



ORDER OF SERVICE

7 April 2023

Good Friday

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 Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

GREETING

We gather again on this Good Friday
at the foot of the cross
which calls us on,
not in shame,
not in fear,
but more deeply into the costly journey
towards life.

There is wounding,
there is weeping.

In Jesus Christ,
God is not separated from that.

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the shadow of our suffering
is the suffering of Jesus.
In the shadow of our weakness
is the vulnerability of the Christ.
In the shadow of our pain
is the God who cried out.
We are never rejected
We are never left alone.

by Dorothy McRae-McMahon

HYMN

'We walk in silence'

Words: Bronwyn Angela White
Tune: WINCHESTER NEW WOV 264

1. We walk in silence while the earth
quivers and cracks beneath our feet,
swallows our dreams and shatters worth,
solemn we trudge to hearts' dull beat.
2. We walk while singing, motley choir of
traitors, lovers, meek and proud.
Small sparks of apostolic fire
light up the path, lighten the shroud.
3. We walk in solidarity and
sing of hope that never dies.
We march to end disparity
graves open as our spirits rise.
4. We walk the way that has no end
free to evolve, transform our creed.
Hearts torn like curtains, start to mend,
love rising now in word, in deed.

WELCOME

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FIRST STATION - Jesus is condemned to death

Mark 15: 1-5, 11-15

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'You say so.' Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!' So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.



Valerie Rhodes

Meditation: I just don't understand, Jesus, why you don't defend yourself. Why are you remaining silent in the face of all these accusations? Where are your disciples who shared a meal with you just last night? And what has happened to the crowds who cheered as you made your way into Jerusalem a few days ago? Why are they silent today?

I keep wondering, where are the people who ate the loaves and fishes on the hillside and where are the lepers you cured and the blind and lame you healed? Will no-one defend you? Is everyone afraid to speak out? And why don't I have the courage to declare your innocence? I watch in silence and shame as Pilate washes his hands.

Prayer: Jesus, help me to find strength when I am weak, love when I feel forsaken, courage when I am afraid, comfort when I am alone, hope when I feel rejected, and peace when I am in turmoil. Amen

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

AA 50 'God of freedom, God of justice'

Words: Shirley Murray vs 1&2 Fiona McDougal v3

Tune: PICARDY, French Traditional carol melody 17th – 18th C

God of freedom, God of justice,
you whose love is strong as death,
you who saw the dark of prison,
you who knew the price of faith,
touch our world of sad oppression,
with your Spirit's healing breath.

SECOND STATION – Jesus takes up his cross

Mark 15: 16-20

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Sandra Kirby

Meditation: You have stood quietly as your friends abandon you and through a sham trial. You have been condemned and before you face the trek to crucifixion you are mocked by the soldiers. And yet you stand still and calm. What are you thinking? How do you draw on your inner strength to stay upright? Give me courage when the world is rough; keep me loving though the world is tough. These words from the hymn "one more step along the way I go" seem particularly apt.

May we remember that standing strong in the face of adversity is a matter of staying upright and keeping going one step at a time. The road ahead might be gruesome but the die is cast – facing the worst with courage and determination is digging deep into our faith to keep moving – step by step.



Prayer: Give me courage when my world is rough. May our store of strength and faith be enough for us to meet the demands of our journey through darkness.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

Rid the earth of torture's terror,
you whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest,
you who shed the tears and blood;
move in us the power of pity
Restless for the common good.

THIRD STATION – Jesus falls for the first time

Isaiah 53: 2

For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

Frank Hanson

Meditation: Some of us who are getting older live with the daily hazard of a fall. Three years ago Nola fell in the middle of the night and broke her pelvis. Months of recovery followed. Just before last Christmas I fell while making breakfast. I ended up in hospital with COVID. These were two. There were others.

But we were elderly! Jesus was young - a young adult, like perhaps our children or grandchildren. Jesus was a walker! He'd walked and walked all his life. Active, fresh, vigorous, fit, robust, energetic. And he had walked all his ministry. By himself. With his loyal group of followers and friends. He'd walked to the crowds. He'd walked up hills. He'd walked on good days – and bad days. This was no person to be daunted by a twenty km. tramp or a half marathon.

But now it was different. He had been through the ringer. This was not Nelson Mandela's "Long Road to Freedom". This was the road of misery, of heart ache, of physical and mental exhaustion. This was the kind of walk endured by the prisoners of

Auschwitz, being herded deeper into Germany. If you stumbled and fell you were shot on the spot.

Not quite so for Jesus. Death was not quite yet but it was getting close. He stumbled, he fell. He couldn't stay upright. He'd lost control. The words of Isaiah seem quite appropriate for this drained, debilitated and enfeebled young man: "He had no form or majesty that we should look at him: nothing in his appearance that we should desire him". He stumbled and fell – for the first time. But it was not to be his last.



Prayer: We too can stagger and fall – physically, emotionally, spiritually. Help us up again when it happens. So compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence. Amen

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

When in deep despair we have fallen,
you who walked the stony road,
strengthen us to walk one step further,
you who bore a heavy load,
friends and whanau can sustain us,
though for now our head is bowed.

FOURTH STATION – Jesus meets his mother

Luke 2: 22, 34, 35

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'



Anna Smith

Meditation:

We imagine the scene. Jesus struggling under the weight and pain of carrying the cross on which he will hang. A mix of blood, sweat, dust and tears.

As they meet does Mary think of that moment long ago, when his small, dark head turned and looked at her for the first time? Does she wish his life had been different, that he had walked an easier, more conventional road?

Or did she heed Simeon's words in the temple: "... and a sword will pierce your own soul too". How often has she imagined what those words foretold, what heartbreak lay ahead, just where a mother's unconditional love would take her? In her worst nightmare could she ever have imagined it would end like this, in humiliation, torture and death?

Prayer: We think of parents everywhere who have seen their children suffer and die - on the roads, through violence, illness, addiction, suicide. We hold in our hearts mothers in refugee camps, who yearn for a better life for their children and worry for what the future will bring.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

Words: Fiona McDougal vs 1&2

Tune: AFFLICTION , Jillian Bray

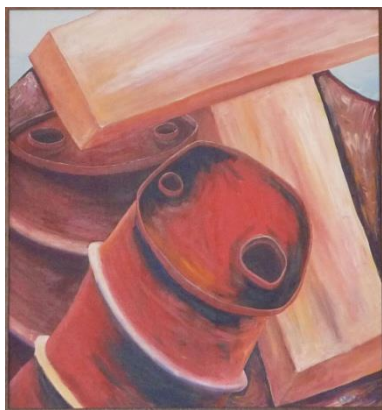
With mother-love a heart will break
in helplessness and grief,
to watch a child who's suffering,
unable to relieve.

FIFTH STATION – Simon helps Jesus to carry his cross

Mark 15:21

The Crucifixion of Jesus

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.



Barrie Keenan

Meditation: The opportunity to help comes in so many different ways. Sometimes we see it and just go and do it. Other times someone or something indicates that it is just possible that help is needed. Then there are other times when we are compelled to help. Sometimes the help required is very easy to provide. At other times it's hard and it demands a lot of us physically or emotionally but we are able to achieve a positive outcome.

Then there are the situations when even though we do our best, our very best to help - the outcome is not satisfactory to either party.

Simon, who came in from the country to the big city, to the festival of the Passover, was required to carry this cross for a person who possibly he had never met before, but on that cross this stranger was going to be put to death.

Prayer: Holy One even in our daily lives we have so many things to do, the different situations in which we find ourselves, all the various people that we meet. Everywhere there are situations where help is needed and where we can feel stretched, really stretched.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

Confronted with another's need
their burden we can share,
stand with them in their suffering
by being present there.

SIXTH STATION – Veronica wipes the face of Jesus Matthew 25: 35-36, 40

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

Antonio Lima

Meditation: Dear friends at St Andrew's.

I can't say if you felt Jesus in us, but we felt Jesus in you when you welcomed us into your country and obliged us in our struggles.

Just like Veronica wiped the face of Jesus, you wiped our tears and helped us carry our cross a few years ago. May we soon congregate again to wipe away the tears of other brothers and sisters and together help them to overcome their trials too.



Prayer: Dear Father/Mother of us all. We adore You, and we praise You. Thank you for all of Your Creation, for making us part of all these wonders, and for your Son, Jesus Christ, who suffered to remind us of your eternal love and that Life is greater than the death of our bodies.

May Jesus be our role model and guide our daily steps.

May we touch Your Holy heart by feeding a hungry brother or sister, taking care of the thirsty, welcoming the foreigner, and visiting a prisoner.

And may we support the organisations and institutions that serve these brothers and sisters because Jesus will be among us.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

HIOS 106 'O God I cry to you in pain' vs 2 & 4

Words: Shirley Murray

Give me the strength to face my ill,
to trust in skill and care,
to bless the hands that help me heal
and find your Spirit there.
Within the comfort and the love

that human touch can give,
restore in me a larger sense
of what it is to live.

SEVENTH STATION – Jesus falls the second time

Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

Paul Franken

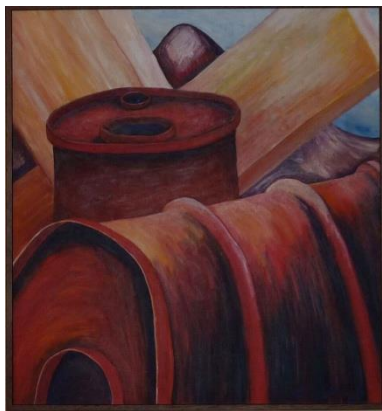
Meditation: By falling and being knocked about like an old drum, YOU showed us it is all right to slip up and fall down.

When I fall, again and again it is inescapable that I want to give in, give up.

Surely a peaceful release of suffering at this stage is allowed; yet you carried on and expect me to do so as well; You can and will give me strength, whether through ill health or age, even if I and when I face hurt and want to die. 'Get up and carry on'- Somebody will be there to help me---

Would I have helped or assisted you, had I seen your body crumple for the second time?

Will you allow me to get up again and again? Please? Help me even if I stood by when you fell.



Prayer:

Jesus, thanks for allowing us to walk beside you, for allowing us to slip- as we do many times. Give us the courage to get up again and again.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

HIOS 52 'God who weeps' vs 1&2

Words Marnie Barrell. Tune: LACRIMOSA Barry Brinson

God who weeps when we are weeping
maker, lover, friend of all,
we commit into your keeping
those who suffer, struggle, fall.
Plant the seeds of peace inside us
in these days of fateful choice;
let your word and wisdom guide us
as we listen for your voice.

EIGHTH STATION – Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Luke 23: 27-28

A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.



Tony Kirby

Meditation: This was the last teaching by Jesus, and he comes at the women's fears for him in a completely different way. Jesus is the one who is about to die, horribly and mercilessly, and yet he does not focus on his own vulnerability and fear. He is focused on their needs. Jesus tells them to weep for themselves and for their children. His journey is clear to him. But for the women and their children, trials are yet to come.

Prayer: Help me to reach out compassionately to others as Jesus did, even when my own circumstances seem overwhelming. If I can keep this focus on other's needs, then perhaps I can draw on the example of Jesus to help me avoid becoming lost in self pity and find the courage to do what needs to be done.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

Christ, enduring hate and violence,
hounded to a martyr's death
calmly meeting taunts with silence,
speaking peace with your last breath;
peace, courageous and demanding,
binds us as we walk your way.
May our wills, at your commanding
turn to acts of peace today.

NINTH STATION – Jesus falls for the third time

Isaiah 53: 7

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

Lois Robertson

Meditation: Here we are travelling alongside Jesus. He is struggling with a heavy cross. He has endured a trial and from the soldiers – he is weary and tired. Through all this long night he has been treated badly by everyone especially the soldiers but he does not resist; he does not try to defend himself. Here he is struggling to carry this heavy cross and through the busy streets. There are crowds everywhere who mock him, jeer, and spit at him. It is humiliating and embarrassing. He stumbles and falls – we can't imagine how he felt. As someone who has had several falls I know.

This is the suffering Servant that Isaiah writes about in chapter 53



Prayer: Jesus, thanks for allowing us to walk beside you, for allowing us to slip- as we do many times- Give us the courage to get up again and again.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

AA45 'Give Thanks for Life' vs 2

Words: Shirley Murray. Tune: SINE NOMINE. WOV384

Give thanks for those
who made their life a light
caught from the Christ-flame,
bursting through the night,
who touched the truth, who
burned for what is right,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

TENTH STATION – Jesus is stripped of his clothes

Mark 15: 22-24

Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

Trish McBride

Meditation: Jesus was stripped of his clothes twice, once to be flogged, and this time to be crucified naked. In the meantime, his blood would have congealed and adhered to his tunic, so this second stripping would have re-opened the earlier wounds and have been far more painful than the first. We other humans also all endure painful strippings - strippings of dignity, freedom, safety, possessions, roles, health, family, friends, and eventually of life itself. We grieve more deeply for some of these than for others.



Prayer: Loving God, we hurt for so many here and world-wide who are stripped of their basic rights and needs. May we be willing to do some chosen stripping of our own lives to support others and the well-being of the planet. And when we are unwillingly stripped of what matters to us, may we find, even in the pain, some solidarity with the naked Jesus, and the patience and courage to trust in some future resurrection.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

COC 4 'All who would see God's Greatness' vs 1 & 2

Words: Marnie Barrell. Tune: OBEISANCE Ian Render

If you would share God's riches
draw near, reach out and touch;
God had only love to offer,
enough for us, and too much.
See now God's treasure, made so poor,
Naked the God that we adore.

ELEVENTH STATION – Jesus is nailed to the cross

Luke 23: 35-38

And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'



Michael Parker

Meditation: Standing here today at this Easter service I feel stripped of my clothes and other personal camouflage, Aware of my faith; our faith and Jesus's journey.

Prayer: My prayer is that we as a congregation, together, can feel and celebrate Easter, with a spirit of resurrection and hope. Compassionate God may we and all the world know and feel your presence.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

Stand in the holy silence,
while earth with heaven sings
that here now for our beholding
is love that upholds all things.
Strange is this love that draws us near;
glory of God among us here.

TWELFTH STATION – Jesus dies on the cross

Luke 23: 44-46

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.



Lynne Dovey

Meditation: At its core this passage from Luke captures what it is to be human. Even though we can argue that Jesus was no ordinary human being, it says to me that ultimately death is a part of the human condition. Luke, as an early Christian, uses a physical darkening of the land and the temple curtain being torn in two to dramatise the moment. And he lightens it by suggesting that Jesus' spirit has somewhere comforting to go – into the hands of the Father, a message which is an essential part of the traditional Christian story. Whether we believe in an afterlife or not, this station of the cross remains a powerful image of a life coming to its end.

Prayer: Through the Easter story we can gain a deeper understanding of our own human frailty, a better acceptance of the fact that death is a part of the human condition. We pray for all who have lost loved ones in recent times.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

HYMN

APATT 25 'Lord Jesus Christ the light you brought us'

Words: Shirley Murray Music: Jillian Bray
Tune: CONSUMMATION

Lord Jesus Christ,
the light you brought us
fades in the dark,
with all that you have taught us,
shadows beset
the hope that caught us,
fearful your people now.

Lord Jesus Christ,
our lives reveal us
faithless, afraid
without your strength to steel us,
losing the words
that hold and heal us,
stumbling your people now.

Lord Jesus Christ,
your friends will fail you,
love that betrays
with kiss and sword assail you,
here on a cross
the powers will nail you,
silent your people now.

Silence

Sung Response

AA 31 'E te Atua'

Tune Kum Ba Ya arr. Nicola Jansen and Guy Jansen

1. E te Atua, aroha mai (x3)
ake, ake tonu e
ake, ake tonu e.

1. O God, love us
forever and ever

2. E te Atua, manaaki mai (x3)
ake, ake tonu e
ake, ake tonu e.

2. O God, bless us
forever and ever

3. E te Atua, awhina mai (x3)
ake, ake tonu e
ake, ake tonu e.

3. O God, help us
forever and ever

THIRTEENTH STATION – Jesus is taken down from the cross

Mark 15: 40

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.



Jenny Simpson

Meditation: Then Joseph of Aramitheia came, climbed a ladder to , with exquisite care, remove the cruel nails, unbind the ties , to lift the lifeless sweat drenched wounded body down. And the blue drums , the women , the kuia are there , always to the end. Just as the special forces of Ukraine, and the whanau and friends of Kane Te Kai are now, to care for his now lifeless body and bring him home.

Prayer: Oh God, be with those whose loved ones are not found , not brought home, lying unclaimed. May those who are forgotten , be forever in your infinite love.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

AA151 'When human voices cannot sing' vs 1 & 2

Words: Shirley Murray. Tune: St Columba, Irish traditional

When human voices cannot sing,
and human hearts are breaking,
we bring our grief to you, O God,
who knows our inner aching.

FOURTEENTH STATION – Jesus is laid in the tomb

Mark 15:46b-47

Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.



Fiona McDougal

Meditation:

A bruised and battered body,
empty now of life,
so unlike the Jesus we knew and loved
as we watched him move and laugh,
share food and stories,
touch and heal.
So full of life.

We will return to wash and tend,
we will let our hands express our care,
we will let our tears flow.

Prayer:

For those who are dying.
For those who face the reality
of losing a loved one
and feel lost and bereft.
For those who will never have a body
to grieve over.

Compassionate God, may we and all the world know your presence.

Sung Response

Make real for us your holding love,
the love which is your meaning,
the power to move the stone of death,
the hope of Easter morning.

JESUS' 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 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 to 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.***

SENDING OUT

We go on our way
and Jesus goes ahead of us
We do not need to be afraid.

God is love
***and love is more powerful
than fear or death or evil,
and we are greatly loved.***

We go out into the world
in the power of the spirit of Christ
***to walk through darkness and uncertainty
towards the joy of Easter Day.
We go in peace.***

AROHANUI BLESSING

AA 95 'May the mystery of God enfold us'

Words: © Joy Cowley Music: © Ian Render

Tune: MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS

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.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the creation of this service; to all who contributed music, meditations and prayers and technical expertise.

INFORMATION ABOUT ROBERT GAULDIE AND THE PAINTINGS

“Bob Gauldie was an accomplished researcher and academic who built a reputation for pushing boundaries during a career which included more than 150 scientific publications. He was also not afraid of pushing boundaries in his other great love, painting, with one work irking religious traditionalists and coming close to landing him in trouble with the law.

Following an exhibition of his paintings in 1985, Professor Gauldie was asked to paint the Stations of the cross for Wellington Presbyterian Church St Andrew’s on The Terrace. The 14 stations tell the story of Jesus from his death sentence to his entombment, but those painted by Prof Gauldie and first shown at Easter 1987 caused a stir by depicting Christ as a 44-gallon oil drum. The Evening Post newspaper received several letters attacking the work as “blasphemy” and Prof Gauldie recalled how a senior Wellington police officer warned he could be charged with criminal blasphemy, though in the end no action was taken.

Prof Gauldie said using a 44- gallon drum to symbolise Jesus depicted the stations in a way that was “realistic in the religious sense”. “As a symbol they are ubiquitous, loud and associated with trash. They were ideal for my purpose to portray the Stations of the Cross as the brutal murder, the clangorous, violent trashing of Jesus, the reduction of all his teachings to a worthless and brutalised body that was empty of life”.

Robert Gauldie’s obituary in The Dominion Post 18th June 2011.

Available at http://robertgauldie.files.wordpress.com/2011/07/bob_gauldie_obit.pdf

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‘*God of freedom, God of justice*’. Words © 1992 Shirley Erena Murray. Tune: *Picardy* (Public Domain)

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'E te Atua'. Words Trad Maori hymn. Tune: *Kum Ba Ya* arr. by Nicola Jansen and Guy Jansen.

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