



# ORDER OF SERVICE

CHRISTMAS EVE 2019

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*Shalom!*

*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.*

**During the service an offering will be gathered for  
the Christian World Service Christmas Gift Appeal.**

## ORGAN PRELUDE

## Chorale Prelude on "In dulci jubilo"

by J.S. Bach BWV 729

## INTROIT :

St. Andrew's Singers

## Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Words and Music © Colin Gibson COC 22

## GATHERING

In this southern place  
pohutukawa stands all year  
green and murmuring  
wind whipped  
clinging to rocky shore lines.

Barbara Sampson (adapted)

But when pohutukawa breaks  
glorious red  
against a clear blue sky  
to the roar of rolling surf  
we know that Christmas has come.

Pohutukawa Christ,  
you stand in our midst all year  
singing your ever-green song of love.  
But at Christmas you break out  
blood-red, flesh soft  
to the sound of a baby breathing.  
Gift beyond description we welcome you!

**Let us celebrate life in the presence we name God.**



## PROCESSIONAL CAROL

## CH4 303 'It came upon the midnight clear'

Words Edmund H. Sears; Music (arr) Arthur Seymour Sullivan

1. 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.

2. 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.
3. For lo! the days are hastening on,  
By prophets seen of old,  
When with the ever circling years  
Shall 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.

## WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

E te whanau a Te Karaiti  
Nga mihi aroha ki a tatou katoa  
*Kia ora*

## AN ADVENT WREATH LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE

Andrew & Wendy Matthews

This **first candle of hope** 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 they will  
continue to make a difference to our lives  
*May God's caring love surround them and us.*

This **second candle of peace** we light is to mend the pain of loss; the loss of relationships, loss of jobs, loss of health and 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***

This **third candle of joy** we light is for ourselves.

(Third candle is lit.)

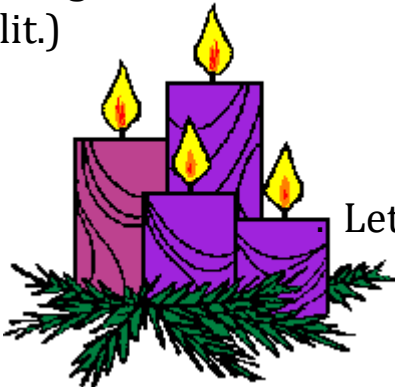


We pause to remember past weeks and months and  
years:

the disbelief, anger and 'down' times,  
the poignancy of reminiscing,  
hugs and handshakes of family and friends,  
who stood with us.

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

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 Creativity - God companions us,  
sharing our life, Being -With -Us, Emmanuel  
Let us look for new possibilities now, in the present.

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

**SILENCE**

**MUSIC:**

**CH4 305 'In the bleak mid-winter'**

Words: Christina Rossetti; Music: Gustav Holst

Soloist: **Jane Keller**

## *Children come to the front*

### STORYTIME FOR THE CHILDREN

Jim Cunningham

### CAROL

### WOV 243(i) ' Love came down at Christmas'

Words: Christina Georgina Rossetti

Music: Irish Traditional Melody; Gartan. Public Domain

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus: but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and all folk, love for plea and gift and sign.

### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Rosemary Lawrence

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 the things God has already done.*  
We have waited with love,  
*awed by how God's love has been shown to us.*

Tonight we light this candle  
to celebrate the light of God, coming into the world  
in the birth of Jesus.

*O 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 with angels  
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 everything.*



## PASSING THE PEACE

The Holy Child of peace has come to dwell  
among us!

Let us share the peace with one another.

Christ has come among us!

The peace of Christ

and the joy of Christmas

be always with you.

***And also with you.***



## WORD IN TEXTS & MUSIC

**Hebrew Scripture:**

**Isaiah 40: 1-4**

Music: Comfort ye my people – Handel’s “*Messiah*”

Soloist: **Jamie Young**

## Gospel

**Luke 2: 1-7**

*The Birth*

**Anna Smith**

**Luke 2: 8-14**

*The Angels*

**Maxine Cunningham**

**Luke 2: 15-20**

*The Shepherds*

**Barrie Keenan**

## RESPONSE

For the Word in scripture and music,

For the Word among us,

For the Word within us,

***We give thanks***

## REFLECTION

**Jim Cunningham**

**Longing for Life to be Different**

**ST ANDREW’S SINGERS**

**Angels Carol**

by John Rutter

*“Have you heard the sound of the angel voices?”*

## CAROL

## FFS 12 (i) 'Dream a dream'

Words: © 1996 Shirley Erena Murray.

Music: © 1996 Nigel Eastgate (1930-2001).

Dream a dream, a hopeful dream  
as children do on Christmas Eve,  
imaginings, surprising things  
to hold and to believe.

Dream a time this Christmas time  
when no-one's hungry or afraid;  
that weapons go and harvests grow,  
that friends are met and made.

Dream a peace, our planet's peace,  
the greening of the earth at play,  
the holy ground where life is found,  
where God has touched the clay.

Dream a gift, the Christmas gift  
that changes everything we see:  
the shimmering of angel wing,  
the Child, the Mystery.

## OFFERING FOR CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE

### HYMN OF DEDICATION

Words© Shirley Murray; Music© David Dell COC 48

Where is the room,  
where is the house of Christmas?  
Where shall we welcome Jesus,  
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.

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

Let love be here,  
love for the Christmas stable,  
love at our open table,  
love to be shared all year.



**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*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.*

**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 share in the communion. This is God's meal for all people.

**COMMUNION HYMN****COC 14 (ii) 'Come now Lord Jesus'**

Words: © 1992 Shirley Murray Music: Traditional Zulu arr. Roy Tankersley

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Come now, Lord Jesus,<br/>         enter our Christmas,<br/>         be to us no stranger<br/>         in this new made manger.</p>         | <p>2. Come, small and human,<br/>         born of a woman,<br/>         yet a child much greater,<br/>         of our own Creator.</p>      |
| <p>3. Come, cold and crying<br/>         comfort denying,<br/>         no place to receive you,<br/>         few yet to believe you.</p>          | <p>4. Come, poor and simple,<br/>         our flesh your temple<br/>         in your body feeling<br/>         hurt as well as healing.</p> |
| <p>5. Come, gift and token,<br/>         bread to be broken —<br/>         star and sign still point you,<br/>         myrrh will anoint you.</p> |   |



## COMMUNION PRAYER

Michael Morwood (adapted)

On this special night of nights  
once again we celebrate a Creative Mystery we name God.  
A serendipitous creativity beyond our words  
and beyond our images.

A creativity which undergirds our human existence  
in all its complexity and all its diversity.

All our collected human wisdom is a  
visible expression of this Creative Mystery,  
active in all places, at all times,  
in individuals and cultures,  
seeking expression in the creation of a just and peaceful world.

As Christians we rejoice in the birth of Jesus  
in whom we see the fullness of human possibility:  
to make God visible in our lives.

In Jesus we have seen this Mystery  
come to expression in human form.  
Like us he grew in wisdom.  
Questioning.  
Searching for meaning.  
Shaping convictions.  
Enacting justice.  
Experiencing love  
and coming to know love's connectedness with God.

Jesus stood firmly in his own religious tradition  
and preached good news to all people  
dreaming of a better world.

We rejoice that Jesus led people  
to discover the sacred in the ordinary:

***in the crowd,  
in the rejected ones,  
in everyday life,  
in human yearnings to be better people,  
and in being neighbour to one another.***

And so we recall the ancient story.  
At the end of a journey, among friends, gathered round a table,  
Jesus took bread, gave thanks,

broke it and shared the bread with his friends,  
asking them to gather in memory of him,  
and to live in a covenant of love,  
with their God.

***Let us share this bread and be strengthened,  
loving as Jesus loved and  
bringing peace and justice to the world.***

We take this wine,  
mindful of our responsibility  
to be bearers of forgiveness, tolerance and understanding.

**We drink committing ourselves  
to allow the Spirit of generosity  
that took flesh and moved so boldly in Jesus  
to move in our lives.**

***To this commitment we give our 'Amen'  
and offer it as our Christmas gift  
to our family, friends and neighbours  
and to all the earth.***

God of life, with this bread and this wine,  
we celebrate the birth and life of Jesus,  
and we offer ourselves to follow his way.

***Bless us and these gifts,  
so that we may take light and hope,  
love and peace, into the world,  
now and forever. Amen.***

## **COMMUNION IS SHARED**

Communion is served by intinction. Come to the front of the church and receive the bread (or gluten-free cracker), taking a piece large enough to dip into the wine (**large** silver chalice) or grape juice (**small** silver chalice).

Eat the bread dipped in wine/juice.

You will be given a carol candle to take with you  
as you return to your seat.

# CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Lighting the candles  
Please keep **LIT** candle in a **vertical position**

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

How silently, how silently  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him , still  
the dear Christ enters in.

\*\*\*\*\*

Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*Come and worship Christ, the newborn King*  
*Come and worship ,Worship Christ, the newborn King!*

To the weary comes refreshment,  
to the grieving, strength and peace;  
to the anxious, sweet contentment,  
to the captive soul, release:  
*Come and worship.....*

\*\*\*\*\*

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.  
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, born is the King of Israel.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn king,  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'  
*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn king.*

Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to live as one with earth,  
born to give us second birth.  
Hail the heaven-born prince of peace!  
Hail the son of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn king.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Child of Christmas story, stable straw, and star,  
small and sweet and gentle: tell us who you are.

Child whose baby finger round our own is curled,  
come to melt our hearts, and come to change the world.

Child of Jew and Gentile, child of white and black –  
teach us how to love you, teach us what we lack.

Child of Mary's courage, birthed in human pain,  
tell us what your name is – be our hope again.

\*\*\*\*\*

Silent night, holy night: all is calm, all is bright  
round yon 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 angel's let us sing  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ our Saviour is born, Christ our Saviour is born.

\*\*\*\*\*

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.

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.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him born the king of angels:  
*O come let us adore him, o come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,  
'Glory to God, glory in the highest'  
*O come let us adore him, o come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

## THE CALL TO SERVICE *(standing)*

Go as far as your courage takes you,  
*for we cannot go beyond the reach of God.*  
Give as extravagantly as you may,  
*for we cannot spend all the riches of God.*  
Care as lavishly as you are able,  
*for we cannot exhaust the love of God.*  
Keep journeying and searching,  
*for God will always travel with us.*

## BLESSING & 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 you  
and lead you into ever deepening relationships  
with all of life.

*Amen*

## RECESSIONAL CAROL

## COC 7 'Carol our Christmas'

Words: © 1996 Shirley Murray, Music by Colin Gibson, © 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

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.

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 mustersers 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.

## ORGAN POSTLUDE

## Toccata from Symphony Number 5

by C.M. Widor

***Thank you to everyone who participated in the service this evening and to Peter Franklin (organ), Soloists Jane Keller and Jamie Young, the St Andrew's Singers for the music.***

**Thank you also to those who read, led prayers, served communion and lit candles.**

**And finally to those who served refreshments and cleaned up afterwards.**

Unless otherwise specified all our music is used by permission CCLI Licence 341550

Words/music to new hymns and gathering statement, prayers and affirmation are original unless acknowledged.

### **AUDIO REFLECTIONS**



Sunday reflections are usually available on our website.

<http://www.standrews.org.nz/category/sunday-gathering>

### **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

# 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

<b>Interim Moderator</b>	Catriona Cairns
<b>Parish Council Convenor</b>	Lynne Dovey
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paul Barber
<b>Facilities Management Group</b>	Sandra Kirby
<b>Pastoral Convenors</b>	Linda Wilkins, Maxine Cunningham, Brian Burrell and Pat Booth
<b>Theologian in Residence</b>	Lloyd Geering
<b>Presbytery Representative</b>	Lois Robertson
<b>Concert Coordinator</b>	Marjan van Waardenberg
<b>Faith in Action Co-ordinator</b>	Margaret Rushbrook
<b>Rainbow Room Coordinator</b>	Jules Collinson
<b>Centre Manager</b>	Laetitia Brunell
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Jillene Everett
<b>Facilities Assistants</b>	Julia Caulfield and Nick Lee
<b>Roster Coordinator</b>	Rosemary Lawrence

## St Andrew's on The Terrace

[www.standrews.org.nz](http://www.standrews.org.nz)

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