



ORDER OF SERVICE

17TH MAY 2026

ASCENSION



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

Gagliarda by Jean de Macque (1550 - 1614)

CALL TO WORSHIP

In times of uncertainty, we gather together.

God calls us into hope and courage.

Jesus is no longer bound to one place or one people.

The Spirit of Christ moves among us and within us.

Why do we stand looking toward heaven?

Jesus calls us back into the world with love and compassion.

SILENCE

GATHERING

We come with our questions, our doubts, and our longing.

We come seeking the presence of the living God.

Come, let us worship the One who lifts our eyes and steadies our feet.

Let us worship together in hope, in justice, and in peace.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

WOV 91 'Morning has broken'

Words: Eleanor Farjeon & Yusuf Islam

1. Morning has broken
like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.

Praise for the singing,
praise for the morning,
praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!

2. Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where God's feet pass.

3. Mine is the sunlight
mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play.
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day!

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 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

Gracious and living God,
you meet us in the spaces between certainty and mystery,
between grief and hope,
between endings and new beginnings.
As the disciples once stood gazing into the heavens,
wondering what would come next,
so we too stand in a world longing for direction, healing, and peace.

Gather us now into your presence.
Lift our hearts when we are weary.
Steady us when we are anxious.
Open our eyes to the sacredness of this earth
and to the people around us who carry your image.
Teach us not simply to look upward for rescue,
but outward toward one another in compassion, justice, and love.
May your Spirit
move among us today
in our prayers,
in our singing,
in our silence,
and in our shared humanity.
We pray these things in the way of Jesus,
who taught us to live with courage, mercy, and hope.
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

Cam Smart

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

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

PASSING THE RANGIMARIE THE PEACE

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

THE WORD IN TEXTS

Michael Parker

Gospel

John 17:1-11

Epistle

Acts 1:6-14

Contemporary Reading

"Divine Comedy"
from Faith in Grey Places

I think I'm living in a comedy.
But is it cruel or kind? I'm yet to see.
He told us, "I will always be with you."
Then moments later, he was gone from view.

He will restore the kingdom—but not yet!
He said we weren't to know what times are set.
But in Jerusalem we'll testify,
Which sounds profound—assuming we don't die.

And yet he also said that for this hour,
His Holy Spirit will baptise in power.
And if I saw him rise and then ascend,
My cynic's not so easy to defend.
Elijah, Daniel, Moses could discern,
So who am I to doubt? He will return.

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 Lord;
and where there's doubt true faith in you.

Refrain

*O Spirit 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

*O Spirit 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:
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

REFLECTION

Jesus where are you?

Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

Mike Wespel-Rose

Skye boat Song - Scottish traditional - arranged for guitar by Gary Ryan

HYMN

"I believe"

Words: E Drake, I Graham, J Shirl and A Stillman

1. I believe, for every drop of rain that falls
a flower grows.
I believe that somewhere in the darkest night
a candle glows.
I believe for everyone who goes astray,
someone will come to show the way.
I believe, I believe.
2. I believe above the storm the smallest prayer
will still be heard.
I believe that someone in the great somewhere
hears every word.
Every time I hear a newborn baby cry,
or touch a leaf, or see the sky
then I know why, I believe.

OFFERING MUSIC

“Randolph” by R. Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)

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

Generous God,
from the abundance of the earth
and the labour of human hands,
we bring these gifts before you.
Bless the food we share,
the money we offer,
and the acts of kindness that often go unseen.
May these gifts become signs of your love in the world —
bringing comfort to the lonely,
justice to the oppressed,
welcome to the stranger,
and hope to those who are struggling.
Teach us that generosity is not only what we give,
but how we choose to live.
In the spirit of Christ, we offer ourselves and these gifts for the healing of the
world.
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.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

We think today of the people of Burundi, and we pray for the National Council of Churches of Burundi today. 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 Miles Anderson (Waitaki) and Jamie Arbuckle (List). Here in the Central Presbytery, we pray for the leaders and people of 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

FFS 67 'We are many we are one'

Words and Music © Colin Gibson Tune: HAMILTON

1. We are many, we are one,
and the work of Christ is done
when we learn to live in true community,
as the stars that fill the night,
as a flock of birds in flight,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the branches of a tree,
as the waves upon the sea,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.
2. All division is made whole
when we honour every soul,
find the life of God in every you and me,
as the fingers of a hand,
as the grains that form the sand,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the threads upon the loom,
as a field of flowers in bloom,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.
3. We will join creation's song,
make a world where all belong,
build as one in peace and loving harmony,
as the voices of a choir,
as the flames within a fire,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the snowflakes in the snow,
as the colours of a bow,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

BLESSING

Go now into the world,
not standing still and gazing toward heaven,
but walking gently upon the earth.
May the Spirit of the ascended Christ
go with you into every ordinary moment.
May you carry hope where there is despair,
peace where there is conflict,

love where there is fear,
and compassion where there is suffering.
And may the blessing of the God who creates us,
the Christ who walks beside us,
and the Spirit who moves within us,
remain with you and those you love,
this day and always.
Amen.

SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE War March of the Priests by B. Mendelssohn (1809 – 1847)

THANK YOU

to our musicians today
Peter Franklin & Mike Wespel-Rose

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

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

The University of Canterbury and the Christchurch City Council are joining forces to run a free online course called Climate Change: Empowering Communities for Action (<https://tinyurl.com/4mx7fabn>). It will run from 13 July - 13 September and is entirely online. It can be done at any time to suit you. You'll learn what's happening with the climate, why it matters, and how you can take a stand. You'll explore scientific and Indigenous perspectives on climate change, and become empowered to contribute to wider community climate action. The course shows you how to turn knowledge into action. It requires around four hours of study per week, with a one-week study break, and is ideal for:

- Anyone curious about climate change and its impact
- Community members who want to take meaningful climate action locally
- Students or professionals seeking to boost their climate literacy through a greater understanding of climate science and adaptation strategies
- People interested in exploring climate action education that is informed by scientific, Indigenous, and community perspectives
- Those who want to build critical thinking and communication skills around complex environmental issues

- Individuals looking to contribute to wider, systemic responses to climate change through climate action.

Anna Smith, Sustainability Group

Living Wage Cities Assembly - Wednesday 27th May 6-7.30pm Loaves and Fishes Wellington Anglican Cathedral 2 Hill Street Thorndon.

Following on from the table talks held around the city including at the March Social Justice Group, the next stage in the Living Wage movement in our region This is an 'assembly' of faith, union, and community groups coming together to publicly unite around and sign on to our Living Wage Cities Charter formed through our table talks. St Andrews has committed to send a delegation of 6-10 people - so please let Paul Barber know if you wish to join us and please register at this event link: <https://events.humanitix.com/living-wage-cities-assembly>

Working for Peace in Turbulent Times- - Social Justice Group Sunday 24th May 12-1pm

Peace Movement Aotearoa Coordinator Edwina Hughes will join us online to discuss the recent release of the global military spending figures from Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and what this means for Aotearoa New Zealand in the upcoming government Budget announcements and well as actions we as a Peace Church can take to support work for peace and justice internationally. <https://www.facebook.com/PeaceMovementAotearoa/posts/1419085846915210>

Library News

Dear congregation

1. I will be away for the next 8 weeks until late July. So unless there is someone else available to open it occasionally, there will be no library display during this time. Apologies.
2. The book which I read from last Sunday in family time was titled "The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse" by Charlie Mackesy. Someone gave it to us as a gift. I think it makes a thoughtful and heart felt gift to others who are special to you. Thanks - Mike Wespel-Rose

RECYCLING AT ST ANDREW'S

You can drop off the following items for recycling in the North Vestry:

- Plastic lids and some other small plastics
- Metal and aluminium lids

- Beverage cartons (Tetra Pak)
- Used pens
- Household metal items
- Empty printer cartridges and rubber bands.

An information sheet with full details and directions for preparing your items is available in the North Vestry. Thank you for keeping your waste out of landfill.

Happy recycling!

RECYCLING OF HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

Household batteries can be dropped off for FREE in Wellington at the following libraries: Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui (Wellington Central Library), Karori Library, Kilbirnie Library, Island Bay Community Centre, Newlands Community Centre, Tawa Community Centre, and the Southern Landfill Tip Shop. There are also three battery recycling points in Hutt City: War Memorial Library, Eastbourne Neighbourhood Hub and Naenae Neighbourhood Hub.

SUNDAY ROSTERS

A folder with copies of each duty and current roster sheets are kept on the table in the North Vestry. 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	Ben Gray
Laptop	Ben Gray
Offering	Bridget Martin and Tony Pears
Coffee/tea	Aaron Cook, Kath Kerr and Sue Hirst
Family Time	Cam Smart
Readings	Michael Parker
Prayers of the People	Lynne Dovey (CG)
Rainbow Room	Caroline Korybut
Library	Closed
Musician	Peter Franklin
Service Leader	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

On duty May 24th

Welcoming	Maxine and Jim Cunningham
Sound	Simon Miller
Laptop	Hamish Dick
Offering	Paul Franken and Lynette Burrell
Coffee/tea	Vivienne Mountier (CG), Janet Horncy and Aaron Cook
Family Time	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Readings	John Harper
Prayers of the People	Ellen Murray
Rainbow Room	Caroline Korybut
Library	Closed
Musician	Kristina Zuelicke
Service Leader	Rev Dr Jim Cunningham

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Sunday May 17th 10:00am: Sunday Gathering led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai followed by Congregational Conversation

Wednesday May 20th 10:30am: Cuppa and Chat

12:15pm: Lunchtime Concert – NZSM Piano Extravaganza

Thursday May 21st 12:15pm: Lunchtime Concert – Viola Extravaganza – Students from the NZSM

Sunday May 24^h: Sunday Gathering led by Rev Dr Jim Cunningham followed 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 (Quarterly)
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	Pat Booth
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	Sara Rokni (acting)
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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