



ORDER OF SERVICE

December 25 2021

Christmas Day



Unknown artist 1644

WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE

Wherever you are on your faith 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***, and 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.

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

Today's service is led by Fiona McDougal

We spend a moment in quiet to prepare ourselves for worship.....

Silence

GATHERING

On an ordinary night,
among people like us:

***In an ordinary place,
with homes and streets for living and walking:***

In a moment of time
when the stars wheeled across the skies
as they do now,
and sheep grazed in the grass
as they did each day:

All the earth received its Christ.

Christ who came in the silences amidst the angels,
the one who would never leave us nor forsake us
born of a woman and offered to us all.

**Let us celebrate Christmas,
God is with us.**

Dorothy McRae-McMahon

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

'God's Surprise'

"Heaven shall not wait" Iona Community Book

Words: John Bell and Graham Maule © 1987, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.

Music :Scarlet Ribbons (Trad)

1. Who would think that what was needed
to transform and save the earth
might not be a plan or army,
proud in purpose, proved in worth?
Who would think, despite derision,
that a child should lead the way?
God surprises earth with heaven,
coming here on Christmas Day.
2. Shepherds watch and wise men wonder;
monarchs scorn and angels sing;
such a place as none would reckon
hosts a holy helpless thing.
Stable beasts and by-passed strangers
watch a baby laid in hay;
God surprises earth with heaven,
coming here on Christmas Day.
3. Centuries of skill and science
span the past from which we move,
yet experience questions whether,
with such progress, we improve.
While the human lot we ponder,
lest our hopes and humour fray,
God surprises earth with heaven,
coming here on Christmas Day.

WELCOME

E te whānau a te Karaiti
Ngā mihi aroha ki a tātou katoa.
Kia ora tātou.

Invitation to Brunch

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Today we remember God's gift to the world of Jesus, God with us, bringing the gifts of hope, peace, joy and love, life in abundance.

On this Christmas Day we look to the Holy Land and we pray for its people. Jesus was born in Palestine under occupation. The people were taxed and denied justice. With his disciples, he wandered its roads, speaking truth to the people. In his life and ministry, he spoke words of healing and gave practical help.

Living in the same land, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees keeps alive his message of love and always the hope of change. For more than seventy years, they have been a voice for refugees and their deep desire for a just peace for their neighbours and community.

Together we seek Peace with Justice.

Light the candle

Dear God

We celebrate your gift of life and light to the world today in the birth of the Christ-child. May we join in your work of bringing justice and wholeness to your creation and to all people.

Amen.

PRAYER

On this day of celebration,
we gather here to wonder and pray,
to sing and celebrate.
To hear retold the old familiar stories,
and look again for signs of hope and promise
for what is to come.

We bring memories of all the Christmases that have gone before,
different times and circumstances,
people who are no longer with us,
and those currently far away.

We yearn to know the sustaining and enlivening presence
of a reality greater than us

that cradles us lovingly in the fragile and fresh places
of our lives.

In the quiet of this morning hour
we make space to reach and
touch gently the face of the holy
in ourselves and each other.

Nurture us now that we may grow in strength and wisdom,
becoming the people you would have us be.

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 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 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 for ever.
Amen.***

LIGHTING THE RAINBOW CANDLE

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

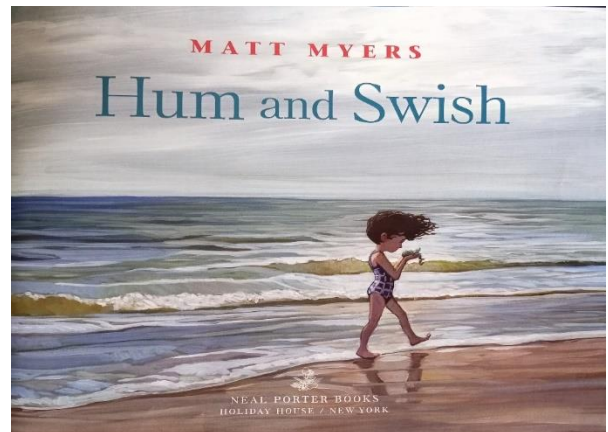
Fiona McDougal

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

(All stand)

We are glad of your presence
with us today and bless you
and children everywhere on
this special day

We bless you. Amen.



There activities at the back of the church for children to enjoy

PASSING THE PEACE

Traditionally we shake hands to pass the peace and say "peace be with you. Now that Covid is here

we ask that you pass the peace without shaking hands.

HYMN

CH4 311 'Jesus is born'

Words: Pat Bennet, Music: Basque traditional

SING LULLABY (OI BETLEEM)

Irregular

1 Je - sus is born formed in a womb and now a
ba - by. Je - sus is born: swad-dled and small he sleeps in
hay. Set-ting a - side his power and glo - ry, home-less he
en - ters hu - man sto - ry: Christ comes to earth.

1. Jesus is born:
formed in a womb and now a baby.
Jesus is born.
Swaddled and small, he sleeps in hay.
Setting aside his power and glory,
homeless he enters human story:
Christ comes to earth.
2. Jesus is born:
angels announce a joyful message,
Jesus is born.
Peace on the earth, goodwill to all.
This is the hour God shows God's favour,
sending the Son, creation's Saviour:
Hope comes to earth.
3. Jesus is born:
high overhead a star is shining,
Jesus is born.
Earth houses uncreated light.
Now is the hold of darkness broken
as hearts and minds to God are opened:
Light comes to earth.
4. Jesus is born:
this night the world is changed for ever,
Jesus is born
and in this babe for all to see,
Love is revealed, God's heart lies open
as the incarnate Word is spoken:
God comes to earth.

THE WORD IN TEXTS

Hebrew Bible:

Isaiah 9:2-7 NRSV

Psalm 96 the Iona Abbey Worship Group Responsive reading

All: Sing a new song all the earth.

Sing a new song to God.

L: Sing and bless the holy name:

let God's salvation be praise each day.

R: Declare God's glory among the nations:

tell all people what God has done.

L: God is great deserving of worship,

worthy of praise more than worldly idols.

R: Earthly deities are custom-built

but God is the Maker of all.

All: Sing a new song all the earth:

sing a new song to God.

L: Honour and splendour belong to God

in whose sanctuary are beauty and strength

R: Give God the glory, you families of nations

offering your gifts in God's house.

L: Praise the Creator, clothed in holiness;

tremble with reverence all the earth.

R: Say to the nations, "Our God reigns.

The world is stable; it shall not be moved;

God will judge it with fairness"

All: Sing a new song all the earth;

sing a new song to God.

L: Let heaven be glad, let earth rejoice;

let the sea roar and all its creatures;

let the fertile fields honour their Maker.

R: Let the trees of the forest sing for joy

for God is coming to judge the earth.

The world shall be judged with justice,

its nations judged with truth.

All: Sing a new song, all the earth;

sing a new song to God.

Gospel

Luke 2:1-20 NLT

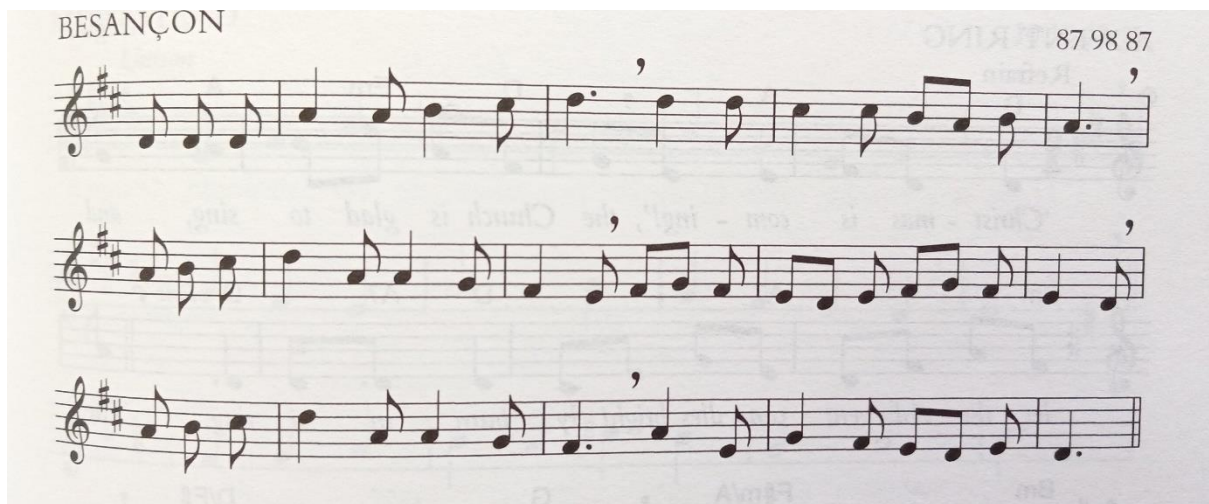
RESPONSE

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

HYMN

'Glimmers of Joy'

Words: Fiona McDougal 2019, Music: French Traditional carol CH4 281



1. Glimmers of joy pervade our lives
if we will but open our eyes.
Sparkles the sea with light and movement,
dappled the bush with shade and shadow.
Glimmers of joy pervade our lives
Jesus Christ in them resides.
2. Depths of great joy infuse our lives
though the surface stormy is.
Fearful, we struggle, seek solutions,
doubting, we miss the Spirit's holding.
Depths of great joy infuse our lives,
Jesus Christ in them resides.

3. Born into joy you touch our lives,
Jesus son of mother so wise.
Shepherds came hurrying through the pastures,
wise men brought gifts of worth and welcome.
Born into joy you touch our lives,
Jesus Christ in them reside.
4. Through all the world glad tidings sound
joy to all and justice announce.
Proclaiming news that God is with us,
Jesus is born, Love here we witness.
Through all the world glad tidings sound
"Jesus Christ, God's Word" resounds.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Fiona McDougal

A period of silence.....

You may wish to contemplate the prayer below during this time or
just sit and enjoy the quiet.

In this season of Christmas,
breathe in life.
Life of the One
in whose image we are made.
In this season of Christmas,
breathe in love.
Love that was shown
when God gave his only Son.
In this season of waiting,
breathe in peace.
Peace from the One
who calmed the sea
and quiets our souls.
In this season of Christmas,
breathe in hope.
Hope that the One
whose birth we celebrate
is indeed making all things new.
Christine Sine (adapted)

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Offering of sweets to congregation.

*Please feel free to make a contribution to Christian World Service for their Christmas Appeal.
You may do this online <https://cws.org.nz/get-involved/give/christmas-appeal/>*

OFFERING HYMN

'In the bleak midwinter' vs5 CH4 305

Words: Christina Rossetti. Music: Cranham

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,
if I were a wise man, I would do my part,
yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for the sweet gift of life and new possibilities offered to us today in the birth of Jesus. With joy we offer our resources of money, prayers, skill and commitment that the Spirit may work anew in our world today.

Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ken Irwin

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

We think today of the people of Madagascar, Seychelles, Mauritius and the Comoros and the Christian Council of Churches in Madagascar. We hold all refugees in our hearts. We pray in particular for those detained for many years in Papua New Guinea & Nauru. We give thanks for progress that has been made and pray that their calls for justice might yet find a compassionate response. In New Zealand, we remember those in Parliament, and today we name Hon Damien O'Connor (West Coast-Tasman), Greg O'Connor (Ōhāriu). Here in the Central Presbytery, we pray for the leaders and people of Oroua Presbyterian Parish, Feilding.

You are invited to add your own personal prayers to the prayers of the people. Take a few moments to allow a prayer to rise in your heart and write



some words, or draw a symbol for it on the tiny scroll you were given with the order of service. If you wish, place your prayer in the baby Jesus' crib.

PRAYER FOR ST ANDREW'S

*Renew your people, God,
and renew our life in this place.
Give us a new spirit of unity
with all who follow the Way of Jesus
and new bonds of love
with people of other faiths.*

*Bless the city in which we live
that it may be a place
where honest dealing,
good government,
the desire for beauty,
and the care for others flourish.*

*Bless this church
that what we know of your will
may become what we do,
and what we believe
the strong impulse
of our worship and work.*

Amen

HYMN

CC52 'You are born in us again'

Words © 1996 Mark Wilson. Music arr. Shona Murray, descant Colin Gibson

1. 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,
(repeat last line)

2. 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, *(repeat last line)*
3. 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, *(repeat last line)*

BLESSING

O Christ, you are a bright flame before us.

You are a guiding star above us.

***You are the light and love
we see in others' eyes.***

Keep us, O Christ,

in a love that is tender.

Keep us O Christ,

in a love that is true.

Keep us O Christ,

in a love that is strong,

today, tomorrow and always.

J Philip Newell

SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU

Thank you to Peter Franklin

our musician today

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>

*Wellington City Council now charges for weekend parking on the street. As well as that,
there is a two hour parking limit. If you have parked on the street initially and are staying
for an after-church activity,*

*it may be possible to move your car into the St Andrew's/Braemar car park but please be
careful that you do not block anyone in.*

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 one of the welcome leaflets (at the back of the church) and hand it to a minister or a welcoming team member.

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 Quay, 02-0534-0004022-02

There is no offering received today.

Donations to Christian World Service can be made through their website cws.org.nz.

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Sunday 26 December 10am Sunday Gathering led by Ross Scott

Sunday 2 January 10am Sunday Gathering led by Pat Booth

Sunday 09 January led by Lois Robertson

HOLIDAY PASTORAL SUPPORT

First point of contact for pastoral care and any building issues (in the case of an emergency dial 111):

24 December - 31 December: Lynne Dovey 029 279 8120

1 - 9 January: Katrina Harper 021 022 30535

From 10 January the office will be the first point of contact.



Jasper and Kezia arranged this nativity scene

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 today's volunteers

Welcoming	Lois Robertson, Graham Howell, Michael Parker
Sound	Tony Cowdry
Offering	Kath Kerr, Graham Howell
Readings	John Harper
Prayers of the People	Ken Irwin
Musician	Peter Franklin

On duty Sunday 26 December

Welcoming	Michael Parker, Graham Howell
Sound/Laptop	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Offering	Bridget Martin, John Morgan
Readings	Ken Irwin
Prayers of the People	Lois Robertson
Musician	Judy Dumbleton

On duty Sunday 2 January

Welcoming	Trish McBride, Jeni Bryant
Sound/Laptop	Tony Cowdrey
Offering	Jenn and Barrie Keenan
Readings	Frank Cook, Sally Gray
Prayers of the People	Cameron Smart
Library	Trish McBride
Musician	Peter Franklin

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Christmas Day - Saturday 25th December - 10am led by Fiona McDougal

Christmas 1 - Sunday 26th December - 10am - led by Rev Ross Scott

Christmas 2 - Sunday 2nd January 10am – led by Pat Booth

Note: Cuppa and Chat resumes 12th January

Wednesday Lunchtime concerts resume 16th February at 12:15pm

STANDARD MONTHLY SUNDAY CYCLE OF ACTIVITIES AFTER SERVICE

1st Sunday Communion service followed by Exploring Faith

2nd Sunday Congregational Brunch on even months Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec

3rd Sunday Congregational Conversation

4th Sunday Social Justice

5th Sunday if there is one - nothing planned

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

Interim Moderator	Rev. Reg Weeks
Supply Minister	Rev. Dr Jim Cunningham
Parish Council Convenor	Lynne Dovey
Treasurer	Paul Barber
Facilities Management Group	Sandra Kirby
Pastoral Care Team	Pat Booth, Brian Burrell, Maxine Cunningham, Katrina Harper, Lois Robertson
Church Music Coordinator	Mark Stamper
Theologian in Residence	Lloyd Geering
Presbytery Representative	Lois Robertson
Concert Coordinator	Kristina Zuelicke
Faith in Action Co-ordinator	Margaret Rushbrook
Rainbow Room Coordinator	Riah Tahana-Dawson
Centre Manager	Adelina Reis
Office Administrator	Jillene Everett
Facilities Assistant(s)	Matthias Barber and Evelyn Barber
Roster Coordinator	Pam Fuller

St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

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office@standrews.org.nz



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Rev. Dr Jim Cunningham – 027 680 1159

