



SAINTS A & A



Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Birkenhead

Worship@Home Sunday 23rd August 2020 **meeting by zoom as we journey in faith**

9:00am - 9:25am Welcome and settling in ... *you are welcome to grab a cuppa and bring it into our service by getting your own ☺ so as not to bust the bubble.*



Prayer is the most solitary of activities, arising from the quiet centre. Prayer is also the most communal of activities, connecting us to that which binds all beings together.

How does prayer connect you with yourself?

How does it connect you with something larger than yourself?

We are joined as one 'fellowship' in worship, sharing in hospitality we the people of Saints Aidans and Saint Andrews and beyond.

With this Contemplative Service you are invited to have:

1. A journal to write in
2. Three Candles with your usual weekly candle

9:30am Gathering song: For the beauty of the earth

Welcoming Space

In the name of Creativity God
who has shaped you in the divine image
and delights in the diversity of creation...

In the name of Liberator God
who breaks the bonds of oppression...

In the name of Love-maker God
who rejoices in true love wherever it is found,

We are welcome in this place.

May the atmosphere we breathe
breathe fearlessness into us:
fearlessness on earth
and fearlessness in heaven!
May fearlessness guard us
behind and before!
May fearlessness surround us
above and below!
May we be without fear
of friend or foe!
May we be without fear
by night and by day!
Let all the world be my friend!ⁱ

As friends we greet 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

May we continue to create here a circle of love,
ever expanding,
ever growing.

A place of wisdom.

A place of connection.

A place of hope.

Let us light our community candle – the community of God.

Singing: Put peace into each other's hands



Practicing Lectio Divina

“Speak Lord; your servant is listening” 1 Sam 3:10

God speaks to us in many ways: nature, people, and events... In listening to God in prayer, Scripture is one means of listening to the Spirit. What the text meant to the original writers/ hearers, to others throughout history, may be insightful – but it can also distract from what the Spirit is saying to us **now**.

This is not trying to preach mental sermons to ourselves, nor discover insights that will be helpful to others. In any relationship, there is a great difference between hearing the words and really listening. So being attentive in this form of prayer is essential. Inner quiet, relaxation, attentiveness, total honesty: “God I feel bored, angry, excited, scared...”

Use only a small passage of scripture. This is not drinking beer it is sipping a beautiful wine. Taste God's goodness. Ignatius of Loyola called this form of prayer an “application of the senses”.

This morning we are to use the same passage three times. You are invited to rest on the words that speak to you. Where God speaks with you. Savouring one phrase, one word. Resting “like a child quieted at its mother's breast” (Ps 131:2) Scripture is food. It needs to be taken in, chewed over, tasted, savoured to be nourishing.

We will be listen to and dwelling on Romans 12:1-8, read it tonight before you go to bed, go to sleep with it, wake up with it...

Use imagination, picture the scene, become involved, “with whom do I identify? “That person is me” (2 Sam 12:7) Read very slowly. Ponder. Read aloud. Repeat. Read, ruminate (reflect) respond (promise), rest. If a word or phrase touches your heart, write it down, savour it, repeat it, rest in it, return to it in a later prayer period, carry it in your heart for the rest of the day – for the rest of your life. Don't hurry. don't try to look for lessons or profound thoughts.

Reading Romans 12:1-8 (Good News version)

- someone to read out loud
- Write down what comes to mind
- Light a candle for the thing you heard the loudest
- Reflection –

Reading Romans 12:1-8 (New International version)

- someone to read out loud
- Look at what you wrote down – meditate upon it
- Light a candle for what you heard in meditation
- Reflection -

Reading Romans 12:1-8 (The Inclusive version)

- someone to read out loud
- Write in your own words what you have heard
- Light a candle for the promise in what you have heard
- Reflection –

Listening Response:

From all corners of the world:

God has called a pilgrim people.

From all walks and ways of life:

God has called a pilgrim people.

Culturally diverse.

We are signs of God's division.

Culturally diverse.

**We are signs of God's new creation
joined together by love.**

So let us not journey alone with God.

So let us not journey only with our friends.

Let us be a place and a people of welcome
signs of God's all-embracing love.ⁱⁱ

And so we ponder upon the light from our candles, the Light of the world we remember, in our –

Prayers for others

Words of Blessing

Let us embrace the wonder of this week
with expectation and imagination...

The Community Candle is extinguished

Our time of celebration in this place is now coming to an end.

**For it is merely a resting place,
a place of transit, where we, together
with Creativity God, can pause
before taking to the road again.**

Fall in love with living
Wrestling with the chaos and the pain
Within ourself and within the world.
Join the celebration of life,
Dancing with the angels and the clowns.
And may the God of peace and joy,
Who is continually making all things new,
Embrace you
As a partner
In the divine creating.ⁱⁱⁱ

Amene. May it be so.

Singing our way home: For the healing of the nations

NOTICES –

**Birthdays and anniversaries
Significant events
Greetings to one another**

Following you are welcome to sign off or stay and chat with others.

Romans 12:1-8 (The Inclusive Bible)

1 Sisters and brothers, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Don't conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your minds, so that you can judge what God's will is—what is good, pleasing and perfect. 3 In light of the grace I have from God, I urge each of you not to exaggerate your own importance. Each of you must judge yourself soberly by the standard of faith God has given you. 4 Just as each of us has one body with many members—and these members don't have the same function—5 so all of us, in union with Christ, form one body. And as members of that one body, we belong to each other. 6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophecy, use it in proportion to your faith. 7 If your gift is ministry, use it for service. If you are a teacher, use your gift for teaching. 8 If you are good at preaching, then preach boldly. If you give to charity, do so generously; if you are a leader, exercise your authority with care; if you help others, do so cheerfully.

Saints A & A Worship Service

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81451789516?pwd=UWkwVVV4RUhrbnFabmdDOTNKS0Fvdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5178 9516

Passcode: 518373

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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ⁱ *Abr Atharva Veda xix, 15/lp*

ⁱⁱ *Abr PCruchley-Jones/wb*

ⁱⁱⁱ *Abr JBoyce-Tillman/wb*