



ORDER OF SERVICE

24th DECEMBER 2024

CHRISTMAS EVE 2024



Shalom!

*Congregational responses are printed in **Bold Italics**. We will sing the carols without announcement. Stand if you are able, but feel free to remain seated if that is more comfortable for you.*

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.

Tonight's service is led by Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

PRELUDE

GATHERING

(adapted)

In this southern place
pohutukawa stands all year
green and murmuring
wind whipped
clinging to rocky shore lines.
But when pohutukawa breaks
glorious red
against a clear blue sky
to the roar of rolling surf
we know that Christmas has come.
Pohutukawa Christ,
you stand in our midst all year
singing your ever-green song of love.
But at Christmas you break out
blood-red, flesh soft
to the sound of a baby breathing.
Gift beyond description we welcome you!
Let us celebrate life in the presence we name God.

Barbara Sampson



1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
With news of joy foretold,
"Peace on the earth, good will to all
From heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come,
Love's banner all unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
Over all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains
Old echoes plaintive ring,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

3. For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever circling years
Shall the time foretold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

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 Sherry and Cake in the hall after church.

AN ADVENT WREATH LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE

This **first candle of hope** we light is to remember those whom we have loved and lost.

(First candle is lit)



We pause to remember their name, their face, their voice, the memory that binds them to us in this season in the hope they will continue to make a difference to our lives

May God's caring love surround them and us.

This **second candle of peace** we light is to mend the pain of loss; the loss of relationships, loss of jobs, loss of health and home.

(Second candle is lit.)



We pause to gather up the pain of the past and offer it to God, asking that we receive the gift of peace.

***Refresh, restore, renew us we pray,
and lead us peacefully into the future***

This **third candle of joy** we light is for ourselves.

(Third candle is lit.)



We pause to remember past weeks and months and years:

the disbelief, anger and 'down' times, the poignancy of reminiscing, hugs and handshakes of family and friends, who stood with us.

***Let us remember dawn defeats darkness
for 'joy comes in the morning'***

This **fourth candle of love** we light is to remember the gift of love which the Christmas story offers us. (Fourth candle is lit.)



We remember Creativity God companions us,
sharing our life, being with us, Emmanuel.
Let us look for new possibilities now, in the present
***Spirit of God, calm our hearts
so we can hear your still, small voice.***

SILENCE

CHILDREN COME TO THE FRONT

STORYTIME FOR THE CHILDREN

Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

CAROL

WOV 243(i) 'Love came down at Christmas'

Words: Christina Georgina Rossetti

Music: Irish Traditional Melody; Gartan. Public Domain

1. Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.
2. Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus: but wherewith for sacred sign?
3. Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine,
love to God and all folk, love for plea and gift and sign.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

We have waited with hope
for God to bring justice and righteousness.
We have waited with peace
for God's shalom to be felt.
We have waited with joy,
celebrating the things God has already done.
We have waited with love,
awed by how God's love has been shown to us.



Tonight we light this candle
to celebrate the light of God, coming into the world
in the birth of Jesus.

*O God of hope and peace, joy and love
From that stable so long ago
your light shines out
into every corner of the world.*

*Help us to sing with angels
of the joy of your coming.
Help us to live by your light not only today,
but throughout the whole year,
so that tidings of peace and goodwill to all
will truly transform everything.*



PASSING THE PEACE

The Holy Child of peace has come to dwell among us!
Let us share the peace with one another.
Christ has come among us!
The peace of Christ
and the joy of Christmas
be always with you.
And also with you.

WORDS IN TEXTS & MUSIC

Anna Smith

Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 40: 1-4

Gospel

Luke 2: 1-7

The Birth

Luke 2: 8-14

The Angels

Luke 2: 15-20

The Shepherds

RESPONSE

For the Word in scripture and music,
For the Word among us,
For the Word within us,
We give thanks

DUET

“Minuit / O Holy Night”

Music: Adolphe Adam (1803-1856). Poem: Placide Cappeau (1808-1877).
Sung in French then in English
Pepe Becker and Kate Lineham (sopranos) accompanied by Dan Poynton

REFLECTION

Rev Dr Fei Taule’ale’ausumai

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

Gnossienne No.4 by Erik Satie - Dan Poynton

CAROL

FFS 12 (i) ‘Dream a dream’

Words: © 1996 Shirley Erena Murray
Music: © 1996 Nigel Eastgate (1930-2001)

1. Dream a dream, a hopeful dream
as children do on Christmas Eve,
imaginings, surprising things
to hold and to believe.
2. Dream a time this Christmas time
when no-one’s hungry or afraid;
that weapons go and harvests grow,
that friends are met and made.
3. Dream a peace, our planet’s peace,
the greening of the earth at play,
the holy ground where life is found,
where God has touched the clay.
4. Dream a gift, the Christmas gift
that changes everything we see:
the shimmering of angel wing,
the Child, the Mystery.

OFFERING MUSIC

OFFERING FOR CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE



OFFERING HYMN

AA 127 'Take my gifts' verse 1

Words: © Shirley Murray Music: © Colin Gibson

Tune: TALAVERA TERRACE

1. 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!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We pray for Christian World Service and the work they are doing around the world in the midst of crisis, natural disasters, war and famine. Bless these offerings that they may be used to support the CWS Appeal to Give Climate Hope this Christmas and bless the many communities facing the severe impact of climate change. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pat Booth

DUET

"Stella Splendens"

Anon. Spanish 14th C pilgrim song, sung in Latin
Pepe Becker and Kate Lineham (sopranos) accompanied by Dan Poynton

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 according
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.***

COMMUNION

St Andrew's is an open community and all are invited to Christ's table. Wherever you are on your faith's journey, wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to, whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome to share in the communion. This is God's meal for all people.

COMMUNION HYMN

COC 14 (ii) 'Come now Lord Jesus'

Words: © 1992 Shirley Murray Music: Traditional Zulu arr. Roy Tankersley

1. Come now, Lord Jesus,
enter our Christmas,
be to us no stranger
in this new made manger.
2. Come, small and human,
born of a woman,
yet a child much greater,
of our own Creator.
3. Come, gift and token,
bread to be broken —
star and sign still point you,
myrrh will anoint you.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Michael Morwood (adapted)

On this special night of nights
once again we celebrate a Creative Mystery we name God.
A serendipitous creativity beyond our words
and beyond our images.

A creativity which undergirds our human existence
in all its complexity and all its diversity.
All our collected human wisdom is a
visible expression of this Creative Mystery,
active in all places, at all times,
in individuals and cultures,
seeking expression in the creation of a just and peaceful world.

As Christians we rejoice in the birth of Jesus
in whom we see the fullness of human possibility
to make God visible in our lives.

In Jesus we have seen this Mystery
come to expression in human form.

Like us he grew in wisdom.

Questioning.

Searching for meaning.

Shaping convictions.

Enacting justice.

Experiencing love

and coming to know love's connectedness with God

***Jesus stood firmly in his own religious tradition
and preached good news to all people
dreaming of a better world.***

***We rejoice that Jesus led people
to discover the sacred in the ordinary:***

in the crowd,

in the rejected ones,

in everyday life,

in human yearnings to be better people,

and in being neighbour to one another.

And so we recall the ancient story.

At the end of a journey, among friends, gathered round a table,

Jesus took bread, gave thanks,

broke it and shared the bread with his friends,

asking them to gather in memory of him,

and to live in a covenant of love,

with their God.

Let us share this bread and be strengthened,

loving as Jesus loved and

bringing peace and justice to the world.

We take this wine,
mindful of our responsibility
to be bearers of forgiveness, tolerance and understanding.

***We drink committing ourselves
to allow the Spirit of generosity
that took flesh and moved so boldly in Jesus
to move in our lives.***

***To this commitment we give our 'Amen'
and offer it as our Christmas gift
to our family, friends and neighbours
and to all the earth.***

God of life, with this bread and this wine,
we celebrate the birth and life of Jesus,
and we offer ourselves to follow his way.

***Bless us and these gifts,
so that we may take light and hope,
love and peace, into the world,
now and forever. Amen.***

COMMUNION IS SHARED

Please come to the front of the church and receive the gluten and & dairy-free bread and wine or grape juice served in small glasses.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above the deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in the dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship Christ, the newborn King
Come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn King!

To the weary comes refreshment,
to the grieving, strength and peace;
to the anxious, sweet contentment,
to the captive soul, release:
Come and worship etc

The first nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn king,
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn king.*

Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to live as one with earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hail the heaven-born prince of peace!
Hail the son of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn king.*

Child of Christmas story, stable straw, and star,
small and sweet and gentle: tell us who you are

Child whose baby finger round our own is curled,
come to melt our hearts, and come to change the world.

Child of Jew and Gentile, child of white and black –
teach us how to love you, teach us what we lack.

Child of Mary's courage, birthed in human pain,
tell us what your name is – be our hope again

Silent night, holy night: all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child,
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night: shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia';

Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.
Silent night, holy night: wondrous star, lend your light;

with the angel's let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ our Saviour is born, Christ our Saviour is born.

Joy to the world! A new age dawns.
It comes, shalom to bring
Let ev'ry heart prepare a room,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Graceful and true, the Saviour brings
compassion all may share
for poor and homeless, so may they find
their life becomes more fair, their life becomes more fair
their life, their life becomes more fair.

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!*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God, glory in the highest'
*O come let us adore him, o come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

THE CALL TO SERVICE *(standing)*

Go as far as your courage takes you,

for we cannot go beyond the reach of God.

Give as extravagantly as you may,

for we cannot spend all the riches of God.

Care as lavishly as you are able,

for we cannot exhaust the love of God.

Keep journeying and searching,

for God will always travel with us.

Blessing of the courage of a teenage Mary:

Bronwyn Angela White

Go in peace

and may the courage of a teenage Mary,

the loyalty of Joseph,

the grandmotherly delight of Anne,

and the fierce joy of Elizabeth

comfort and empower you;

the conception of angels,

the passion of spirit,

and the Love we call God

be with you, fulfil and liberate you

this day and always. ***Amen.***

RECESSIONAL CAROL

COC 7 'Carol our Christmas'

Words: © 1996 Shirley Murray, Music by Colin Gibson, © 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

1. Carol our Christmas, an upside down Christmas;
snow is not falling and trees are not bare.
Carol the summer, and welcome the Christ child,
warm in our sunshine and sweetness of air.
2. Sing of the gold and the green and the sparkle,
water and river and lure of the beach.
Sing in the happiness of open spaces,
sing a nativity summer can reach.
3. Shepherds and musterers move over hillsides,
finding, not angels, but sheep to be shorn;
wise ones make journeys whatever the season,
searching for signs of the truth to be born.

4. Right side up Christmas belongs to the universe,
made in the moment a woman gives birth;
hope is the Jesus gift, love is the offering,
everywhere, anywhere here on the earth.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Thank you to everyone who participated in the service this evening, to our soloists Pepe Becker and Kate Lineham, our pianist Dan Poynton and our organist Peter Franklin

Thank you also to those who read, led prayers, served communion and lit candles.

And finally to those who served refreshments and cleaned up afterwards.

Christmas Day Celebration Worship

St Andrew's on The Terrace

10.00 a.m. tomorrow

Everyone Welcome



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

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.

RECYCLING AT ST ANDREW'S

We are expanding the range of materials that we collect for recycling at St Andrew's. You can now bring plastic lids (including milk bottle caps), metal lids, beverage cartons (Tetra Pak) and used pens. There are containers for each sort of material in the North Vestry. A take-home information sheet, on the desk in the North Vestry, tells you all you need to know about what we do and don't collect. For Hutt Valley and other members, Bunnings' stores have recycling bins where used batteries can be left. Happy recycling!

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

GIVE CLIMATE HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

If you are keen to cut the climate impact of your Christmas, there's more you can do than limit consumption and avoid plastic this year. In 2024, the Christian World Service Christmas Appeal is calling for support to help Pacific Island Christians build climate resilience for families whose livelihoods and food security are threatened by climate change. Your donation to the 2024 [CWS Christmas Appeal](#) will help a Tongan food security organisation to replant village gardens up and out of harm's way for families whose traditional food growing plots are threatened by rising seas. Christian World Service also supports communities suffering from climate crisis impacts around the world through its [Gifted](#) catalogue, which allows climate-aware donors in Aotearoa to buy development and aid gifts for family members, such as a \$70 [Rainwater tank](#) for a community in sub-Saharan Africa, a \$100 [Climate Hope](#) grant for Pacific Christian climate activists, a \$45 [Fruit tree](#) for the Philippines or \$45 [Bees](#) for Sri Lanka. Make your Christmas spending work for the planet this year! Support Christian World Service and its climate resilience partners.

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.**

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	Sue Hirst
Laptop	Sue Hirst
Offering	Kath Kerr and Paul Franken
Sherry & Cake	Jim and Maxine Cunningham, Vivienne Mountier, Janet Horncy
Family Time	Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Readings	Anna Smith
Prayers of the People	Pat Booth
Communion	Rosemary Lawrence, Katrina Harper, Paul Barber, David Douglas Pam Fuller, plus one.
Rainbow Room	On Holiday
Library	Closed
Musician	Peter Franklin
Service Leader	Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

On duty December 25th

Welcoming	Pam Fuller and one other
Sound	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Laptop	Cam Smart
Offering	Tony Pears and Paul Franken
Coffee/tea	Pam Fuller – Room 1
Family Time	Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Readings	John Harper
Prayers of the People	TBA
Rainbow Room	On Holiday
Library	Closed
Musician	Peter Franklin
Service Leader	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

This Week and Coming Events at St Andrew's

Tuesday 24th December: 8pm Christmas Eve Service Led by Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai followed by Sherry and Cake.

Wednesday 25th December: 10am Christmas Day Service led by Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

Sunday 29th December : 10am Sunday Gathering led by Ellen Murray

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

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