



# SAINTS A & A A New Church Emerging



Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Birkenhead

**Eucharist Service @ St Andrews**  
**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 9:30am**

**Welcome and settling in ...** *This morning we gather face to face and for those who choose ZOOM you can, details at the bottom.*

*"A blank piece of paper is God's way of telling us how hard it is to be God."*

— Sidney Sheldon



*What helps to jump start your creative process?*

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

*The gong is sounded three times*

**Gathering sing:** Sing for God's Glory

***Celebrating the inclusive community:***

God's presence fills this place of gathering.

The whole earth is full of God's glory.

So let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life.

**Haere Mai, Aere mai, Hwan-Yeong, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Afio mai, Ulu tonu mai, Talofa Lava, Foon Ying, Selamat Datang, Vitajte, Bula, Welkom, Welcome**

*The Community Candle is lit*

For gathering today in this sacred space,  
we light the flame.

**For ourselves, for those named or  
remembered, in solidarity with those  
who have not the freedom to express  
their concern or celebration for fear of  
discrimination or condemnation.**

**In lighting candles we do so in all our joys and in all our  
concerns, ever mindful of the presentness of the sacred among us,  
seeing new possibilities of the now. Amene.**



**Story for the young at heart –**

**Singing:** Filled with the Spirits power

**Reading:** Matthew 5:1-12

### **Centering Silence**

*Centering silence has its roots in the earliest of monastic traditions of the 'desert Fathers (abbas)/Mothers (ammas)' and the Christian mystic tradition... Relaxing into 'quietness' creates the space for deep listening and draws you into yourself*

Let us listen to the silence of this sacred space...

*(Silence)*

We live at mystery's edge,  
Watching for a startling luminescence  
Or a word to guide us.

*(Silence)*

Daily, there are glimmers,  
Reflections of a seamless mercy  
Revealed in common intricacies.

*(Silence)*

These circles of grace  
Spill out around us  
And announce that we are a part of that mystery.<sup>i</sup>

*(Silence)*

## Reflecting -

### It Matters What We Believe

Some beliefs are like walled gardens.

They encourage exclusiveness,  
and the feeling of being especially privileged.

Women: **Other beliefs are expansive and lead the way  
into wider and deeper sympathies.**

Some beliefs are like shadows,  
clouding children's days and fears of unknown calamities.

Men: **Other beliefs are like sunshine,  
blessing children with the warmth of happiness.**

Some beliefs are divisive, separating  
saved from unsaved, friends from enemies.

**Other beliefs are bonds in a world community,  
where sincere differences beautify the pattern.**

Some beliefs are like blinders, shutting off the power  
to choose one's own direction.

Men: **Other beliefs are like gateways  
opening wide vistas for exploration.**

Some beliefs weaken a person's selfhood.  
They blight the growth of resourcefulness.

Women: **Other beliefs nurture self-confidence  
and enrich the feeling of personal worth.**

Some beliefs are rigid, like the body of death,  
impotent in a changing world.

**Other beliefs are pliable, like the young sapling,  
ever growing with the upward thrust of life.<sup>ii</sup>**

Jesus forgives us and calls us to new relationships with God and with each other.

Let us share the peace of Christ with those around us in the pews.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Singing/Offertory:** I sing the song of the Saints of

**“Doxology”**

**From all that dwell below the skies;  
let songs of hope and faith arise;  
Let peace, good will on earth be sung  
through every land, by every tongue.**

**CELEBRATING COMMUNITY IN THE TRADITION OF THE MEAL**

For all the saints who went before us  
who have spoken to our hearts

**We express our thanks.**

For all the saints who live beside us

**We offer our gratitude.**

For all the saints who live beyond us,  
who challenge us to change the world with them

**We pledge our courage.<sup>iii</sup>**

**The Invitation**

Jesus invited all to the feast of peace and new life.  
Jesus risked everything in compassion.  
Jesus promised to make himself known in the breaking of the bread.

**Thanksgiving**

We give thanks for the wonderful gift of reflective awareness  
that allows us to recognise and name  
the presence of a Creative Spirit  
beyond all imagining, in our universe.  
**We give thanks. We pause in wonder.**

**Prayers for others:**

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

**Gracious Spirit,  
Who loves us like a mother,  
Whose realm is blooming among us now.  
And within.**

**We pray that your compassion guide us in every action.  
Give us what we need for each day,  
and help us to be satisfied with the miracle of that alone.**

**Forgiver, whose embrace brings us to wholeness without our asking,**

**May we reconcile ourselves to one another in humility.**

**And may we cancel the crushing debts that imprison our neighbours  
So that communities of joy and health may flourish.**

**May we neither profit from nor ignore evil.**

**But ever work to thwart it with non-violence**

**As we co-create the realm of peace in this world.**

**Now and each day. Amen.<sup>iv</sup>**

**Singing:** Let us break bread together with our Lord!

Everything we have

Everything we see

Everything we do

Everyone we love and everyone who loves us

reveals this sustaining Presence

and our total dependence.

We marvel and wonder at the size and complexity of our universe.

We marvel and wonder at the development of life on this planet.

We give thanks for the creative Presence

that 'energises' this life and all that exists.

We recognise that human life gives this Presence

a particular way of coming to expression,

and that in us the Presence can sing and dance,

speak and write,

love and create.

Conscious that we live, move, and have our being in this Presence,

we give thanks for people throughout history

who have affirmed this loving presence in all people.

Especially we give thanks for Jesus of Nazareth.

He loved so greatly and taught so clearly and courageously,

he was able to set people free

from images and ideas and religious practices

that bound them into fear

and a false sense of separation from the Spirit of all Life.

Through him we have learned  
 how our loving is a sharing in the life of this Spirit.  
 All In him we see this Presence urging all of us  
 to make its creativity on earth more visible.

We also remember the tradition around this meal...  
 How, on the night before he died  
 Jesus again shared a meal with his friends.  
 Through grain and grape, bread and wine,  
 and in fellowship together,  
 Jesus spoke of his enduring love for each of them.  
 So we take this bread and this wine  
 mindful of the Presence at work in our lives,

**In the ordinary, in the everyday,**  
**and in our desire to love as generously as Jesus loved.**

### **Bread and Wine**

*Bread broken. Wine poured out.*

Bread... the very stuff of life. Broken.

Wine... fruit of the vine. Cup full.

### **Communion**

*The Bread and the Wine served.*

### **Parting Words**

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

After the words, a quiet.  
 After the songs, a silence.  
 After the crowd only the memory recalls the gathering.

**Peace and justice have need of us**  
**after the words, the music,**  
**and the gathering.**

Holy Presence grant us the depth  
 for dedication to justice with compassion.

**Holy Presence grant us the will**  
**to be apostles of peace.**

**Singing:** Spirit God of all creation

## NOTICES –

**Birthdays and anniversaries**

**Significant events**

**Greetings to one another**

## Blessing Words

May the Creative Presence bless to us each sign of spring,  
each new green shoot,  
each lighter day,  
each warmer wind.

Devine Presence bless to us rebirth.

**Amene, May it be so.**

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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<sup>i</sup> (Kerri Wehlander/ssb)

<sup>ii</sup> (Sophia L Fahs/slt)

<sup>iii</sup> (Adapt. Janet Morley/bot)

<sup>iv</sup> (Bret Hesla/wsj)