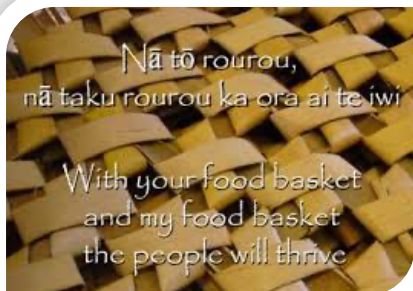




SAINTS A & A



Sunday 28th June 2020

Saints A & A

Birkenhead Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Matariki

Matariki rises in the winter, a time when the weak and frail often succumb to illness and die (500 flu related deaths a year in NZ). Matariki is often seen in the sky when people pass away and is a reminder to people that while Matariki is a time of celebration and enjoyment, there is a connection to death.

9:30am @ St Aidans

Gathering Singing: Celebrate a new day dawning (Tune: Joyful joyful)

Welcoming space:

Empowering God, when the road ahead looms endless,

empower us to be companions

for one another along the road.

Inspiring God, when the road forward is blocked,

inspire in us creative responses

that move us beyond the barriers.

Enabling God, when the road before us divides,

enable us to feel your presence luring us on.

How did the rose
 Ever open its heart
 And give to this world
 all its beauty?
It felt the encouragement of light against its Being.¹

The Community Candle is lit

This flame is warm as the companionship of friends is warm.

Haere Mai, Aere mai, hwan-yeong, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Afio mai, Ulu tonu mai, Talofa Lava, Foon Ying, Selamat Datang, Vitajte, Welkom, Welcome

Moment with the young'uns:

Singing: Give me oil in my lamp

Prayer:

Loving Spirit,
 we bring our curiosity
 about life and nature,
 about stories
 and how they grow and change with retellings over time.

Light a candle

We come to hear about how we might live love
 in the way of Jesus of Nazareth,
 who bravely challenged injustice
 as he walked in this world with radical compassion.

Light a candle

We come with open hearts,
 willing to question assumptions
 and to learn,
 no matter how uncomfortable we feel.

Light a candle

We look to each other
 in both comfort and discomfort grateful for acceptance,
 knowing we are all welcome here.

Light a candle

We value the unity and oneness of life and we check our thinking about diversity as we seek to live with compassion peace and humanity.

Silence

*We give thanks for this day
for our community of St A & A
and all the people who have enriched our lives.*

Light a candle

*We give thanks for love,
which created us, restores us,
and connects us with others in struggle and in joy.*

Light a candle

*We give thanks for the spirit of curiosity
that inspires and encourages us
to seek knowledge and understanding.*

Light a candle

*We give thanks for the courage
that enables us to stand tall
look at what we see around us
and to take risks as we seek understanding.*

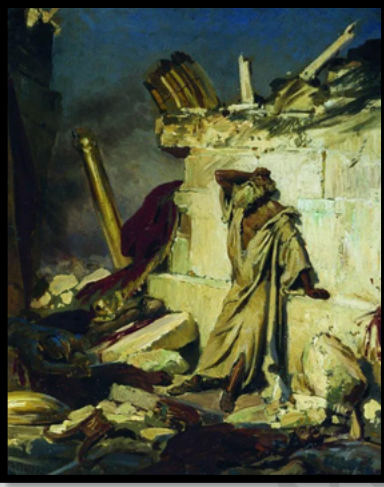
Light a candle

*We give thanks
for difference and diversity
that enriches our world
and for story which helps us understand others.
Amen ⁱⁱ*

Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9 Mathew 10:40-42

“Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.”

Reflections:



Responsive singing: Thank you for giving me the morning (WOV 114)

Offertory :

We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the table, and those which spirit their way electronically from our banks to the church's account.

Amen

Prayers for Others:

Singing the Lord's Prayer:

Sending song: Celebrate our makers glory (tune hymn to joy)

Notices

Sung Blessing: Ma te marie a te Atua *The peace of God* (Tune Old 100th)

NOTICES – for ALL folk of Saints A & A and beyond

Pastoral Committee Birthday Luncheon Wow thank you so much to those who arranged and made this celebration happen.

NEXT WEEK: Communion service at St Andrews

This weeks service is a Thanksgiving Service Coming out of COVID-19.

The Church Council of St Aidans has approved and encouraged a

Thanksgiving Offering. As is common in many Parishes St Aidans operates on a deficit budget. Why do churches choose to show a deficit budget? The deficit is a reality. Current income does not match current expenses. However, without fundraisers and special requests the shortfall will come from invested monies. As many of you will appreciate living off investments has a limited life. The other question some may ask is, 'why do we not live within our means?' Great question.

Not to answer that question but to give some background. We tend to model our current practices from a period when churches didn't really need a financial plan. Everybody went to church or thought the church was a good thing. The church was the most effective charitable organisation in town, and church members all wanted a tax credit for their donations. All the church needed to do was disseminate information about annual expenses and projected budgets. The money would flow, and everyone would praise God on a Sunday. Done.

Times have changed, in fact some time ago they changed. This 'journey to a merger' is looking at many facets of 'church cultural' or 'behaviour' that we continue to operate under. We will be questioning the value and necessity of these behaviours to meet the challenges of a new era.

In the meantime, we value what we have and set budgets accordingly and to challenge ourselves in providing for the things we value we set a deficit budget and make it a joy to reach our goals.

Envelopes will be provided with your 'Offering number'.

DON'T FORGET the Consultation process:

- Papers have been emailed and hard copies for those who are not on email will be at the Sunday Services.
- REMINDER the Consultations have happened BUT Monday 29th is the last day to receive your thoughts by email.

NEWSLETTER - Do consider sending a contribution for the newsletter sometime too, either a short article or story or via Grace for her Notes. It's good to know what others are thinking or doing. Barbara Westra - bmwestra@gmail.com

ZOOM will be operating each and every Sunday for those far-away and close-by:

Topic: Saints A & A Worship Service

Time: 9am – 11am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81451789516?pwd=UWkwVVV4RUhrbnFaYmRDOTNKS0Fvdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5178 9516

Password: 518373

Dial by your location

+64 4 886 0026 New Zealand

+64 9 884 6780 New Zealand

Jeremiah 28:5-9 New International Version (NIV)

⁵ Then the prophet Jeremiah replied to the prophet Hananiah before the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord. ⁶ He said, "Amen! May the Lord do so! May the Lord fulfill the words you have prophesied by bringing the articles of the Lord's house and all the exiles back to this place from Babylon. ⁷ Nevertheless, listen to what I have to say in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people: ⁸ From early times the prophets who preceded you and me have prophesied war, disaster and plague against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹ But the prophet who prophesies peace will be recognized as one truly sent by the Lord only if his prediction comes true."

Matthew 10:40-42 New International Version (NIV)

⁴⁰ "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. ⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."

ⁱ (Hafiz)

ⁱⁱ St Andrews on the Terrace