



ORDER OF SERVICE

18TH MAY 2025

EASTER 5

CHANGE AND RENEWAL

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.

We recognise that being inclusive is an ongoing journey and we are continuing to learn. We are committed to challenging discrimination within the church and wider society.

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.

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 the Worship Committee

PRELUDE

"Imagine" by John Lennon (1940 - 1980)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come into the calm.

Set aside your busy thoughts,
and let us draw together in community
to sing, pray, listen and reflect.

Let us celebrate life in the presence we name God.

Let us trust in the mystery of life itself.

SILENCE

GATHERING

We gather in faith

whatever that may mean for us.

We are open to exploration and questions.

As we journey through our lives

we understand that change is constant.

We gather in love, guided by the teachings of Jesus.

1. God who sets us on a journey
to discover, dream and grow,
lead us as you led your people
in the desert long ago;
journey inward, journey outward,
stir the spirit, stretch the mind,
love for God and self and neighbour
marks the way that Christ defined.
2. Exploration brings new insights,
changes, choices we must face;
give us wisdom in deciding,
mindful always of your grace;
should we stumble, lose our bearings,
find it hard to know what's right,
we regain our true direction
focused on the Jesus light.
3. End our longing for the old days,
grant the vision that we lack –
once we've started on this journey
there can be no turning back;
let us travel light, discarding
excess baggage from our past,
cherish only what's essential,
choosing treasure that will last.
4. When we set up camp and settle
to avoid love's risk and pain,
you disturb complacent comfort,
pull the tent pegs up again;
keep us travelling in the knowledge
you are always at our side;
give us courage for the journey,
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.

WELCOME

E te whānau a Te Karaiti,
ngā mihi aroha ki a tātou katoa.
Kia ora tātou.

Ou te faatalofa atu i le Suafoa o Iesu Keriso

Talofa lava, we too greet you in the name of Jesus Christ

A special welcome to those who are visiting us. Please join us for morning tea in the Hall after church

OPENING PRAYER

In this post Easter time
we acknowledge that change and renewal are a part of our lives.
We know that change can be scary.
We recognise that renewal is part of creation
and part of our lives to be embraced.
God of life and love, we welcome awakenings and new pathways.
Amen

JESUS' PRAYER

© Rev Sherri Weinberg

***God - heart of the world:
revealed through every aspect of creation:
understood through our awareness.
May we honour the holiness of creation and act accordingly
so that your love is reflected in the way we live.
May we always be thankful for the food we eat
and the friends we have.
May we forgive those who transgress against us
and be forgiven for our wrong doings.
In the freedom of love may we live as your heartbeat
and not be compromised by hesitation.
Through our freedom, may your justice
be seen and heard and experienced
forever and ever.
Amen.***

LIGHTING THE RAINBOW CANDLE

We light the rainbow candle as a sign of our inclusivity and for our children.

FAMILY TIME

Jim Cunningham

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

We send you to the Rainbow Room to hear stories, ask questions and have fun together. ***We bless you. Amen.***

PASSING THE PEACE (THE RANGIMARIE)

Our practice is to pass the peace with or without shaking hands, and say “peace be with you”

THE WORD IN TEXTS

Anna Smith

New Testament

Acts 11: 1-18

Revelation: 21:1-6

Contemporary Reading

Reimagining God by Lloyd Geering

from Chapter 2: The Faith to Doubt, pages 23 & 24

“The idea that believing is religiously important turns out to be a modern idea...The great modern heresy of the church is the heresy of believing” (quoting *Wilfred Cantwell Smith*).

To put the matter in blunt and overly simplistic terms, we may say that in premodern times people put their faith in God, whereas today too many put their faith in such beliefs as the inerrancy of the Bible. This modern error of equating faith with holding certain beliefs began to develop in the nineteenth century. That is why Lewis Carroll poked fun at it in 1865 when he wrote *Alice in Wonderland*. There he portrayed Alice as saying, “I can’t possibly believe that!” – to which the Queen replied, “Perhaps you haven’t had enough practice. Why, I have believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast”. To identify with the holding of a certain number of beliefs that come to us from the distant past actually makes a mockery of Christian faith and reduces it to the schoolboy’s definition: “Faith is believing things you know ain’t true”.

RESPONSE

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

HYMN

AA156 "Where the road runs out"

Words and Music © Colin Gibson

1. Where the road runs out and the signposts end,
where we come to the edge of today,
be the God of Abraham for us;
send us out upon our way.

*Lord, you were our beginning,
the faith that gave us birth.
We look to you our ending,
our hope for heaven and earth.*

2. When the coast is left and we journey on
to the rim of the sky and the sea,
be the sailor's friend, be the dolphin Christ;
lead us on to eternity.

Lord, you were.....

3. When the clouds are low and the wind is strong,
when tomorrow's storm draws near,
be the spirit bird hov'ring overhead
who will take away our fear.

Lord, you were

REFLECTION

Change and renewal: a faith journey
A dialogue with Rev Dr Frank Hanson

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

Ross Scott

HYMN

AA59 "He came singing love"

Words and Music © Colin Gibson Tune: SINGING LOVE

1. He came singing love
and he lived singing love;
he died singing love.
He arose in silence.
For the love to go on
we must make it our song:
you and I be the singers.
2. He came singing faith
and he lived singing faith
he died singing faith.
He arose in silence.
For the faith to go on
we must make it our song:
you and I be the singers.
3. He came singing hope
and he lived singing hope;
he died singing hope.
He arose in silence.
For the hope to go on
we must make it our song:
you and I be the singers.
4. He came singing peace
and he lived singing peace;
he died singing peace.
He arose in silence.
For the peace to go on
we must make it our song:
you and I be the singers.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"Wiltshire" by G.T. Smart (1776 – 1867)

OFFERING HYMN

AA 127 'Take my gifts' verse 3

Words: © Shirley Murray Music: © Colin Gibson

Tune: TALAVERA TERRACE

1. Take whatever I can offer –
gifts that I have yet to find,
skills that I am slow to sharpen,
talents of the hand and mind,
things made beautiful for others
in the place where I must be:
take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me.

OFFERING PRAYER

All that we are, and all that we have,
and all that we may become, comes from this planet,
from God, for we are made from its dust.
So, we bring these offerings and ourselves
to restore relationships -
Relationships between all peoples
and between people and the rest of creation.

Amen

*We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the table, and those which wing
their way electronically from our banks to the church's account.*

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY OF ST ANDREW'S

People share notices. If you have a notice, please move to the front row, ready to speak **briefly** from the lectern. **For the benefit of newcomers, please introduce yourself before you begin.** Thank you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Cam Smart

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

We think today of the people of Singapore and the National Council of Churches in Singapore and throughout the world. We hold all refugees in our hearts - those who have fled their homes because of natural disaster, oppression, violence or war. We give thanks that we in Aotearoa New Zealand are able to offer a small number of refugees the opportunity to resettle in our country. We pray for the leaders and people of other faith communities around the motu. We remember those in Parliament and today we name Hon Simeon Brown (Pakuranga) and Gerry Brownlee (List). Here in the Central Presbytery we pray for the leaders and people of the Opunake Co-operating Church (Pres-Meth).

PRAYER FOR ST ANDREW'S

*Bless your people, God
and renew our life in this place.
Refresh us with a spirit of love and respect
for all who follow the Jesus Way,
for those whose pathways differ from our own,
and for care of the Earth and its creatures.*

*Bless the cities in which we live,
that they may be places
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*

CLOSING HYMN

AA113 “ Our life has its seasons”

Words: © Shirley Erena Murray Music © Colin Gibson

1. Our life has its seasons, and God has the reasons
why spring follows winter, and new leaves grow,
for there's a connection with our resurrection
that flowers will bud after frost and snow,

*so there's never a time to stop believing,
there's never a time for hope to die,
there's never a time to stop loving,
these three things go on.*

2. There's a time to be planting, a time to be plucking,
a time to be laughing, a time to weep,
a time to be building, a time to be breaking,
a time to be waking, a time to sleep,

*so there's never a time to stop believing,
there's never a time for hope to die,
there's never a time to stop loving,
these three things go on.*

3. There's a time to be hurting, a time to be healing,
a time to be saving, a time to spend,
a time to be grieving, a time to be dancing,
a time for beginning, a time to end.

so there's never a time to stop believing.....

SUNG BLESSING

FFS 29 'God speed you on your way'

Words by Shirley Murray, © Hope Publishing
Music © Shona Murray Tune: STAFFORD

1. God speed you on your way,
safe keep you ev'ry day,
give you wing, cause to sing
-- all this we wish and pray.

2. God give you space to thrive,
all senses kept alive,
health and hope, means to cope,
joyfully to arrive.
3. God lead you to the new,
places and points of view,
paths to take, friends to make,
more life to travel through!

SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

**“Man in the Mirror” (arrangement)
by Siedah Garret (b. 1960) & Glen Ballard (b.1953)**

THANK YOU

to our musician today
Peter Franklin

ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE WELCOMES ALL VISITORS

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

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

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP - MEETING SUNDAY 25TH MAY 12-1PM COMMON ROOM 3

Affordable Housing - a faith-based story of change from the US.

Arlington Presbyterian Church in Arlington, Virginia was challenged with a shrinking congregation, a declining legacy building and a feeling of disconnect from its neighbors in an area undergoing broad demographic and economic changes. After years talking with neighbors, faithful discernment and congregational discussion APC developed a new vision – to create affordable housing, to be a place of crossroads and connection and to nurture disciples of Jesus Christ. So the walls came down. APC sold its building and land to build a 173-unit affordable housing apartment community on the site of its previous building. APC maintains a large presence in the new building by holding vibrant Sunday worship, ministering to needs of those who share the building space, and continuing its long-held mission of community activism. The change was prolonged and difficult, impossible for some, contentious, laborious and also miraculous. It changed everything about how the congregation saw itself and its purpose. David and Laura Gehrenbeck will share the story of how their church made a radical change to the way it expressed and continues to express its love for its community.

LIVING WAGE FOR RESENE - CAMPAIGN UPDATE

St Andrews on The Terrace people were among the crowd of a couple of hundred who gathered to show their support for the Living Wage for Resene Paints workers in Naenae. Find out more in this story from RNZ: [Mayor, community back Resene workers' battle for Living Wage | RNZ News](#)

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

For all book lovers, a reminder that the popular **Blue Dragon Book Fair** is on at the Ngaio Town Hall this weekend with all proceeds going to the Blue Dragon Children's Centre in Hanoi. The fair runs over Saturday and Sunday and will be selling good quality used books, DVDs, CDs, records, puzzles and board games. All proceeds support the Blue Dragon's Children's Foundation's work to improve the lives of Vietnamese children by breaking the poverty cycle, through education and training, and stopping child trafficking. The fair is now in its 14th year and last year raised a record \$28,515

RECYCLING OF HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

Household batteries can be dropped off for FREE at Karori Library, Kilbirnie Library, Te Awe Library (Brandon St), Island Bay Community Centre, Newlands Community Centre, Tawa Community Centre, and the Southern Landfill Tip Shop. For Hutt Valley and other members, Bunnings' stores have recycling bins where used batteries can be left. Happy recycling

RECYCLING AT ST ANDREW'S

During April we saved **5.1kg** of waste from landfill. Again, the top category was Tetra Pak beverage cartons which are used to make the hoardings you see around building sites. As a reminder, we collect all types of plastic lids, metal lids, Tetra Pak beverage cartons and used pens. There are containers for each sort of material in the North Vestry and a take-home information sheet about what we do and don't collect. Please make sure everything you drop off is clean and dry and follow the instructions for preparing Tetra Paks, in particular. (They need to be opened out flat and kept as one piece, i.e. not cut up.) Thanks for all your recycling efforts. It's really making a difference to what goes into landfill. - Anna Smith, Sustainability Group

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR RAINBOW ROOM

As we re-start the Rainbow Room programme, we need to be able to roster a second adult to be present with the children. If you would like to volunteer for this, please let the office know (office@standrews.org.nz), or talk to me on Sunday. Pat Booth, acting Parish Council Convenor

SUPPORT FOR DCM (DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY MINISTRY)

We are grateful for the many services provided by the DCM since 1969 and one way we can offer our support is to FILL the food baskets in the church each Sunday. 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. (Please no fresh fruit/vegetables) For other ways to support the work of the DCM visit <https://www.dcm.org.nz>.

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 and TBC
Sound	Frank Cook
Laptop	Mike Wespel-Rose
Offering	Bridget Martin and Tony Pears
Coffee/tea	Vivienne Mountier (CG), Katrina Harper and Janet Horncy
Family Time	Jim Cunningham
Readings	Anna Smith
Prayers of the People	Cam Smart
Rainbow Room	Caroline Korybut
Library	Closed
Musician	Peter Franklin
Service Leader	Worship Committee

On duty May 25th

Welcoming	Lynette and Brian Burrell
Sound	Simon Miller
Laptop	Cam Smart
Offering	Mike Wespel-Rose and Kath Kerr
Coffee/tea	Maxine and Jim Cunningham, Michael Parker
Family Time	Mike Wespel-Rose
Readings	John Harper
Prayers of the People	Sonia Groes-Petrie (CG)
Rainbow Room	Caroline Korybut
Library	Mike Wespel-Rose
Musician	Bruce Corkill
Service Leader	Ross Scott

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Sunday May 18th: 10am Sunday Gathering led by the Worship Committee followed by Congregational Conversation and Younger members' (Y) group meets after morning tea/brunch

Wednesday May 21st: 10am Lunchtime Concert: NZSM Cello Ensemble

Sunday May 25th: 10am Sunday Gathering led by Rev. Ross Scott followed by Social Justice Education Group.

STANDARD MONTHLY SUNDAY CYCLE OF ACTIVITIES AFTER SERVICE

1st Sunday	Communion service followed by Community Brunch on even months
2nd Sunday	Congregational service followed by Exploring Faith
3rd Sunday	Congregational Conversation and Younger members' (Y) group meets after morning tea/brunch
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	Maxine Cunningham, Pat Booth, Brian Burrell, Katrina Harper, Tony Kirby, Vivienne Mountier and Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Theologian in Residence	Lloyd Geering
Presbytery Representative	Vacant
Church Music Coordinator	Vacant
Eco Church Coordinator	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Faith in Action Coordinator	Paul Barber
Rainbow Room Coordinator	Caroline Korybut
Roster Coordinator	Pam Fuller
Concert Coordinator	Kristina Zuelicke
Centre Manager	Adelina Reis
Office Administrator	Jemma Ballantyne
Centre Assistant	Germaine Ambray
Facilities Assistant(s)	Cooper Neeley-Grant, Isabella Oakley

St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

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