



Birkenhead / Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Worship@Home Sunday 13th September 2020
Meeting by Zoom Saints A & A

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.*



"When we work with love we renew the spirit; that renewal is an act of self-love, it nurtures our growth." - bell hooks

How do you renew your spirit through acts of love?

9:30am Gathering song:

- For I am building a people of power
- Be still for the presence of the Lord

***September to October is a celebration
and reflection on creation***



SEASON OF CREATION



Welcoming Space

We invite the country to worship with us:
**Wild flowers and mysterious mushrooms,
 swirling grasses and golden kowhai.**

We invite the farmlands to sing with us:
**Wheat fields, orchards and vineyards,
 kauri, gardens and wetlands.**

We join with all the fauna in praising God:
**kiwi, kereru and kiori,
 kakapo, pīwakawaka and takahē.**

We invite the ground to stir deep below:
**life-giving microbes restoring the soil,
 beetles and worms preparing our food.**
 We celebrate the song of the soil!
Sing, soil, sing!ⁱ

We gather in the name of the Triune God,
 Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth and all its creatures!
 Praise be to the Holy Trinity!

God is sound and life,
 Creator of the Universe,
 Source of all life,

whom the angels sing;
 wondrous Light of all mysteries
 known or unknown to humankind,
 and life that lives in all.
(Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century)



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

while greeting one another with **Haere Mai, Aere mai, hwan-yeong,
 Fakaalofa lahi atu, Afio mai, Ulu tonu mai, Talofa Lava, Foon Ying, Selamat
 Datang, Vitajte, Welkom, Welcome**

Forgiveness: Margaret Larsen

You are invited ... to confess (based on Leviticus 25:1-25)

We praise you God, for the Earth that sustains life. Through the planetary cycles of days and seasons, renewal and growth, you open your hand to give all creatures our food in the proper time. In your Wisdom you gave a Sabbath for the land to rest. But these days our living pushes the planet beyond its limits. Our demand for growth, and an endless cycle of production and consumption are exhausting our world. The forests are leached, the topsoil erodes, the fields fail, the deserts advance, the seas acidify, the storms intensify. Humans and animals are forced to flee in search of security. We have not allowed the land to observe a Sabbath, and the Earth is struggling to renew. And so we confess. God of mercy and justice,

You tell us the land must rest, free from the burden of production.

We confess our demand that the earth produce beyond its limits, and our bondage to desire more.

You call us to pause from sowing, pruning, and reaping in ways that destroy the soil.

We confess our vicious consumption of food and energy.

You assure us that we can be filled from the yield of the land.

We confess our lack of trust that we can thrive within the Earth's limits.

You affirm that our security is found in enough.

We confess our lack of courage to resist the myth of endless growth.

You tell us that the land must not be sold permanently, because the land is Yours, and everything in it.

We confess to thinking of creation as given, instead of a gift.

You call us to leave enough fruit on the vine and in the fields to feed our neighbours, animals, and replenish the earth.

We confess our failure to share what we receive from the earth.

You call us to fairness and justice.

We confess our lack of faith, not loving you with our whole heart and strength and mind, or our human and non-human neighbours as ourselves.

Turn us from fear and mistrust,

and free us to imagine a life reconciled to the Earth and all creatures, through the Good News of Jesus the Christ, in whose name we pray.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God (Romans 8:26–27).
Amen, Amen, Amen.

Singing: Here I am Lord

Readings: Exodus 16:2-15
 Matthew 18:21-35

COVID-19 - message

Reflections on life with COVID-19 – other parts of the world

Reflective song: Robyn Ellen-Goudge

Our Prayers for others:

The 'Abba' Prayer:

You are invited to pray in the spirit of the Abba/Lord's Prayer.

God - heart of the world:

revealed through every aspect of creation:

understood through our awareness.

May we honour the holiness of creation and act accordingly

so that your love is reflected in the way we live.

**May we always be thankful for the food we eat
 and the friends we have.**

**May we forgive those who transgress against us
 and be forgiven for our own.**

In the freedom of love may we live as your heartbeat

and not be compromised by hesitation.

Through our freedom, may your justice

be seen and heard and experienced

forever and ever. Amen.ⁱⁱ

Blessing: Friends

NOTICES –

Birthdays and anniversaries

Significant events

Greetings to one another

This week following our service those who want to join in ‘Making A Joyful Noise’ will be meeting with Rev. Robyn Ellen-Goudge on ZOOM. You will be put into a CHAT-ROOM.

Following the singing and blessing you are welcome to sign off or as has been happening the last couple of times a number of folks have just stayed on and chatted ... Just like on Sunday some have to get go and others stay.

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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THE SPIRITUALITY OF MUSIC NIGHT

Josh Jones & The Secret Chords

ALBANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

539 Albany Highway

Saturday 10th October

7.30 pm

A celebration & exploration
of the power of music
to transcend barriers of language,
culture, age & race.

Featuring music by the Beatles, Dylan, Coldplay
Leonard Cohen, U2 & self composed songs

Entry by koha - includes refreshments

ⁱ (Adapted. Norman Habel/soc

ⁱⁱ (Sherri J Weinberg)