



SAINTS A & A A New Church Emerging



Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

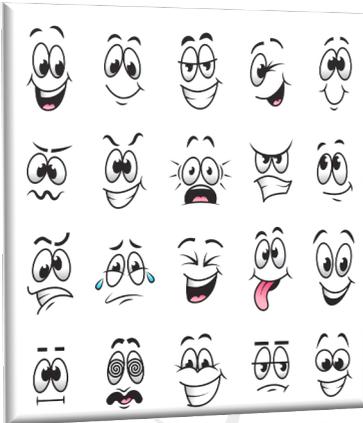
Birkenhead

Worship Service @ St Andrews



Sunday 8th 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.*



You are under no obligation to smile. You are also under no obligation not to smile. You are allowed to do whatever it is you want with your own face.

What expression is on your face right now?

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

9:30am The gong is sounded three times

Gathering songs:

- For I am building a people of power
- How great thou art
- Be still for the presence of the Lord

Celebrating the inclusive community:

A morning mist,
the gleam of a new day,
faintly we discern the possibilities
that are before us.

**Energy rising, plans turning to action,
we build our every yesterday
from the living of our days.**

May we live our hope into tomorrow.

**May we wrap our lives around
the challenges of today.**

And in the quiet of the sacred space,
may we listen at the centre of our being
for the truth of our inner voice
that sets before us the purpose of this day.

Creating God, extend our vision to perceive
that this is your world.

You are in it.

You pervade it.

You enfold it.

It is immersed in you.

Open our eyes to see in the depth of reality

To see that we dwell in you.

Amene. May it be so.

and 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: Dancing feet

Reading:

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Matthew 25:1-13

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Centering Silence

Let us be still for a few moments and co-create a space for more gratitude,
sensitive understanding,
soft human emotions.

(Silence)

We gather... all people, unique yet connected;
all people varied yet one.

Together we seek a balance between individual needs
and communal possibilities,
now in these moments and beyond.

(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.ⁱ

Singing/offertory: Cavalcade of Cultures

“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.

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.ⁱⁱ

Singing: The Lord is my Shepherd

NOTICES –

Birthdays and anniversaries

Significant events

Greetings to one another

Blessing Words

Continue to 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.

Amene, May it be so.

Blessing sung: May the Road Rise to Meet You

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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ⁱ *(Sophia L Fahs/slt)*

ⁱⁱ *(Bret Hesla/wsj)*