



ORDER OF SERVICE

4TH JANUARY 2026

CHRISTMAS 2



A GREAT THRONG WILL RETURN (JEREMIAH 31:8 & 9)

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 Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

PRELUDE

"Larghetto" from Overture to Ode for the New Year 1771
by W. Boyce (1711-1779)

CALL TO WORSHIP

In New year hopes and old year memories, Jesus remains our light.

We welcome the Light that does not dim.

In our questions, our weariness, our joy, and our longing—

God gathers us in love and steadies us with peace.

Come, let us worship the God who makes a home among us.

We come to listen, and to be renewed.

SILENCE

GATHERING

Gather us from our scattered weeks—
from holiday tables and empty chairs,
from beaches and hospital rooms,
from laughter and grief,
from beginnings and endings.

Gather us into your wide mercy.

Make room in us for wonder again.

Rekindle the Christmas promise:
that you are with us, not as a distant idea,
but as living presence—
breathing hope into tired places,
speaking peace into anxious hearts,
and planting love where the world has grown hard.
In this new year, root us in your grace.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

'God for the Years'

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith, Tune : LORD OF THE YEARS (Michael Baughen)

Arrangement: (Last verse arrangement and descant Noel Tredinnick)

Paraphrased by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

1. God, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
God of the years, we bring our thanks today.
2. God, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
God of the word, receive Your people's praise.
3. God, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
God of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.
4. God, for our world when we disown and doubt you,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without you:
God of the world, we pray Jesus may reign.

WELCOME

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

Kia ora tātou.

Ou te faatalofa atu i le Suafa o lesu 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

Gracious God as we step into this first Sunday of 2026,
we come as we are—

hopeful, uncertain, grateful, fragile, ready, not-ready.

In Jesus, you have shown us your face:

tender with the vulnerable, fierce with injustice,

steady with the weary, generous with mercy.
So meet us here.
Open our hearts to your Word.
Open our eyes to the sacred in ordinary places.
Open our hands to serve—
and to receive.

Let this worship shape us into people of light:
humble enough to learn,
brave enough to love,
and faithful enough to keep showing up—
for our neighbours, for your world, for one another.
In the name of Jesus, who dwells among 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.*

LIGHTING THE RAINBOW CANDLE

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

FAMILY TIME

Frank Cook

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

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

PASSING THE PEACE (Te Rangimarie)

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

THE WORD IN TEXTS

John Harper

Hebrew Bible

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Gospel/New Testament

John 1:10-18

Contemporary Reading

‘COMING HOME’

When we're driving, in the dark,
on the long road
to Provincetown, which lies empty
for miles, when we're weary,
when the buildings
and the scrub pines lose
their familiar look,
I imagine us rising
from the speeding car,
I imagine us seeing
everything from another place — the top
of one of the pale dunes
or the deep and nameless
fields of the sea —
and what we see is the world
that cannot cherish us

but which we cherish,
and what we see is our life

moving like that,
along the dark edges
of everything — the headlights
like lanterns
sweeping the blackness —
believing in a thousand
fragile and unprovable things,
looking out for sorrow,
slowing down for happiness,
making all the right turns
right down to the thumping
barriers to the sea,
the swirling waves,
the narrow streets, the houses,
the past, the future,
the doorway that belongs
to you and me.

RESPONSE

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

HYMN

CH4 528 'Make me a channel of your peace'

Words and Music: Sebastian Temple (1928-1997)

Tune: PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS (CHANNEL OF PEACE)

1. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
where there is injury your pardon;
and where there's doubt true faith in you.

Refrain

*Please grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand
to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

2. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

Refrain

*Please grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand
to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

3. Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope
Where there is darkness only light
And where there's sadness every joy.

Refrain

*Please grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand
to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

REFLECTION Coming Home and Culture Shock Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

“Both Sides Now” by Joni Mitchell (b. 1943)

HYMN

AA 26 ‘Come to our land’

Words: © Shirley Murray Music: © Colin Gibson Tune: HAEREMAI

1. Come to our land, come to our hearts,
Spirit of peace, Spirit of truth,
bring in the spring, the hope and the green,
Spirit of growth and Spirit of youth.

Refrain:

*And all our people will sing together:
Wairua Tapu, holy your name,
there's one great Spirit in all creation,
one great Spirit of God!*

2. Come to our land, come to our hearts
Spirit of life, breath of new birth,
teach us to care for water and air,
nourish the seed and cherish the earth,

Refrain:

*And all our people will sing together:
Wairua Tapu, holy your name,
there's one great Spirit in all creation,
one great Spirit of God!*

3. Come to our land, come to our hearts
Spirit of bush, Spirit of bird,
speak to the soul of Aotearoa
joy in your world and joy in your Word,

Refrain:

*And all our people will sing together:
Wairua Tapu, holy your name,
there's one great Spirit in all creation,
one great Spirit of God!*

FREEWILL OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

“Hermitage” by R.O. Morris (1886 -1948)

OFFERING HYMN

CH4 180 'Give thanks with a grateful heart'

Words and Music © Henry Smith Tune GIVE THANKS

1. Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given many gifts to us.
And now let the weak say I am strong,
let the poor say I am rich,
because of what our God has
done for us, give thanks.

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.

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 Andorra and we pray for the Conference of European Churches. 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 Adrian Rurawhe (List) and Deborah Russell (List). Here in the Central Presbytery, we pray for the leaders and people of the Karori - St Anselm's Union Church.

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

FFS32 'God who sets us on a journey'

Words: © Joy Dine Tune; HYFRYDROL

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.

BENEDICTION

As you step into this new year,
may the Light who was born in the dark
walk with you into every ordinary day.
May Christ dwell in your questions
as surely as in your confidence;
in your beginnings
and in the loose ends you carry forward.
May the Spirit give you courage
to love where it is costly,
patience where change is slow,
and hope when the way ahead is not yet clear.
Go in peace—**Amen.**

SUNG BLESSING**FFS 49 'May the God of new beginnings'**

Words © John Murray, Music © Colin Gibson

May the God of new beginnings start with you and me.
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**POSTLUDE****Sussex Carol arranged by Quentin Thomas (b. 1972)****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

CWS CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2025 - GIVE WATER, GIVE LIFE

“But let justice roll on like a river” Amos 5:24

This Christmas, we return to an unmet need that we can easily take for granted in New Zealand: healthy water. In every situation in which our partners are working, the provision of healthy water is the starting point to helping people out of extreme poverty. In New Zealand we fill a drinking bottle from a tap before we head off to work or play with such ease because the infrastructure to allow us to do so exists and works. For over two billion people this is not the case. On a recent visit to our partner in Uganda, Director Tim Pratt saw this for himself. How what we might consider to be a simple rainwater tank could launch a family and community into a much healthier and more prosperous future. Your gift is a wonderful way to stand with vulnerable people to give water, give life. On behalf of those who will put your gift to work lifting the lives of many otherwise caught in extreme poverty and deprived of healthy water, thank you. Donate at: <https://cws.org.nz/newsroom/christmas-appeal/>

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

If you're going away over the summer break, here are some energy-saving tips for while you're gone, courtesy of Toast Electric, which is part of the Sustainability Trust.

1. Turn off heat pumps at the wall - heat pumps and other heaters can still use a bit of power when they're left on standby.
2. Put your hot water cylinder into holiday mode - if your cylinder has a holiday or away setting, use it. Otherwise, lowering the temperature or switching it off altogether can save a fair bit of energy. Just make sure that, when you return, you allow it to heat up fully before you use the water because of bacteria, e.g. Legionella.
3. Unplug appliances you won't need at the wall - TVs, modems, microwaves, ovens and chargers all use small amounts of power even when they're not doing anything.
4. Close curtains and air the house before you go - close curtains or blinds on the sunny side of the house to keep heat out. Before leaving, open things up to let fresh air through. This helps keep moisture down.
5. Set your solar up to run quietly in the background - if you've got solar power installed check your system is set to export unused power back to the grid. If you have a battery, switching it to an eco or export mode stops it cycling unnecessarily. - Anna Smith, Sustainability Group

RECYCLING AT ST ANDREW'S

Congratulations! November was a bumper month for recycling, partly because it had an extra fifth Sunday. We collected 8.8kg of used materials. Tetra Paks and plastic and metal tops accounted for the bulk of recyclables. Thank you for washing everything before you drop it off. It makes the sorting much more pleasant! If you're clearing out a shed or garage over the holidays we can collect a wide range of metal objects ranging from old tools, taps and saucepans through to blunt scissors, nuts and bolts, and metal drink bottles. Remember, too, to bring in any brand of empty (clean) hair care containers - bottles, tubs and aerosols are all accepted. And if you haven't got a copy of the latest version of all the things you can recycle at St Andrew's, pick one up from the desk in the North Vestry. - Anna Smith, Sustainability Group

RECYCLING OF HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

Household batteries can be dropped off for FREE in Wellington 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. There are also now three battery recycling points in Hutt City: War Memorial Library, Eastbourne Neighbourhood Hub and Naenae Neighbourhood Hub

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	Pauline and David Patchett
Sound	Sue Hirst
Laptop	Sue Hirst
Offering	Katrina Harper and Paul Franken
Coffee/tea	Aaron Cook, Janet Horncy and Jeni Bryant
Family Time	Frank Cook
Readings	John Harper
Prayers of the People	Cam Smart
Rainbow Room	Closed
Library	Closed
Musician	Peter Franklin
Service Leader	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

On duty January 11th

Welcoming	Sandra and Tony Kirby
Sound	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Laptop	Hamish Dick
Offering	Bridget Martin and Tony Pears
Coffee/tea	Maxine and Jim Cunningham
Family Time	Rosemary Lawrence
Readings	Pat Booth
Prayers of the People	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Rainbow Room	Closed
Library	Closed
Musician	Ephraim Wilson
Service Leaders	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Sunday January 4th: 10am Sunday Gathering led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

Sunday January 11th: 10am Sunday Gathering led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

Sunday January 18th: 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 Community Brunch on even months
2nd Sunday	Congregational service followed by Exploring Faith
3rd Sunday	Congregational Conversation and Younger members' (Y) group 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'aumai
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'aumai
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	Sara Rokni
Facilities Assistant(s)	Fynn Neeley-Grant, Isabella Oakley, Cooper Neeley-Grant, Oliver Hope

St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

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