

ORDER OF SERVICE

15th DECEMBER 2024

ADVENT 3



An Aotearoa Christmas

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

**"Silent Night" – excerpt from Prelude
by Norman Warren (1934 – 1919)**

CALL TO WORSHIP

The advent carol calls us to rejoice;

May our souls be open to the mystery of joy.

May our minds ponder how joy may be found.

May our hearts be open to receive joy offered us.

***May we, open handed, offer joy to others
and celebrate joy in the presence of God.***

SILENCE

GATHERING

Advent challenges us today to reacquaint ourselves with Joy.

The other side of the coin of sorrow,

joy reaches deep within us

calling on all our resources of resilience and strength;

For to be beacons of joy

in a world often rent with sadness and torn by war

is to perform an act of countercultural courage;

Yet, particularly at Advent

we are reminded of God's stubborn vision

that hope, peace and joy will reign in a kingdom of love

and are invited to enact that kingdom in the world.

Let us truly rejoice this day in the presence of God.

PROCESSIONAL SONG

'Christmas in the Summer'

Words © Bill Wallace Tune CRANHAM by Gustav Holst

1. Christmas in the summer?
Heat instead of cold?
Flowers instead of freezing?
Skies that shine like gold?
This is Southern Christmas,
seasons in reverse!
Can the Northern pictures
speak in Southern verse?
2. Inner space is timeless,
God is everywhere.
Cries of newborn infants
reach for Mary's care.
When we nurture wonder
'til its grace abounds,
we create new pictures
outside Northern bounds.
3. Sing the Christmas story,
carol South and North.
Sing of pregnant seasons,
nature's songs of birth.
Raise the Christ child's praises
lift both joy and pain.
Touch the realms of oneness
live the birth again.

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.

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 this candle to show that we are an inclusive community and for our children.

LIGHTING THE 3RD ADVENT CANDLE "JOY".

The first Sunday we lit the **Candle of Hope**

Last Sunday we lit the **Candle of Peace**

Today we light the **Candle of Joy**

the candle is lit

PRAYER

With our third light, we see light overcoming darkness and we discover the power of joy.

We rejoice in the One who fills the poor with good things and brings newness to a world grown tired.

We sense his coming and we are moved by joy. Amen.

FAMILY TIME

Frank Cook

BLESSING THE CHILDREN (All stand)

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

READINGS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

READING

Frank Hanson
Isaiah 7: 14, Isaiah 40: 1-5

POEM

Frank Hanson
Haere Mai – Welcome by Joy Cowley

Kia ora, my friend. Welcome.
You bring honour to my house
and a blessing to my whanau.

Come in, spend time with us
and we will talk, You and I,
of good things.

You know, when I was young
I had a picture of You in my head,
a young Jewish man in a long robe,
and that is true, my friend, that is true,
but You grew with me over the years
and now I know that your whakapapa
belongs as much here, as over there
or anywhere else.

You are one of our people,
one with these mountains,
one with this land.

Haere mai e Ihu Karaiti.
Welcome Christ Jesus,
this is your home.

CAROL

AA 154 'WHERE IS THE ROOM?'

Words © Shirley Murray Music © David Dell v 1-3

1. Where is the room,
Where is the house of Christmas?
Where shall we welcome Jesus,
where are the signs of home?
2. Let Christ have space,
place at the heart of living,
centre for birth's new breathing,
cradle for hope and peace.
3. Let there be room,
room for the friend and stranger,
room without hurt or anger,
room for whoever come.

READING

Janet Horncy
Luke 2:8-14

POEM

Janet Horncy
'Nativity' by Joy Cowley

Look now! It is happening again! Love like a high spring
tide is swelling to fullness and overflowing the banks
of our small concerns.

And here again is the star, that white flame of truth blazing
the way for us through a desert of tired ways.

Once more comes the music, angel song that lifts our
hearts and tunes our ears to the harmony of the universe,
making us wonder how we ever could have forgotten.

And now the magi within us gathers up gifts of gold
and Myrrh, while that other part of ourselves, the impulsive
reckless shepherd, runs helter skelter with arms
outstretched to embrace the wonder of it all.

We have no words to contain our praise.
We ache with awe, we tremble with miracle,
as once again, in the small rough stable of our lives,
Christ is born.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

**“The light, the Christmas Light”
by Shirley Murray & Vivien Chiu**

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.”*

THE OFFERING & DEDICATION

As we bring these offerings of money and food, may we share the gifts of peace, reconciliation and goodwill.

***May these gifts feed those who hunger for daily bread and justice,
and support this faith community as we work for justice and peace.***

Amen. (Bronwyn Angela White)

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 Mozambique. We pray for the the Presbyterian Church of Mozambique here, and throughout the world. We hold all refugees in our hearts and pray in particular for those who are still detained in Australia. We give thanks that we in New Zealand are able to welcome 450 people from this group. We pray that more will have the opportunity to be resettled in the near future. In New Zealand, we remember those in Parliament, and today we name Carmel Sepuloni (Kelston) and Hon David Seymour (Epsom). Here in the Central Presbytery we pray for the leaders and people Havelock North - St Columba's Presbyterian 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.*

READING

**Rosemary Lawrence
Luke 1: 47-56 The Magnificat**

POEM

Rosemary Lawrence
Nativity by Rev. Peter Cape

They were set for home,
but the horse went lame
and the rain came pelting out of the sky.
He saw the hut and he went to look
And he said, 'She's old, but she'll keep you dry.'
So her kid was born in that roadman's shack
by the light of a lamp that'd hardly burn.
She wrapped him up in her hubby's coat
and put him down on a bed of fern.

Then they came riding out of the night
(and this is the thing that she'll always swear),
as they took off their hats
and came into the light,
they knew they were going to find her there.

Three old jokers in oilskin coats
stood by the bunk in that leaking shack.
One had a beard like a billygoat's
and one was frail and one was black.

She sat at the foot of the fernstalk bed
and she watched, but she didn't understand;
while they put these bundles
at the baby's head
and this river nugget into his hand.

Gold is the power of a man with a man
and incense the power of a man with God,
but myrrh is the bitter taste of death
and the sour-sweet smell of the upturned sod.

Then they went, while she watched through the open door,
weary as men who had ridden too far;
and the rain eased off and the low cloud broke
And through the gap shone a single star.

CAROL

CH3278 'Now the star of Christmas' 3 verses

Words Shirley Erena Murray
Tune NOEL NOUVELET French Carol tune

1. Now the star of Christmas shines into our day,
points a new direction: change is on the way –
there's another landscape to be travelled through,
there's a new-born spirit broadening our view.
2. When the Christ of Christmas speaks to hearts and minds,
clears the clouded vision hurting humankind,
kindred spirits gather, drawn towards the light,
sharing revelation, joyful at the sight.
3. Where the star enlightens, light is shared around.
God has drawn no borders, faith sees common ground:
Peace the hopeful journey, justice without bar,
God's illumination from the Christmas star.

READING

Frank Hanson
John 1: 1-14 Paraphrase Alan T Dale

HYMN

WOV 228 'O Come all ye Faithful' vv 1-3

Music John Francis Wade
Words C. Frederick Oakeley (alt)words

1. O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*
2. God of God,
Light of light
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb
Very God,
Begotten, not created
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above.

Glory to God in the highest;

O come, let us adore Him...

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

BLESSING

adapted from Fra Giovanni (1513)

There is nothing which we can give you which you have not;
but there is much that, while we cannot give, you may take.

No heaven can come to us unless our minds find rest in it here today.

We will take heaven.

There is no rangimarie - peacefulness that lies only in the future: it is accessible
right now in the present instant.

We will take rangimarie - peace.

Likewise tumanako – hopefulness is not trapped, to be unlocked only for times
ahead

We will take tumanako – hope.

There is gloom in the world – it comes in the form of shadow. It masks what lies
behind: harikoa – joy.

We will take harikoa - joy.

This thing we call aroha is not something new. It has come to us from our
ancestors and is for us to pass on

We will take aroha – love.

And so, at this Christmas, we greet you with the trust that for you, now and
forever, the day is reborn and the shadows fall away.

We will take Christmas.

SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE “On Christmas Night (Sussex Carol)” by Quentin Thomas (b. 1972)

THANK YOU

to our musician today
Peter Franklin

Unless otherwise stated all hymns are used by permission CCLI Licence 341550 or reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #. A-623996. All rights reserved.

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

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

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES

DISABILITY ACCESS PROJECT: A SERIES OF CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES TO RAISE FUNDS

We are planning a series of special concerts and performances throughout next year to assist the fundraising effort for the disability access project. Please note the following 2025 dates on your calendars and in your diaries: 2 March: Concert featuring pianist and violinist Joshua and Oscar Han from Australia (sponsored by Jack C Richards). 11 May: Concert featuring pianist Quang Hong Luu (sponsored by Jack C Richards) 26 July: We Dance Group - a well-known Wellington disability dance troupe led by Sumara Fraser. We'll be looking for assistance with these events and further ideas for fundraising. Please get in touch with Lynne Dovey or Sue Hirst if you can help.

TREATY PRINCIPLES BILL SUBMISSIONS DUE BY 7TH JANUARY 2025

Please join us to discuss and write submissions opposing the Treaty Principles Bill during morning tea Sunday 15th December. We need to have a conversation as a country about Te Tiriti o Waitangi that is truthful and compassionate, and we believe the proposed law is not the right way to do this. Great resources and guidance about writing a submission are available on the Common Grace Aotearoa website <https://www.commongrace.nz/treatyaction>

Please raise your voice for justice - every voice counts and you can say as much or as little as you like. Paul Barber and David Douglas (Social Justice Group coordinators)

LIBRARY NEWS

In the last couple of weeks, I have done a library tidy up. On Sundays we display about 20 books. But we have 100's more books, both in the library cupboard at the back of the church near the entry door, and also much more on the shelves in the South Vestry. Topics with many examples include: *Lloyd Geering, Personal Development, Psychology, Our church history, The future of God and The Church, Social Justice and Progressive Christianity*, and many more topics. So much interesting thinking and discussion. Sorry, there is no catalogue, however, there is so much that is of great value in human culture contained in books, in the written word. Please feel free to also borrow books from these other stores. Just remember to enter anything borrowed in the issue book (On book table on Sundays), return books in a timely manner and cross off your entry in the issue book. Many thanks everybody - wishing you stimulating and enjoyable reading! Mike Wespel-Rose.

SUPPORT FOR DCM – CHRISTMAS SUPPLIES

As we are coming up to Christmas, any Christmas type goodies would be greatly appreciated for DCM. 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>.

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE GAZA PALESTINE EMERGENCY APPEAL

Christian World Service has launched an **emergency appeal** to assist people who have been affected by the current conflict in the Middle East, particularly Gaza. Nearly 85% of the population – 1.9 million people have been displaced in Gaza. They are in urgent need of food, water, shelter and safety. “The people of Gaza are living in harrowing conditions with limited resources, and we cannot stand idly by while they suffer... Our collective efforts can make a significant difference in the lives of those trapped in this nightmarish situation,”

DSPR. Donations can be made through CWS.

RELIEFAID APPEAL FOR GAZA

Another option is ReliefAid which is on the ground delivering emergency aid to families. The situation in Gaza is catastrophic, the death toll rises daily and families have nowhere to flee. Compounding the distress, Gaza’s closed borders have made humanitarian access all but impossible, leaving families lost, abandoned and without the basics needed to survive. Despite these monumental challenges, ReliefAid is NOW delivering aid in Gaza. Leveraging our established networks on the ground, we have deployed a team within Gaza to deliver life-saving aid directly to families. **Donations can be made here www.reliefaid.org.nz/gaza-appeal/**

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	Pat Booth and Margaret Harper
Sound	Sue Hirst
Laptop	Sue Hirst
Offering	Lynette Burrell and Bridget Martin
Coffee/tea	Michael Parker, Maxine Cunningham and Sally Gray
Family Time	Frank Cook
Readings	Frank Hanson, Janet Horncy, Rosemary Lawrence
Prayers of the People	Cam Smart
Rainbow Room	Caroline Korybut
Library	Closed
Musician	Peter Franklin
Service Leader	Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

On duty December 22nd

Welcoming	Pam Fuller + TBC
Sound	Sue Hirst
Laptop	Hamish Dick
Offering	Paul Franken and Katrina Harper
Coffee/tea	Kath Kerr, Marilyn Wallace and David Douglas
Family Time	Cam Smart
Readings	Gillian Feist
Prayers of the People	Anna Smith
Rainbow Room	Caroline Korybut
Library	Closed
Musician	Bruce Corkill
Service Leader	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai and Rev. Dr Tim Pratt

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Sunday 15th December: 10am Sunday Gathering led by Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai followed by Congregational Conversation and Younger members' (Y) group meets after morning tea.

Sunday 22nd December: 10am Sunday Gathering led by Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai.

Sunday 24th December: 8pm Christmas Eve Carol Service 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 Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec.
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	Pat Booth, Brian Burrell, Maxine Cunningham, Katrina Harper
Theologian in Residence	Lloyd Geering
Presbytery Representative	David Douglas
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)	R. MacConghie, O. Ruegg, M. Barber, L. Oakley, F. Neeley-Grant

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

