



ORDER OF SERVICE

25th December 2022

CHRISTMAS DAY



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***.

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.

Today's service led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Come see the oxen kneel
in the lonely barton by yonder coomb
our childhood used to know,"
I should go with him in the gloom,
hoping it might be so.

GATHERING

We gather on this festive day, at this special time,

searching for a reality present within and beyond our everyday lives.

We come hoping to touch that "something more" in the stories of Jesus and his birth so long ago,

seeking a deeper connection with Divine reality.

In joyful expectation we make time now to calm and centre ourselves,

inviting the Spirit to open our eyes to wonder and surprise.

Silence

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

WOV240 'Rejoice, Rejoice at Christmas Time'

Words: © 2011 William L Wallace World Library Publications

Tune: Forest Green

1. Rejoice, rejoice at Christmas time,
all flesh is sacred now.
Embrace the manger in your heart
beyond the why and how.
For God resides within that space
of love and cosmic awe,
the home of singing, dancing love
beyond life's mystic door.

2. Rejoice, rejoice at Christmas time,
all flesh has sacredness:
all matter bears the sign of God,
imparts God's holiness.
For God can never be confined
beyond our time and space.
God's hand is touching everything:
each life reflects God's face.
3. Rejoice, rejoice at Christmas time,
all flesh reflects God's grace.
The realm that atoms dance within
is nature's ballet space.
when we are one with baby's breath
and tender love's caress,
we find a Christmas manger in
our deepest mind's recess.
4. Rejoice, rejoice at Christmas time,
make space for starry eyes,
discern how Jesus looked at life
with wonder and surprise:
for deeper than our harshest pain,
beyond our muddled mind,
the gift of love in child-like form
is our most precious find.

WELCOME

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

Kia ora tātou.

Talofa lava, manuia le kirisimasi.

Talofa lava, manuia le kirisimasi.

PRAYER

We are thankful to gather here on this Christmas morning mindful of those who have no idea what Christmas is all about. We remember those who are homeless today and have nowhere to lay their heads let alone have a meal. Surround us this morning with your love and peace that we might be to others what the Christ child means to us. Amen.

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.

Christmas – Light the Christ Candle as well as Hope, Peace, Joy & Love

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

On this Christmas Day, we celebrate the Christ-child amongst us, and the gifts of hope, peace, joy and love we offer to others. (Read the Partner Story Light the candle.)

Together: *God of hope, peace, joy and love; we celebrate your gifts of life and justice in Jesus' birth. Give us a sense of wonder and grace so that all people can rejoice in your transforming words and actions.*

Christian World Service - Partner Story: Caleb knows hope and hard work. He lost both his parents to AIDS and his sister to the typhoid she caught from the local spring. Now that his sister has gone, it is up to him to collect the water he and his grandmother need to survive. Caleb has his eyes on a new rainwater

tank. His grandmother has been saving every penny she can spare so they can build their own water tank. Clean water will quench his thirst, save him from long treks to fetch water every day and prevent illness. In this climate crisis, we are supporting partners like the Centre for Community Solidarity, with our gifts and our prayers. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen. Together we share the hope, peace, joy and love we find in Christ.

E te whānau, brothers and sisters,
Christ is born anew among us today!
Gracious God, on this most holy of days,
may Christ be our light.
For the life that was the light of all people
we light this candle.
Amen.

SONG

'A candle is burning'

Words © 1986 Sandra Dean, Tune: *Away in a manger* - alternative tune

1. *A candle is burning a flame warm and bright,
a candle which brings **HOPE** and offers delight.
While we await our expectations are high;
our hearts rejoice gladly for Jesus is nigh.*
2. *A candle is burning, a candle of **PEACE**,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease;iv
for Jesus is coming to show us the way:
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.*
3. *A candle is burning, a candle of **JOY**,
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.*
4. *A candle is burning, a candle of **LOVE**,
a candle to point us to heaven above,
a baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.*

5. *We honour Messiah with Christ's candle flame;
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.
O Come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night
as God comes among us, the Christian's true light.*

FAMILY TIME - THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Now, I need your help to tell the rest of this story of the first Christmas...

Joseph: stand, raise their right hands, and say, "O Holy Night."
Mary: stand, pretend to hold a baby, and say, "Ahhh."
Baby: stand, place their hands over their hearts, and say, "Love."
Angels: stand, hold out hands like angel wings, and say, "Peace."
Shepherds: stand and say 'Baaa'

Let's practise that....

Right, we will get on with our story:

This story is from the book of Luke, Chapter 2:

Joseph (pause)

went from Nazareth in Galilee, up to Bethlehem in Judah, David's town, for the census.

Joseph (pause)

went with **Mary** (pause),

to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a **baby** (pause).

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her **baby** (pause).

She gave birth to a son, her firstborn.

Mary (pause)

wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid

the baby (pause)

in a manger because there was no place for them in the inn.

Now to get on with our story. Shepherd and angels, you feature in this next part – would you like to have a quick refresher before we begin?

Shepherds (stand and say baa)

Angels (hold out 'wings' and say 'Peace')

Excellent

There were **shepherds** (pause)
camping in the fields, keeping watch over their sheep through the night.
Suddenly God's **angel** (pause)
stood among them, and God's glory blazed around them.
The **shepherds** (pause) were terrified.
But the **angel** (pause) said to them, "Don't be afraid;
I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everyone,
worldwide:
a Saviour has just been born in David's town,
a Saviour who is Messiah and Master.
This is the sign you are looking for: a **baby** (pause)
wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."
At once the **angel** (pause)
was joined by a huge angelic choir, praising God:
 Glory to God in the heavenly heights.
 Peace to all on earth who please God!
When the **angels** (pause)
had left them and gone into heaven,
the **shepherds** (pause)
talked it over: "Let's go over to Bethlehem as fast as we can,
and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us."
They left, running,
and found **Mary** (pause)
and **Joseph** (pause),
and the **baby** (pause)
lying in the manger. Seeing was believing.
They told everyone they met what
the **angels** (pause)
had said about this **baby** (pause).
All who heard it were amazed at what the
shepherds (pause)
told them, but **Mary** (pause)
kept all these things to herself, holding them dear, deep within herself.
The **shepherds** (pause)
returned, glorifying and praising God for everything they had heard and seen.
It turned out exactly the way they had been told!

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!

THE WORD IN TEXTS

Tony Kirby

Gospel Reading:

Luke 2:1-20

HYMN

COC8 'Child of Christmas story'

Words: Shirley Erena Murray © 1992 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1992 Richard Madden

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Child of Christmas story,
stable straw and star,
small and sweet and gentle,
tell us who you are. | 3. Child of Jew and gentile,
child of white and black,
teach us how to love you,
teach us what we lack. |
| 2. Child whose baby finger
round our own is curled,
come to melt our hearts,
and come to change the world. | 4. Child of Mary's courage,
birthed in human pain,
tell us what your name is,
be our hope again. |

REFLECTION

Rev. Dr. Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

OFFERTORY MUSIC

OFFERING HYMN

Willing hands, to lead the blind,
heal the wounded, feed the poor.
Love embracing all our kind,
charity with liberal store.

OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God, you ask us to be faithful people.

In this community, you ask us to be people of justice.

In this community, you ask us to be people of mercy.

In this community, you ask us to be people of peace.

Be with us as we try to be faithful

in large ways and in small ways

so your eternal community may come in every way.

Amen.

What a world of sound we live in; many words we daily hear.
Mid this world's conflicting voices, be for us God's Word so clear.
Help us listen to your story; help us hear you when we pray.
In you, Jesus, is our hope: God come to us on Christmas Day

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Tony Kirby

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

AA 154 'Where is the room'

Words: © 1962 Timothy Dudley-Smith, Renewal 1990 Hope Publishing Company
Music: Walter Greated

1. Where is the room,
where is the house of Christmas?
Where shall we welcome Jesus,
where are the signs of home?

2. Let Christ have space,
place at the heart of living,
centre for birth's new breathing,
cradle for hope and peace.
3. Let there be room,
room for the friend and stranger,
room without hurt or anger,
room for whoever come.
4. Let love be here,
love for the Christmas stable,
love at our open table,
love to be shared all year.

BLESSING

Let us go gently into this sacred day
as those who have seen the Christ.
We can go without fear
for a divine light
illuminated by the very heart of God,
shines on our paths
and leads us to the place
where hope, peace, joy, and love are fulfilled.
Surely, now is the time for rejoicing!

May Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, give you, those you love, and those
you find it hard to love, the joy of the Bethlehem shepherds, the love of the holy
family and the peace which passes all understanding this Christmas and always,
and the blessing of God the Creator, Jesus the Christ and the Holy Spirit who
dwells in our midst. Amen.

SUNG BLESSING

Sing: May the God of new beginnings, start with you and me. John Murray
May the God of continuing story, speak through you and me.
May the God of infinite wisdom shine through you and me.
May the God of safe homecomings, welcome you and me.

SUNG AMEN

THANK YOU

Peter Franklin
our musician today

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>

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 Qy, 02-0534-0004022-02

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES

CHRISTMAS BAKING FUNDRAISER

The current (close to final) total raised is \$1,240! Many thanks to bakers, creators, and buyers. Happy munching or gifting!

Maxine Cunningham.

LET HOPE FLOW THIS CHRISTMAS-CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

In this year's Christmas Appeal we share stories from communities living with the climate disaster. They are building rainwater tanks, learning new growing techniques and preparing for disaster. People living on the frontline of climate change need new skills and resources to adapt to rising temperatures and more intense disasters. For those unable to adapt, they will need help to find new homes and support to carve out new ways of living. Together we can share in this life-giving task, giving hope in practical ways to people who face a dangerous and uncertain future. Please support this year's Christmas Appeal with generosity and love.

Donations can be made with the CWS Christmas appeal envelopes available at the back of the church or via <https://cws.org.nz/get-involved/give/christmas-appeal/>

RECYCLING OF HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

As a result of a recent Congregational Conversation, Brian Burrell has provided a list of Wellington City locations where used household batteries can be dropped off for FREE. They are Karori Library, Kilbirnie Library, Manners Street near Willis (inward bus stop), Island Bay Community Centre, Newlands Community Centre, Tawa Community Centre, and the Southern Landfill Tip Shop. Thanks, Brian.

BID FOR A BACH 2022 - URGENT

How about a Summer break away from Wellington?

'You need to book soon. The cottage in Greytown still has some nights free, (even including some weekends) between now and the end of January – it is not available in February. Be in to book your stay..

As a fundraiser for St Andrews on the Terrace to help boost finances affected by Covid-19 cancellations for the St Andrews Centre, we have 3 holiday homes on offer for a short holiday. The owners of these 3 holiday homes have generously agreed to donate all rent received to St Andrews.

Bid for a date at:

- 1) A classic cottage in Greytown at \$90 per night;
- 2) A house in Whanganui, with a view over the city and all mod cons including Sky TV, for \$100 per night;
- 3) A holiday home at Whatamango Bay, nestled in native bush in the Marlborough Sounds, accessible by car with a 15 minute drive from Picton, for \$100 per night.

The Cottage in Greytown sleeps up to 4 people (2 bedrooms: one queen, two singles). A separate sleep out has 2 single beds for a larger group.

The house in Whanganui and the house near Picton both sleep up to 6 people.

You need to provide your own towels and sheets. For the houses in Greytown and Whanganui, you are responsible to leave the property as you found it. For the holiday home at Whatamango Bay there is a \$50 end cleaning fee.

Send me an email to see if the property you would like to rent is available. Weekends tend to be at a premium so book early.

If your requested dates are available, you will be sent confirmation and detailed information about the holiday home and how to reach it, how to get in, instructions about water and power, and you will be sent bank account details for you to pay for your stay.

Contact me, Andrew Matthews at: wa.matthews@gmail.com

FINISHED A LOAF OF BREAD OR BOTTLE OF MILK?

Please save the bread bag and the clip (plastic only)/tie and milk bottle tops. The bags are used at the Compassion Soup Kitchen for “takeaway” lunches and the tags and milk bottle tops get recycled. Please fold the bags and pack separately. There is a collection box on the North Vestry table. Thanks— Kath, Trish and Brian.

SUPPORT FOR DCM (DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY MINISTRY)

We are grateful for the many services provided by the DCM and one way we can offer our support is to FILL the food baskets at the back of the church. They are collected every Monday by a DCM worker.

Suggested items:

Tinned – soup, fish, baked beans, stews and fruit / pasta and curry sauces / jam, honey marmite/vegemite and peanut butter / porridge, biscuits and muesli bars / instant coffee and tea bags / soap, toilet paper, toothpaste and toothbrushes. And for the festive season some treats?

(Please no fresh fruit/vegetables)

DCM has been working in the city of Wellington since 1969 with a mission to “focus on the needs of, and to help empower those marginalised in the city, with a current focus on people experiencing homelessness, or at risk of homelessness.”

For other ways to support the work of the DCM visit <https://www.dcm.org.nz>.

Thank you - Brian Burrell

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR

Tēnā koutou. Greetings to you.

Haere mai tatou, kia koropiko, kia tuohu; kia tukua nga turi ki te aroaro o Ihowa, to tatou Kaihanga. Ko ia hoki to tatou Atua; ko tatou tana iwi e hepara ai, nga hipi a tona ringa. Te Maungarongo, at Ohope Marae, stands on the hill overlooking Ohope and was first established there in 1947. The marae was the first Church-owned marae in Aotearoa New Zealand. Its creation was the dream of Very Rev John (Hoani) Laughton. He saw the need to establish a place for the bicultural partnership implicit in the relationship of the then Maori Synod Te Hinota, now Te Aka Puaho, and the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, as a whole.

The marae does not display itself flamboyantly, rather, it is ringed by native bush on the slope of the hills. I, like many who have gone before me and those who visit it today, find it a peaceful sanctuary; open to all, available to all, and a

place of significance for all. Our Council of Assembly has a tradition of holding here one of its in-person meetings biennially. We are welcomed and reminded of our history, give thanks to God for those who have gone before us, and are challenged to continue to be people who are committed to work together within the mission of God.

At a recent Council of Assembly meeting, Te Aka Puaho advised Council of the need to undertake some earthworks to retain a slope to the side of Te Maungarongo at the marae. We also heard how for much of the previous two years, COVID restrictions required the marae to be closed. This meant that while the marae still had expenses, there was no income and no opportunity to build reserves to pay for this work. Council warmly and unanimously agreed on behalf to the wider Church to underwrite the cost of this work to enable it to proceed. Council believes that in giving thanks to those that have gone before, and acknowledging Te Maungarongo as a treasure, an icon, we should offer to the Church as a whole an opportunity to both continue to thank God for this place and to contribute financially to the cost of this work. I am writing to you, and your church, your church council, and your presbytery, inviting you to consider this invitation to partner in this way.

Donations can be made to:

Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand bank account (if you do not have the details, please contact Katrina@presbyterian.org.nz or phone Katrina 04 381 8283) Please include on your deposit reference: Mod Appeal

Email for donor receipt: katrina@presbyterian.org.nz

Your gift will contribute directly to this project and continue to ensure this remains a place of welcome under the maihi – the sheltering arms of Christ and God's church.

Kia ora rawa atu

Right Reverend Hamish Galloway

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

AWAKEN 17-19 MARCH 2023

Awaken is a gathering/conference for all queer/LGBT+ people of faith across Aotearoa. It is being held at Durham St Methodist Church in Christchurch.

All information is at diversechurch.co.nz/awaken2023/

Please make this known to anyone you think may be interested.

Tony Pears

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	Pam Fuller, Pat McGiven
Sound	Tony Cowdry
Laptop	Sandra Kirby
Offering	Pam Fuller and one other
Family Time	Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Readings	Tony Kirby
Prayers of the People	Tony Kirby
Musician	Peter Franklin

On duty Sunday 1 January

Welcoming	Trish McBride, Lois Robertson
Sound	Frank Cook
Laptop	Cameron Smart
Offering	Bridget Martin, Tony Pears
Coffee/tea	David Douglas, Lois Robertson, Janet Horncy
Family Time	Blessing
Readings	Lynette Burrell
Prayers of the People	Barrie Keenan
Library	Trish McBride
Musician	Peter Franklin

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Sunday 25 December 10am Christmas Day service led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Sunday 1 January 2023 10am Sunday gathering led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

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
and Younger members' (Y) group meets after morning tea/brunch.
3rd Sunday Congregational Conversation
4th Sunday Social Justice Education Group
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

Minister	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Parish Council Convenor	Sue Hirst
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	Vacant
Centre Manager	Adelina Reis
Parish Administrator	Hayes Francis
Office Administrator	Amy de Bruin & Amy Harding
Roster Coordinator	Pam Fuller

St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

30 The Terrace – P O Box 5203, Wellington 6145

Office Hours: 9 am – 5 pm Monday to Friday

Phone (04) 472-9211

office@standrews.org.nz



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