

ORDER OF SERVICE

27 September 2026

SEASON OF CREATION



ANIMAL BLESSING SUNDAY

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

Toccata in C - Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562 - 1621)

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the soil beneath our feet to the birds above us, creation is alive with wonder.

We come to give thanks for the gift of life.

We welcome the animals who share our homes, our communities, and this place of worship today.

We come to honour the care and companionship we share.

Let us worship the Creator of a world rich with life, and renew our promise to care for it.

With joy and gratitude, we come to worship.

SILENCE

GATHERING

Some of our companions may bark, meow, rustle, or need a little space during the service. They are welcome here. Today we give thanks for the joy they bring us, remember the animals we have loved and lost, and consider our responsibility to all creatures and the places they call home.

As we gather, may we notice the life around us with fresh attention and receive this time together as a gift.

1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
*O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*
2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice,
*O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*
3. And all ye saints of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care:
*O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*
4. Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness;
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
*O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

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

Creator of life,
we give thanks for this beautiful and vulnerable world:
for land and sea, trees and flowers,
for creatures that fly, swim, crawl, and walk beside us.
Thank you for the animals who share our lives,
for their trust, their playfulness, and their companionship.
We remember with tenderness those we have loved and lost.

Forgive us when we have treated your creation carelessly
or overlooked the suffering of its creatures.
Open our eyes to the needs of the living world,
and strengthen us to protect its habitats
and care gently for the lives entrusted to us.
Bless this gathering, with all its voices and sounds.
May our worship deepen our gratitude
and shape us into people who cherish all life.
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

(gifts to share)

Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

And now children you may go to the Rainbow space.

We bless you. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

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

THE WORD IN TEXTS

Tony Kirby

Hebrew Bible

Genesis 1:20-25

Gospel

Matthew 6:25-34

"The Rainbow Bridge"

By the edge of a woods, at the foot of a hill,
Is a lush, green meadow where time stands still.
Where the friends of man and woman do run,
...When their time on earth is over and done.

For here, between this world and the next,
Is a place where each beloved creature finds rest.
On this golden land, they wait and they play,
Till the Rainbow Bridge they cross over one day.

No more do they suffer, in pain or in sadness,
For here they are whole, their lives filled with gladness.
Their limbs are restored, their health renewed,
Their bodies have healed, with strength imbued.

They romp through the grass, without even a care,
Until one day they start, and sniff at the air.
All ears prick forward, eyes dart front and back,
Then all of a sudden, one breaks from the pack.

For just at that instant, their eyes have met;
Together again, both person and pet.
So they run to each other, these friends from long past,
The time of their parting is over at last.

The sadness they felt while they were apart,
Has turned into joy once more in each heart.
They embrace with a love that will last forever,
And then, side-by-side, they cross over... together.

Author Unknown



RESPONSE

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

HYMN

“Make me a channel of your peace” CH528

(Words from the Prayer of St Frances of Assisi; Music Sebastian Temple)

1. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
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.
3. 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.
4. Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

REFLECTION INCLUDING BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Creator of all life, we thank you for the wonderful variety of your creatures, and especially for the animals who share our lives and our world. We bless you for the joy, companionship, and unconditional love they bring into our hearts. May we always see your handiwork in their beauty, and may we be faithful stewards of their care. Watch over them, protect them from harm, and deepen our gratitude for the bond we share with them. ***Amen.***

(Bless each animal individually).

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

Improvisation on All things bright and beautiful, Part 1

HYMN

“All things bright and beautiful” WOV 70

(Words Cecil Francis Alexander; Music William Henry Monk)

Refrain:

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.*

1. Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours,
he made their tiny wings.

Refrain

2. The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky:

Refrain

3. He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well.

Refrain

OFFERING MUSIC

Improvisation on All things bright and beautiful, Part 2

OFFERING HYMN

“Take my gifts” AA127

(Words: Shirley Murray; Music: Colin Gibson)

Take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me,
gave me light and food and shelter,
gave me life and set me free.
Now because your love has touched me,
I have love to give away;
now the bread of love is rising,
loaves of love to multiply!

OFFERING PRAYER

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 and visitors are welcomed. 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Anna Smith

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

We think today of the people of Bangladesh and we pray for the Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha. 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 Peeni Henare (List) and Francisco Hernandez (List). Here in the Central Presbytery we pray for the leaders and people of Gisborne - Mangapapa Union 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

We are marching in the light of god, SIYAHUMBA

(Words: Andries Van Tonder; Traditional Zulu melody)

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.

Siyahamba, hamba, siyahamba, hamba,
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.
Siyahamba, hamba, siyahamba, hamba,
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.

We are living in the love of God,
we are living in the love of God,
we are living in the love of God,
we are living in the love of God.

We are living, living,
we are living, living,
we are living in the love of God,
we are living, living,
we are living, living,
we are living in the love of God.

We are moving in the power of God,
we are moving in the power of God,

we are moving in the power of God,
we are moving in the power of God,
we are moving, moving,
we are moving, moving,
we are moving in the power of God.
We are moving, moving,
we are moving, moving,
we are moving in the power of God.

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.

BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace, and be of good courage.

May you walk softly upon the earth, remembering that every living creature is a reflection of divine wonder.

Hold fast to that which is good, honour all life, and strengthen the faint-hearted.
And may the blessing of peace, love, and compassion rest upon you, those you love, and all the animals entrusted to our care, this day and forevermore.

Amen.

SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

**Chorale Prelude on All Creatures of our God and King
("An Easter Alleluya")**

Gordon Slater (1896 - 1979)

THANK YOU

to our musician today

Bruce Cash

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



AUDIO REFLECTIONS

Sunday reflections are usually available on our website.

<http://www.standrews.org.nz/category/sunday-gathering>

We welcome all visitors and invite you to stay for morning tea or coffee.

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

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES

GALAXIES

Galaxies is a faith based group for LGBTQ+ people who meet for a shared meal once a month at St Andrews.

The next gathering is at 6pm on Sunday 27 September. For further information contact Tony Pears 0275019449

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

It was inspiring this week to be joined at Parliament by a fabulous group of Year 13 students from Queen Margaret College. They chose to find out about the weekly Tuesdays for Tomorrow climate action protest as part of their course on environmental systems and society. Working on signs to communicate their messages and joining us for an hour was all part of the learning. Our future is in good hands.



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.

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE

Monthly Dances of Universal Peace session second Saturdays at Centennial Community Hall Berhampore, 1.30-4.30pm.

heather-rose

hetharose@gmail.com

or text 0212422499

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	Pauline and David Patchett
Sound	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Laptop	Sandra Kirby
Offering	Jenn Keenan, Tony Pears
Coffee/tea	Kath Kerr, Jeni Bryant (CG), Aaron Cook
Family Time	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Readings	Tony Kirby
Prayers of the People	Anna Smith
Rainbow Room	
Library	
Musician	Bruce Cash
Service Leader	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

On duty October 4th

Welcoming	Pat McGiven, Pam Fuller
Sound	Simon Miller
Laptop	Cam Smart
Offering	Paul Franken, Tony Pears
Coffee/tea	Vivienne Mountier, Ata Burr, Jenn Keenan
Family Time	Cam Smart
Readings	Pat Booth
Prayers of the People	Anna Smith (CG)
Communion	Maxine and Jim Cunningham, Doug Lendrum, Barrie Keenan, Mervyn and Lesley Aitken
Rainbow Room	
Library	
Musician	Bruce Corkill
Service Leader	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Sunday September 27th 10:00am Sunday Gathering led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai followed by Social Justice Education Group

Wednesday September 30th 10:30am: Cuppa and Chat

12:15pm: Lunchtime Concert – NZSM Piano Extravaganza

Sunday October 4th 10:00am Communion Service led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai 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 (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	Ataga'i (Ata) Burr
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
Centre Assistant	Hannah Gaisford
Facilities Assistant(s)	Fynn Neeley-Grant, Isabella Oakley, Cooper Neeley-Grant, Cafer Kurnaz, Oliver Hope

St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

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