



Faith Community Gathering

Sunday 12th January 2020

**This is the season of Christmas,
New Birth and a New things are Birthing for us, alleluia!**

We step over a threshold into another world. But sometimes even when we cross a threshold we can only see a few feet in front of us. We can only see what is around the bend by moving forward—where we will surely encounter another bend, and another, and yet compelled, called to move forward.

What are you curious about that is beyond what you can currently know, see and feel?



We are worshipping with our brothers and sisters of Zion Hill welcome one and all.

Gathering Music.

The gong is sounded three times

Processional Singing: Womb of life (Tune: Ode to joy)

Opening Sentences

In sacred times of word, wonder, and awe.

In ordinary days of work and play.

In every moment, Creativity is with us.

Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of that Creativity in and of life.

Haere Mai, Aere mai, hwan-yeong, Fakaalofa lahi atu,

Afio mai, Ulu tonu mai, Talofa Lava, Foon Ying, Selamat datang, Vitajte, Welcome

The Mission of this church is to be Christ centred, Community embracing congregation
Birkenhead, Birkdale, Beach Haven

As we enter into this sacred place,
 put away the pressures of the world that ask us
 to perform,
 to take up masks,
 to put on brave fronts.
 Silence the voices that ask you to be perfect.
 This is a community of compassion and welcoming.
**We bring all that we are and all that we yet can be,
 to this safe and holy place.**

We pray:

Spirit of Creativity you are around and within us.
 We are grateful, grateful for the possibility of being
 ever more aware, human and alive.
 Our world touches us in so many awesome ways.
 May we consider all that is – as beautiful,
 May the joys and the concerns of this present day
 move and jolt us to our greater selves
 and our greater thoughts.
May it be so, amene!



Singing: Like the murmur of Doves song

Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9, Matthew 3:13-17

Young'uns chat:

Thoughts for the week:

Singing/offering: O God your constant love and care (Tune: Winchester WOV223 (i))

Our Prayers for others ...

Followed with a **Celebration of Faith**.
 The people of God have a human face.
We laugh, we weep, we wait in hope.
 We lift our eyes
and stub our toes,
 we love,
and struggle,
 we fail,
we stand, and always we stand on trembling ground.

But God is God
and Jesus is the Christ
and the Spirit will lift up our feet.

**God is in the centre,
God is at our endings.**

Nothing lies beyond the love of God in Christ.

Sharing 'The Peace'

Let us take a moment to celebrate each other.

May a heart of peace rest with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to share the peace with your neighbours.

Singing: God of freedom God of justice (Tune: TIS 657)

Notices

Birthdays

Significant events

Parting Words

Let us go in faith to ponder in our hearts
the mystery and the wonder of this season...

We have a calling in this world:

**we are called to honour diversity,
to respect differences with dignity,
and to challenge those who would forbid it.**

We are people of a wide path.

**Let us be wide in affection
and go our way in peace.**

Words of Blessing

The world you go into is a world filled with
challenges, with crises, with pain, with disappointment.

You go as people who know these things intimately
because you have felt them, experienced them,
and railed against them.

Go now as those who would see not only what the world is
but also a world full of beauty, possibility and awesomeness

and not neglecting what we can make it be, and
 may your hands, your heart, your voice
 be turned toward making it so.

Go in peace! **In peace!**

Amen! May it be so!

Sung Blessing:

NOTICES:

Our Courtship between Saints Aidans & Andrews is starting to take shape:

The Newsletter – is to be edited by Barbara Westra. Please send all contributions to Barbara 'bmwestra@hotmail.com' by the 20th of the month.

The Worship Committee – is made up of Racheal Hurr, Robyn Bogue, Grace Nicholson-Symes, Pauline Fish & Colin Gordon

The Worship dates and times are set out as –

- 1st & 2nd Sundays @ St Andrews,
- 3rd & 4th Sundays @ St Aidans,
- 5th Sundays @ Zion Hill with all three Parishes

The Rosters – are being arranged by Jocelyn Collinge & Robin Baxter as one roster for all occasions.

The MSB – Names are yet to be notified.

Congregational Meeting NOTICE – for Sunday 26th January to ratify the names for representation on the MSB.

NAME TAGS – in be changed to show our togetherness and we are all invite to wear them 'religiously' 😊

**CHILDCARE
 FACILITIES
 AVAILABLE**

register online & select your workshops!
 go to the Northern Presbytery website for
 registration link
<http://www.northpres.org.nz/presbytery-events/>
 BRING A TEAM

**NORTHERN PRESBYTERY
 CONFERENCE 2020
 GOD IS ABLE**

**ST COLUMBA AT
 BOTANY
 22/02/20
 9am to
 1.45pm**

*We are also
 encouraged and
 reminded to attend
 this Presbytery Event
 register online now!*



youth and family
 preaching discipleship & biblical literacy
 sharing our faith
 vision & discernment
 power of words & mental wellbeing
 worship music, sound, lighting
 money, theology & systems

**SEVEN
 WORKSHOP STREAMS
 PLUS KEYNOTE
 SPEAKER!**

Around the corner -

Sundays 12th, 19th, 26th, combined with Zion Hill @ St Andrews

February 2020, marks an exciting venture, adventure between St Aidans and St Andrews by entering into a ‘courtship’ with each other.

Most of us can answer the following question 😊

- *How does courtship work?*
- *What do we have to do to make it an exciting courtship?*
- *How do we imagine a courtship coming to fruition?*

The narrative is, that we have intentionally discussed for 18 months a different future to where we are now and where that journey could potentially take us. We thought that future wasn’t a future we wanted to engage with and decided to look at our presence and future vitality in a different way and so we have begun this courtship. Where will it end? Well again these are a matter of choices, and the encouragement is to choose in meaningful ways, ways we can make our courtship rich and vibrant.

To begin with we will have combined services. We could better express that by saying we are having one service for us both (all together). We want to engage in a language that doesn’t use words like combined which can say, them and us, our place their place, but language that talks of US, for we are the body of Christ and there is only one body, US!

For the next 12 months we enter a journey in worshiping each month 1st and 2nd Sundays @ St Andrews the 3rd and 4th Sundays at St Aidans the 5th Sunday is at Zion Hill.

- I. We have a Worship Committee meeting to create and schedule our worship services.
- II. We will have a Ministry Settlement Board (MSB) representing all of us which will meet in February.
- III. Our Church Councils form for 12 months to care for us all in future planning keeping us on a creative journey.

		Jan 12 th With Zion Hill	Jan 19 th With Zion Hill	Jan 26 th
Welcoming /Duty Elder	Jan 5 th 2020 At Zion Hill	Greg and Glenys Skudder	Barbara and Laurie Wesley	Margaret Larsen and Gary Pash
Church Prep.		Duty Elder	Duty Elder	Duty Elder
Musicians				
Prayers		Greg Skudder	Margaret Larsen	Rosemary Bold
Readings		Karen Davies	Jocelyn Collinge	Glenys Skudder
Morning Tea		Lisi Foulagi and Karen Davies	Jocelyn Collinge	Glenys and Greg Skudder
PA				
Preaching		CRG	CRG	CRG
Kidz Church		Lisi & Rosemary	Lisi & Rosemary	Lisi & Rosemary

Ministry at St Andrew's – The Team

<i>Minister</i>	<i>Rev. Colin Gordon</i> <i>EMAIL:</i> <i>colinrgordon@gmail.com</i>	<i>021 854 066</i>
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<i>Church Treasurer</i>	<i>Ian Bogue</i>	<i>027 430 0418</i>
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