



ORDER OF SERVICE

25TH MAY 2025

EASTER 6



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 Rev. Ross Scott

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let there be joy in our coming together this morning.

Let there be truth heard in the words we speak and the songs we sing.

Let there be help and healing for our disharmony and despair.

Let there be silence for the voice within us and beyond us.

SILENCE

GATHERING

Let there be joy in our coming together.

Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life.

Let us rejoice in the opportunity to be together as a community, to remember the past, to claim our future, to be alive in our present,

(Adapt. D Sorrells)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Welcome"

Words : George Stuart Tune: REGENT SQUARE WOV 84

1. We are thankful for a greeting
and a welcome we all prize;
We are here for celebration,
searching for what satisfies;
With a welcome as we gather
we can feel our spirits rise.
2. Welcome is the way of Jesus;
Welcome' is his promised word;
Welcome is for saints and sinners;
All are welcome; all have erred;
Jesus speaks his word of welcome -
we respond for we have heard.
3. We all join in affirmation
of the love of God we know;
Like the vastness of an ocean
love is here in constant flow;
I am welcome; you are welcome;
Jesus says, "Let it be so.

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

INTRO TO PRAYER

Through this time of celebration,
we leave for a time, the daily sequence of events,
to examine life in its eternal dimensions
and consequences:

asking questions about our values

our directions, our goals, and our relationships.

Let us spend this time in the presentness
of the Sacred.

OPENING PRAYER

We are part of all that sustains or destroys life.
Creation and destruction occur in continually unfolding ways.
And so may we open our ears to the continually unfolding Word.
Life speaks to us in new and vital and imperative ways.
With all the power we have been given,
let us be silent and open to listening...
for nourishment,
for comfort,
for challenge and new focus.

May it be so

Love hate, Joy sadness, hope despair, expectation disappointment. We are all.

We are each. We confess both the good and the bad.

Identify the bad, forgive, forget, let us leave it behind.

Identify the sad, reflect, own, move on.

Nurture the good in us, may it blossom and flourish, may it be the foundation to
construct our lives on.

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.*

LIGHTING THE RAINBOW CANDLE

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

FAMILY TIME

Mike Wespel-Rose

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

John Harper

Hebrew Bible

2 Samuel 6:14-22

Gospel

**Luke 15:25-31
Matt 5:1-11**

Bariz arrived in New Zealand in 2001 as a 5 year old in a family of Afghan referees. This was 9 weeks before 9/11 and the Twin Towers. New Zealand was not very welcoming to a Muslim boy from Afghanistan

23 years later he writes this:

‘When you travel in New Zealand’s countryside and small towns, you cannot help but sense that people are looking at you weirdly. They stare too long. You can’t help but feel that they are low-key racist. I have felt this many times in the South Island in particular. But when I was in provincial Afghanistan, in places like Takhar and Bamyan, I noticed the same thing. People would stare while I went past. I looked exactly like them, and yet they still stared. They couldn’t be racist, because we’re the same race.

This taught me that people sometimes look out of curiosity, not judgment. To realise this, however, we must be comfortable enough within ourselves that we don’t instantly become defensive. Difference can lead to curiosity, and there is nothing wrong with that. But if we are not aware of our own responses to difference, things can go the wrong way.’

RESPONSE

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

HYMN**‘Amazing love’**

Words © Margaret Rolfe, Uniting Church in Australia
Tune: AMAZING GRACE WOV 56

1. Amazing Love that Jesus told,
two thousand years ago.
A story new, a story old,
a love we all can know.

2. He spoke to crowds in Palestine,
he speaks to us today,
He tells us all of love divine,
to us he shows the way.
3. The realm of God is one of love,
of justice and of peace.
It's not about a realm above -
through love this world release.
4. Amazing love that Jesus told,
two thousand years ago,
A story new, a story old,
a love for all to know.

REFLECTION **'If it is too hard to believe then maybe you have the wrong end of the stick.'**
(Olive Scott 1925-1993)

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

HYMN

WOV 107 "Where Does Compassion Start?"

Words: © Shirley Murray Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN WOV 257(1)

1. Where does compassion start?
How does compassion grow?
Her seed is at the heart
of every faith we know:
compassion honours others' place,
dethroning self with willing grace.
2. How does compassion thrive
in worlds of greed and grief?
Her goodness stays alive
through those of strong belief:
compassion, luminous and clear,
outshining wastes of war and fear.

3. Where is compassion's role
in cultures, or in creeds?
At centre, with the soul
who feels another's needs:
compassion brings the touch of friend,
a bandage that will bind and mend.
4. Dynamic is the power
that heals, restores and gives,
connecting at the core
with everyone who lives,
transcending culture, colour, race,
compassion builds the house of peace.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

OFFERING HYMN

AA 62 'Here we bring, small or great'

Music © Colin Gibson Words © Shirley Murray

1. Here we bring, small or great,
gifts what to offer on this plate,
we've earned, what we own,
tithe or token, bread or stone.

Refrain

*Jesus said, "Have a care – your heart will always be
where your riches are,
where your riches are."*

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 bring restoration to our relationships with ourselves,
with each other and with all 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

Sonia Groes-Petrie

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

We think today of the people of Slovakia and the Reformed Christian Church in Slovakia 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 Mike Butterick (Wairarapa) and Mark Cameron (List). Here in the Central Presbytery we pray for the leaders and people of the Otaki Waikanae Presbyterian Parish.

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

CH4 729 “Who is this man?”

Tune: LONDONDERRY AIR

Words: Mary Pearson

1. Who is this man who gave to women dignity
in partnership of worth and equal grace?
Who listened to the stories that they told him,
and honoured each, whatever was their place:
who let them choose to come and join his company
and learned with them God’s love of every race,
who showed to each the courage of their nature
to care and tend each lonely and each suffering face.
2. Who is this man, who spoke to men of gentleness
and showed them all the children at his side:
who taught of love and justice for all people,
and took a towel and washed away their pride?
In him they saw the strength of truth and mercy,
and how he trusted God to be his guide,
knew how he led them through misunderstanding,
and then forgave them when they ran away to hide.
3. Who is this man who gathered people to him
and touched their lives along each dusty way,
who spoke to all with passion and with peacefulness
and valued all their ordinary days.
Who is this man, who at the day’s long ending,
would draw apart to wait on God and pray?
Who in the mystery that knows no ending,
would find God’s wisdom
and would know God’s words to say?

4. Who is this man who calls us now to follow,
a shadow presence asking us to be
companions on the way through this life journey,
to live in truth, to set our tired world free?
So, let us find each other now in partnership,
with ears to hear and eyes awake to see,
that we might grow in grace and understanding,
and walk beside that man who comes from Galilee.

BENEDICTION

BLESSING

SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU

to our musician today
Bruce Corkill

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.

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

Many thanks to Caroline Korybut and her Rainbow Room team. Over the last two Sundays they have produced some awesome placards for the climate action vigil at Parliament every week. I felt really proud on Tuesday to be able to share them around the wider group. In fact, they were so in demand, one of them has disappeared altogether! You can spot them in the photo, they're the ones with pink ink. This Tuesday, instead of going to Parliament, we are joining others outside the ANZ branch in Willis St. We will be calling on the bank to stop offering banking services to mining company Bathurst Resources. Bathurst is seeking fast-track approval to extend its West Coast Stockton mine and extract 20-million tonnes of coal from the Denniston and Stockton Plateaux over the next 25 years. The Denniston Plateau is a pristine environment with species found nowhere else. - Anna Smith, Sustainability Group

FACT OR FICTION?

If you were at last Sunday's service, you might remember that during Life in the Community, I read out a Facebook post purportedly quoting Pope Leo XIV defending 'wokeness'. Purportedly, because it turns out there is no evidence that he said any of it, however much we would like it to have been true. It's most likely to have been generated by AI. Obviously, I should have done a fact check before sharing it, rather than afterwards. But I suspect many of you, like me, are still coming to terms with living in a world where it is no longer clear what is fact and what is fiction. So I'm sorry to have misled everyone but it's probably a timely lesson. - Anna Smith

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 recyclin

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

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	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	Rev. Ross Scott

On duty June 1st

Welcoming	Lynette and Brian Burrell
Sound	Frank Cook (CG)
Laptop	Mike Wespel-Rose
Offering	Paul Franken and Katrina Harper
Coffee/tea	Vivienne Mountier, Simon Miller and Janet Horncy, plus 1
Family Time	Mike Wespel-Rose
Readings	Anna Smith
Prayers of the People	Cam Smart
Communion	Jim and Maxine Cunningham, Laura and David Gehrenbeck, Janet Martin, Pam Fuller
Rainbow Room	Caroline Korybut
Library	Closed
Musician	Ephraim Wilson
Service Leader	Jim Cunningham

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

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

Wednesday May 28th: 10am Lunchtime Concert: NZSM Piano Extravaganza

Thursday May 29th: 10am Lunchtime Concert: Viola Extravaganza – Students of the NZSM

Sunday June 1st: 10am Communion Service led by Rev. Jim Cunningham followed by Community Brunch.

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

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



Minister : Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

Office: (04) 472-9376, Cell: 021-836 060

minister@standrews.org.nz

