

# St Andrew's on The Terrace

*Hato Anaru o Te Parehua*

Founded 1840

## ORDER OF SERVICE

30<sup>th</sup> March 2018

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### Good Friday



“Abandoned by his friends”

Jesus challenged the power of both Rome and the Temple. Collectively they crucified him. Where would we be if this happened today?

(from Gillian Feist)

## 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

Trish McBride

We gather again on this solemn day  
to reflect on the death of the man Jesus.

***We were taught its traditional meaning.***

The meanings of stories evolve over millennia.

***We have been discovering new meanings.***

We live in world that endures much that was unknown 2000 years ago.

***We ponder the Crucifixion of Jesus***

***and what that might mean for us now.***

Truth telling, doing justice and unconditional love can be very costly.

***Jesus paid the price. Do we look for the courage to do likewise?***

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**'How could a man whose name is love'**

Words by Ruth Duck. Tune: Kingsfold WOV 500

Words © 1996 Pilgrim Press

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How could a God whose name is love seek blood to pay sin's price?  
Are torture, shame, and senseless death a holy sacrifice?  
Each violent crime is tragic loss; how could it be God's will?  
How can we glorify the cross when victims suffer still?

Did Jesus come as God's own child to share each human tear?  
Did Jesus die in speaking truth that rulers will not hear?  
If Wisdom hangs upon a tree, what, then, are we to do?  
Must we, like Jesus, risk our lives for what is just and true?

In Jesus Christ we meet a God whose love embraces all,  
who weeps when children are abused, who hears each sparrow fall.  
When grace is ancient as the earth, we need not worship death.  
So let us live in tender care for all whom Love gives breath.

## **WELCOME**

**Fiona McDougal**

### **Introduction**

If we have found difficulty with the traditional statement that God the Father sent Jesus to die, thereby atoning for our sins, we are not alone. It is a historical fact that the Roman occupiers of Judea, influenced by powerful Jews, nailed this man (along with thousands of others) to a cross which was a cruel and painful death. It happened. It has deep significance for followers of the Way of Jesus. If we can no longer accept the traditional significance, what else could it mean? This morning we are going to explore a number of themes that we have found emerging in our reflections:

Jesus stood up for Truth, Justice and Love and challenged the status quo. This roused the wrath of those in power and they crucified him. This happened to the prophets. It happens to prophets still - Te Whiti, Martin Luther King, Oscar Romeo and so many others.

As a human race, we have crucified the planet.

There are the crucifixions of war and violence, the crucifixions of the marginalised and outcasts, and our personal times of darkness, struggle, pain and loss of hope.

*Silence*

## **READING**

**Sue McRae**

## **GOSPEL**

**Luke 4, 16-21 (NLT)**

<sup>16</sup> When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. <sup>17</sup> The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the LORD is upon me,

for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released,  
that the blind will see,

that the oppressed will be set free,

<sup>19</sup> and that the time of the LORD's favour has come."

<sup>20</sup> He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!"

## REFLECTION

***Jesus Fulfilled this mission. It cost him his life.***

Who in my life has brought good news to my poverty,  
bound up my broken heart?

***Have I done this for others? Was there a cost.***

***Have I done this for myself?***

*Pause*

Who has proclaimed my liberty?

***Have I done this for others?***

***Was there a cost?***

***Have I done this for myself?***

*Pause*

Who has given me new sight?

***Have I opened to expansion of my vision?***

***Was there a cost?***

***Have I shone a light for others?***

Am I willing to go deeper?

***With the One whose Way we follow, we reflect together  
and open ourselves to deeper understanding  
of the painful mystery of being fully human.***

REFLECTIONS

"Cross and crucifix"

Tony Kirby and Sandra Kirby

## HYMN

## Deep truths to find

Words ©2018 Fiona McDougal Music: Tallis' Canon  
WOV 468

The gospel writers tell the tale of Jesus' suffering and death,  
each with a different emphasis enhancing meaning, truth and depth.

For Matthew Jesus is Messiah, fulfilment of the scriptures, come.  
For Mark, he is self-giving way, the path he walks and leads us on.

In Luke he dies to end oppress'n, unjustly killed, a martyrs' woe  
and John sees Jesus lifted up, his death a seed, new fruit to grow.

We've deconstructed, questioned, raged, but theories mystery can't define.  
So now we move beyond that place with open hearts deep truths to find.

**READING**                    **Colma Froggatt, Wendy Matthews and Andrew Matthews**

## GOSPEL

**Mark 14:32-15:47**

*Quietness for reflection*

**CROSS PLANTING** with introduction

**Lois Robertson**

## SOLO

**"Were you there when they crucified my Lord"**

sung by Jane Keller

## HYMN

**'We cannot measure how you heal'**

Words: John L Bell and Graham Maule CH4 718

Music: Ye Banks and Braes

Words and Music © 1989 WGRG, The Iona Community

We cannot measure how you heal  
Or answer every sufferer's prayer,  
Yet we believe your grace responds  
Where faith and doubt unite to care.  
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,  
Survive to hold and heal and warn,  
To carry all through death to life  
And cradle children yet unborn.

The pain that will not go away,  
The guilt that clings from things long past,  
The fear of what the future holds,  
Are present as if meant to last.  
But present too is love which tends  
The hurt we never hoped to find,  
The private agonies inside,  
The memories that haunt the mind.

So some have come who need Your help  
And some have come to make amends  
As hands which shaped and saved the world  
Are present in the touch of friends.  
Lord let your Spirit meet us here  
To mend the body mind and soul,  
To disentangle peace from pain  
And make your broken people whole.

## **PRAYER**

**Frances Porter**

In the darkness of Gethsemane  
Jesus said "Take this cup from me".  
In the dust and rubble of Syria,  
we see the helplessness of people.  
As birds die off in the Amazon, species disappear  
and half the rainforest is destroyed,  
we ask

***Is God in another place,  
no more seen in human face?***

Scared disciples ran away  
leaving Jesus on his own  
we share their fear and blindness as  
we fear the nuclear possibility.  
Hiding Easter in our "holiday"  
we miss the pain **and** promise  
and feel ourselves so powerless.  
Help us heal this hurting world as we  
***Seek God in the other place,  
seek God in the other's face.***

The women of Jerusalem grieved and  
risked their lives to tend Jesus' body,  
prepare his grave.  
People protest climate change and  
wedding couples plant new trees.  
Doctors work in bombed out hospitals  
to help the sick and injured.  
In acts like these are signs of hope,  
we join them as they strive to cope..  
In darkness we can see some light,  
give us strength to affirm that  
***"God is in the other place,  
God is in the other's face".***

*(This prayer germinated from hymn words by Shirley Murray)*

## **PRAYER FOR OTHERS WITH PICTURES**

**Katrina Harper**

### **JESUS PRAYER**

***Eternal Spirit, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker,  
Source of all that is and 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 the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your Commonwealth of Peace and Freedom  
sustain our hope and 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***

by Jim Cotter

## SENDING OUT AND BLESSING

Fiona McDougal

Safeguard us now as we go on our way,  
*encircle us with your love.*

Be near us now in confusion and tears,  
*small comforts in darkness weave.*

*God to hold us,  
Christ to heal us,  
Spirit to lead us to new life.*

## HYMN

## AA95 Arohanui Blessing

Words © Joy Cowley

Music © Ian Render

May the mystery of God enfold us,  
may the wisdom of God uphold us,  
may the fragrance of God be around us,  
may the brightness of God surround us,  
may the wonder of God renew us,  
may the loving of God flow through us,  
may the peace of God deeply move us,  
may the moving of God bring us peace.

## SUNG AMEN

*Thanks to the Liturgy Team- Trish, Sandra, Tony, Lois, Frances and Katrina and volunteers who contributed to the service today. And to Peter for sound and vision and Peter and Jane for music.*

## Easter Sunday Service:

10am Gathering with Communion led by Susan Jones,  
followed by Congregational brunch in the hall. All welcome.