter who we are or who we have been, no matter what our confusions or how deep our doubts.

We give thanks that Mary and Joseph and Jesus, in the way they lived on earth, revealed God as that which calls us on

to a life greater than we have ever known or could have imagined.

And so we add our praises to those of the faithful of every time and place, joining with the whole of creation in the eternal hymn;

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and vulnerability All the universe is full of the glory of the power of love. Blessed are those who walk in the name of all that is holy. Hosanna in the highest!

At his last supper with his friends, (people who were much like us,) Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:

'This represents the new covenant, eat this in remembrance of me'

And also after supper the cup saying:

'This is the cup of new life also, drink this in remembrance of me'

Spirit of all, bless these elements, this bread and this wine, gifts of the earth,

That as we eat and drink together in this feast for all, we may be drawn to you afresh and nourished for the journey of life. Amen.

The minister and elders receive first so they can then serve others

Come, eat and drink for all is ready

COMMUNION IS SHARED

Communion is served by intinction. You are invited to come to the front of the church and receive the bread, (or a gluten-free cracker), taking a piece large enough to dip into the wine (silver cup) or grape juice (pottery cup).

Then you are invited to eat the bread/cracker you have dipped in wine or juice. If you don't wish to receive communion, you are welcome to remain in your seat. We value your presence with us.

Or, you are welcome come and receive a blessing (hold your hands clasped across your chest).

At communion you are invited to take a carol candle from one of the baskets. Please take it with you as you return to your seat.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Fiona McDougal, Flute Mike Wespel-Rose, Guitar

CAROL

COC 52 'You are born in us again'

Words & Music Mark Wilson Music arr. © Shona Murray. Descant © Colin Gibson Saki Fukawa, Flute Descant

You are born in us again.

Like the warmth of the summer wind you come, to melt away the icicles of vanity and pride; you come to blow the very doors of loving open wide. Like the warmth of the summer wind you come, like the warmth of the summer wind you come.

You are born in us again.

Like the scent of the summer rain you come. You come to quench the thirsty and to freshen up the land; you come to clean away the dust that's settled in our hand. Like the scent of summer rain you come, like the scent of the summer rain you come.

You are born in us again.

Like the light of the summer sun you come, to give light to the places that have never seen the Son: you come now to embrace us, you're the holy, holy one. Like the light of the summer sun you come, like the light of the summer sun you come.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

The light from the Christ candle will be brought to the end of the rows.

The first person tips their candle to receive the light.

They then hold their candle upright as the next person tips their candle to receive the light and so on along the row....

REMEMBER, THE PERSON WITH THE LIGHT HOLDS THE CANDLE UPRIGHT, THE PERSON RECEIVING THE LIGHT TIPS THEIR CANDLE TO THE LIGHT.

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see you lie! Above your deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by: yet in the dark streets shines out the everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in you tonight.

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:
Come and worship,
Christ, the newborn King
Come and worship,

To the weary comes refreshment,
To the grieving, strength and peace;
To the anxious, sweet contentment,
To the captive soul, release:

Come and worship.........

Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Hark! hear angel song surround
Wellington harbour, Marlborough Sounds.
Sparkling bright on every side
joy arrives on morning tides!
See the hills gleam green with light
see the sky, deep blue, clouds white
sonshine, even when it rains,
lights our souls as each grace gains.

All creation strains to sing Glory to this different king

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings risen with healing in his wings mild he lays all glory by sing this king a lullaby watch him grow, become a man teaching love to all he can.

All creation strains to sing Glory to this different king

THE STORY OF 'SILENT NIGHT'

Silent night, holy night: all is calm, all is bright round you 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.

Silent night, holy night: wondrous star, lend your light; with the angels let us sing 'Alleluia to our King'; Christ our Saviour is born, Christ our Saviour is born.

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.

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.

THE CALL TO SERVICE (standing)

Go as far as your courage takes you,

remembering we cannot go beyond the reach of God.

Give as extravagantly as you may,

remembering we cannot spend all the riches of God.

Care as lavishly as you are able,

remembering we cannot exhaust the love of God.

Keep journeying and searching,

remembering God will always travel with us.

BLESSING

And now may the blessings of life be upon us all.

May memories gathered here give hope for the future. May the love we share bring strength and joy to our hearts, as we live into the just reign of God,

and the peace of Christ be with us all until we meet again.

SUNG AMEN

RECESSIONAL CAROL

O Come, all ye faithful

Music John Francis Wade. Words C. Frederick Oakeley (alt)

O come all ye faithful joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him,
born above the angels;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

O sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing all who celebrate God's holy word. To the Creator, glory in the Highest; O come, let us adore Him...

This bright day, we greet you, born this happy season, Jesus! for evermore your name be adored. Word spoken truly, now with us appearing; *O come, let us adore Him...*

By C.M. Widor (1844 – 1937)

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who prepared for and participated in the service this evening and to

Peter Franklin (organ), Vivien Chiu, Jamie Young, Fiona McDougal, Mike Wespel-Rose, Saki Fukawa, and the St Andrew's Singers for the music.

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

Christmas Day Celebration St Andrew's on The Terrace 10am tomorrow Everyone Welcome.



We wish you a happy Christmas Day and hope that 2016 is a good year for you and yours. The St Andrew's office will be closed until **5**th **January**. During that period for **urgent** pastoral matters contact Susan on Ph (04) 909 9612 or Ph 027 321 4870. Sunday Gatherings in December and January will be as follows;

Dec 27 10am Sunday Gathering led by Fiona McDougal. Jan 3, 10 & 17 10am Sunday Gatherings led by Susan.

Jan 24Jan 3110am Sunday Gathering led by Jim Cunningham10am Sunday Gathering led by Frank Hanson

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 Also, TV3 news has this information: www.3news.co.nz/nznews/at-a-glance-what-is-the-tppa-2014100712. 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

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Rev Dr Susan Jones

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