



SAINTS A & A



Sunday 5th July 2020

Saints A & A

Birkenhead Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Matariki

Here in this ordinary place

A liturgy of nonviolence and joyful work for peace

There is welcome to all who gather here today. This liturgy will be different, I hope something new. Christian liturgies often reflect violent images of God featured prominently in the Bible. While acknowledging the contradictory portraits of Jesus and God found within Scripture, this liturgy has been crafted with language and forms in tune with a nonviolent God witnessed by Jesus, and in harmony with other religious experiences. God who is close at hand is lifted up. God who is already among us, not in grand imperial palaces, but in the ordinary, ordinary places. We open ourselves to the invitational presence of God that calls us to be mindful of daily mysteries, to be peacemakers, to embody hope, and to live authentic lives in the midst of joy filled, suffering world.

9:30am @ St Andrews

The gong is sounded three times followed by silence.
Walking in the Bible

Welcoming space:

We gather in the embrace of the creator, in the memory of Jesus and
in the mercy of the loving Spirit:

It's good to be together.

Everyone is welcome to be here

Amen

This is a gathering of hope:

It's good to be together.

We've come here today to drain the pools of despair:

Amen.

We are people of peace:

It's good to be together

We're to drain the oil from the crankcase of the war machine:

Amen.

This is the dawn of creation:

It's good to be together.

We are waking up ... and dreaming:

Amen.

God is among us:

It's good to be together.

And together we make this a sacred place a welcoming place by greeting
each other in our own languages, **Haere Mai, Aere mai, hwan-yeong,**
Fakaalofa lahi atu, Afio mai, Ulu tonu mai, Talofa Lava, Foon Ying, Selamat
Datang, Vitajte, Welkom, Welcome

Praying: Gracious Spirit: We are grateful for this time together. As we light
this "Candle to the Present Moment," may we be mindful of all the miracles
that adorn the plain old ordinary world. Lift the veil from our eyes, that we
may know your presence among us and see the sweetness and possibility if
the now.

Lighting a candle to the Present Moment: silence.

Music team to lead Singing of: This little light of mine
Christ be our light

Celebrating the inclusive community:

This is our community – it's wonderful ... and it's ordinary. We also pause to remember those who are not here, and those we may have excluded. As we light a "Candle of Community," let us commit ourselves to the inclusive ways of Jesus, who welcomed everyone to the table and in so doing shattered barriers, threatened empires, and renewed lives.

Light a Candle of Community; silence.

We pray for this community and the whole human family:

We pray for a heart of compassion, that we may look in each face and see a fellow human being deserving of respect

Sharing 'The Peace'

Kia tau tonu te Rangimarie o te Ariki ki a koutou
The peace of Christ be always with you

And also with you

You are invited to share the peace with your neighbours.

Noticing the real world:

We turn our hearts now to the world around us:

It is a world of beauty,
and also, a world of pain.

It is a world of bounty,
and also, a world that is unfair and needs healing.

God does not parcel out the beauty based on merit,
nor does God mend the brokenness through violent victories.

Yet when our hearts are open, it is a world that invites us to compassion

Light a candle to the Real World; silence

Reading: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

"Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church."

Reflections:

Offertory/Singing: With hearts overflowing our voices we raise

Offertory prayer :

Prayers for others:

The Shared Food (Eucharist):

Remembering the life of Jesus

Sharing food is a natural, daily way to build community. As Jesus showed us, sharing food can be a subversive act that challenges all systems that find hunger acceptable. In this meal,

- we remember the witness of Jesus, who instructed his followers to clothe the naked and feed the hungry,
- we remember Jesus, who showed the power of sharing over hoarding by feeding the five thousand,
- we remember Jesus, who defied religious teaching by eating with outcasts and welcoming all to his table.

Light a candle of sharing; silence

Blessing the food:

Everyone is welcome to be here, throw open the doors go to the highways and byways and invite all to feast with us,

In this way, we lift up a world of inclusion, where all people live with respect and dignity.

The bread

Everyone present will receive a share:

In this way, we lift up a world of generosity, where, as in the examples of Jesus, abundance overcomes scarcity so that all are fed

The wine

Everyone is invited will drink and be refreshed

In this way, we lift up a world of sufficiency, where entrenched systems of privilege are challenged, wealth is shared equally, and all are satisfied with enough.

Praying, generous God, as we share food, both now and at home, may it sustain our firm belief in the transforming spirit of nonviolence and love. May it remind us of Jesus' teachings and strengthen us as we journey toward your will of justice and peace.

Distribution:

We share one loaf

We share one wine

Pledge of Commitment:

Whanau, we strive to be a community of peacemakers living in the Spirit of Jesus. As we light a “Candle of Commitment,” let us affirm our commitments to one another and to the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before.

Light the Candle of Commitment; silence.

Committed to learning the way of Jesus;

We are united in believing that our faith calls us to act justly in the world. And so we are a community committed to being what it is to follow Jesus into abundant life.

- We are learning to ignore the noisy graffiti of scarcity and fear.
- We are learning to see sufficiency as the end, not the beginning.
- We are learning to give thanks for all that we have and to share it with whoever needs it.
- We are learning to each contribute, aware of our place in the world.
- We are learning to uplift the many who are left out of the earth’s uneven abundance.
- We are learning to undo hoarding of those with wrongful power and privilege.
- We are learning to resist militarism and it’s corrupting of our culture.
- We are learning to find joy in savouring rather than consuming.

We will support and encourage one another in mutual prayer and dialogue as we individually and collectively learn these ways. *Silence*

Singing: Spirit, Spirit of gentleness

Notices / Celebrations:

Sending out:

E hoa ma, Friends lets us go now in joy and service –
 Scattering like tiny seeds.
 Trusting that we are in the right place.
 Rooted in the soil of infinite love.
 Accepting the invitation to emerge.
 Breaking up the pavement of war and oppression.
 And blooming in joyful bunches.

We are the irrepressible weeds of peace. Amene.

Blessing: Ma te marie a te Atua (Tune: Old 100th WOV 679)

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

@ 9:30am Mainly Music at St Andrews
 @ 7pm Come to Quiet at St Aidans
 @ 6:30pm Presbytery at Glenfield Presbyterian

NEXT WEEKS SERVICE: @ St Andrews

Thank you to those who participated in the Consultation process:

- **Due to the conversations through the consultation another paper is**
 being drawn up for the Congregational meetings Sunday 19th July.

NOTICE: Congregational meetings for St Andrews and St Aidans in their
 respective worship centres 19th July 2020.

NEWSLETTER – is now ready for distribution

**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=UWkwVVV4RUhrbnFa
 bmdDOTNKS0Fvdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81451789516?pwd=UWkwVVV4RUhrbnFa bmdDOTNKS0Fvdz09)

Meeting ID: 814 5178 9516

Password: 518373

Dial by your location

+64 4 886 0026 New Zealand

+64 9 884 6780 New Zealand

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁶ “To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:

¹⁷ “‘We played the pipe for you,
and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge,
and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved right by her deeds.”

The Father Revealed in the Son

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷ “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Organ Recital

Rebecca-Soojung Lee

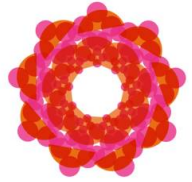
**Sunday 19 July 4pm
Takapuna Methodist
Church**

427 Lake Road Takapuna

Entry by programme, suggested donation \$25

Proceeds to organ refurbishment. All welcome.

INTERFAITH
**SOUL
FOOD**



The Mountains *of Life*

Soul Food is a 1 hour program celebrating our diversity, where people of all backgrounds and religions can come together to reflect on the common threads and principles that tie all of humanity together.

The program is free and includes live music, audio-visual pieces readings and prayers from different faiths and philosophers, poets and indigenous cultures from all over the world.

Saturday, 18 July 4.30 pm

Ellen Melville Centre, 2 Freyberg Place, Auckland CBD (off High Str)

Visit us on Facebook: facebook.com/soulfoodaux



**BAHA'I FAITH
NEW ZEALAND**



**The Diversity and
Well-being Centre**

