



# ORDER OF SERVICE

12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025

## FIRST SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY



**Baptism of Jesus**

## 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

### GATHERING

The word is out, no longer a closely guarded family secret.

All the world can come,

see, hear, smell, touch and taste this sensation.

Bursting on to the world's scene

on this public riverbank

is the man whom Christmas signposts signalled;

the one to whom they pointed

while around them swirled the winds of God whispering;

"New life is now revealed! Realised in human form;

Essence distilled into Existence."

### SILENCE

### OPENING RESPONSES *(please remain standing)*

The wrappings of Christmas have been ripped away

***The gift is revealed to all***

Let us give thanks for what this means for our lives

***For what can be realised within us as a result***

For what we can experience of the essence which is God

***As we share our existence with this Christ***

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## AA 113 'Our life has its seasons'

Words: © Shirley Murray. Music: © Colin Gibson

1. Our life has its seasons, and God has the reasons  
why spring follows winter, and new leaves grow,  
for there's a connection with our resurrection  
that flowers will bud after frost and snow,  
*so there's never a time to stop believing,  
there's never a time for hope to die,  
there's never a time to stop loving,  
these three things go on.*
2. There's a time to be planting, a time to be plucking,  
a time to be laughing, a time to weep,  
a time to be building, a time to be breaking,  
a time to be waking, a time to sleep,  
*But there's never a time to stop believing,  
there's never a time for hope to die,  
there's never a time to stop loving,  
these three things go on.*
3. There's a time to be hurting, a time to be healing,  
a time to be saving, a time to spend,  
a time to be grieving, a time to be dancing,  
a time for beginning, a time to end,  
*But there's never a time to stop believing,  
there's never a time for hope to die,  
there's never a time to stop loving,  
these three things go on.*

## 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 loving God, we are grateful to have come thus far by your Grace. On this first Sunday in Epiphany we recall our own baptisms and the steps of faith that our parents may have taken when they presented us for baptism. Be with us in our worship. *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**

## **PASSING THE PEACE**

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

Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 43: 1-7

Gospel

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Contemporary reading

'St John the Baptist .1. St John's Eve'

By Malcom Guite in *Sounding the Seasons*

*In our poetic journey through the sacred seasons of the year we have come to midsummer! The traditional Church festival for this beautiful, long-lit solstice season is the Feast of St. John the Baptist, which falls on June 24th, [Northern Hemisphere] which was midsummer day in the old Roman Calendar. Luke tells us that John the Baptist was born about 6 months before Jesus, so this feast falls half way through the year, 6 months before Christmas!*

*The tradition of keeping St. John's Eve with the lighting of Bonfires and Beacons is very ancient, almost certainly pre-Christian, but in my view it is very fitting that it has become part of a Christian festivity. Christ keeps and fulfills all that was best in the old pagan foreshadowings of his coming and this Midsummer festival of light is no exception. John was sent as a witness to the light that was coming into the world, and John wanted to point to that light, not stand in its way, hence his beautiful saying 'He must increase and I must diminish', a good watchword for all of those who are, as the prayer book calls us, the 'ministers and stewards of his mysteries'.*

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/tag/baptism/>

Midsummer night, and bonfires on the hill  
 Burn for the man who makes way for the Light:  
 'He must increase and I diminish still,  
 until his sun illuminates my night.'  
 So John the Baptist pioneers our path,  
 unfolds the essence of the life of prayer,  
 unlatches the last doorway into faith,  
 and makes one inner space an everywhere.  
 Least of the new and greatest of the old,  
 Orpheus on the threshold with his lyre,  
 he sets himself aside, and cries "Behold  
 the One who stands amongst you comes with fire!"  
 So keep his fires burning through this night,  
 beacons and gateways for the child of light.

## RESPONSE

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

## REFLECTION

**'Baptism, does it matter in this day and age?  
Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai**

## REFLECTIVE MUSIC

**Clair de Lune (Moonlight)**

**by Debussy**

## HYMN

**WOV 382 'Worship our God in the beauty of holiness'**

Words: John Monsell (adapted) Tune: WAS LEBET

1. O worship our God in the beauty of holiness!  
Bow down with reverence and glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore for divine is the name!
2. Low on the floor lay your burden of carefulness,  
ever with love will it be borne for you,  
your sorrows be comforted, prayerfulness answered,  
and your steps guided as best for you too.
3. Fear not to enter God's courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth you have reckoned as yours;  
for truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,  
these are the offerings to bring to the cause.
4. These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,  
will be received for the name that is dear;  
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

## A RECOGNITION OF FAITH

By Susan Jones

We recognise those moments of epiphany  
we've all had them -  
when we have suddenly realised  
everything has changed;  
When we have seen deep down inside us  
and found there what we did not expect.  
Instead of the dark, greedy, grasping selfishness  
we have been warned of all our lives,  
we have discovered within, instead, light;  
light which children's drawings sketch around angels  
light which softly glows with compassion and welcome,  
beckoning us to own our inner rich resource  
which is so like God  
as to be no different from that we call divine.

We recognise, in those moments of discovery,  
in those glimpses of the truth,  
we can never be the same again;  
even if the waters are deep and dark  
we will be led through them  
by a loving guide  
who is, sometimes, ourselves.  
And thankfulness rises deep within.

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

## OFFERING HYMN

Tune: DUKE STREET WOV 24

*Willing hands, to lead the blind,  
heal the wounded, feed the poor.  
Love embracing all our kind,  
charity with liberal store.*

## **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.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Pat Booth**

### **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

We think today of the people of Nicaragua. We pray for the people of Nicaragua 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 some 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 Laura Trask (List) and Teanau Tuiono (List). Here in the Central Presbytery we pray for the leaders and people of Johnsonville Uniting 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 the 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**

## **AA 156 'Where the road runs out'**

Music and words: © Colin Gibson

1. Where the road runs out and the signposts end,  
where we come to the edge of today,  
be the God of Abraham for us,  
send us out upon our way.

*Lord, you were our beginning, the faith that gave us birth.  
We look to you, our ending, our hope for heaven and earth.*

2. When the coast is left and we journey on  
to the rim of the sky and the sea,  
be the sailor's friend, be the dolphin Christ,  
lead us on to eternity.

*Lord, you were our beginning, the faith that gave us birth.  
We look to you, our ending, our hope for heaven and earth.*

3. When the clouds are low and the wind is strong,  
when tomorrow's storm draws near,  
be the spirit bird hovering overhead  
who will take away our fear.

*Lord, you were our beginning, the faith that gave us birth.  
We look to you, our ending, our hope for heaven and earth.*

## **MAORI BLESSING**

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa

Te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki, a Ihu Karaiti

Me te aroha o te Atua

Me te whiwhingatahitanga

Ki te wairua tapu

Ake, ake, ake

Amine

## **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**

## **THANK YOU**

to our musician today

**Bruce Cash**

## **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.

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### **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.

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# ***ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES***

## **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.

## **RECYCLING OF HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES**

Household batteries can be dropped off for FREE 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. For Hutt Valley and other members, Bunnings' stores have recycling bins where used batteries can be left. Happy recycling!

## **SUPPORT FOR DCM (DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY MINISTRY)**

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/](http://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	Lynette and Brian Burrell
Sound	Sue Hirst
Laptop	Sandra Kirby
Offering	Bridget Martin and Paul Franken
Coffee/tea	Kath Kerr, Michael Parker and Pat McGiven
Family Time	Cam Smart
Readings	Tony Kirby
Prayers of the People	Pat Booth
Rainbow Room	On Holiday
Library	Closed
Musician	Bruce Cash
Service Leader	Rev. Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

#### **On duty January 19<sup>th</sup>**

Welcoming	Pauline and David Patchett
Sound	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Laptop	Hamish Dick
Offering	Tony Pears, Katrina Harper
Coffee/tea	Kath Kerr, Rosemary Lawrence and Michael Parker
Family Time	Frank Cook
Readings	Frank Hanson
Prayers of the People	Ellen Murray
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**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January: 10am** Sunday Gathering led by Rev Dr. Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January: 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  
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

<b>Minister</b>	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
<b>Parish Council Convenor</b>	Sue Hirst
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paul Barber
<b>Facilities Management Group</b>	Sandra Kirby
<b>Pastoral Care Team</b>	Pat Booth, Brian Burrell, Maxine Cunningham, Katrina Harper
<b>Theologian in Residence</b>	Lloyd Geering
<b>Presbytery Representative</b>	David Douglas
<b>Church Music Coordinator</b>	Vacant
<b>Eco Church Coordinator</b>	Sonia Groes-Petrie
<b>Faith in Action Coordinator</b>	Paul Barber
<b>Rainbow Room Coordinator</b>	Caroline Korybut
<b>Roster Coordinator</b>	Pam Fuller
<b>Concert Coordinator</b>	Kristina Zuelicke
<b>Centre Manager</b>	Adelina Reis
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Jemma Ballantyne
<b>Centre Assistant</b>	Germaine Ambray
<b>Facilities Assistant(s)</b>	R. MacConghie, O. Ruegg, M. Barber, L. Oakley, F. Neeley-Grant

## St Andrew's on The Terrace

[www.standrews.org.nz](http://www.standrews.org.nz)

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Phone (04) 472-9211

[office@standrews.org.nz](mailto:office@standrews.org.nz)

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