



SAINTS A & A A New Church Emerging



Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Birkenhead

Worship Service @ St Andrews
Sunday 13th 2020 9:30am



Welcome and settling in ...



The Third Sunday of Advent invites us to joy. The invitation to joy comes along with an invitation to participate in the co-creation of Joy.

What Joy to we want to bring to the world? How are you helping to make Joy a reality?

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

9:30am

Gathering songs:

- O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
- God Rest You Merry (Tidings of Comfort and Joy)
- Emmanuel



Celebrating the inclusive community.

The season of Advent challenges us
to see God's vision of what is yet to be,
to hear God's voice calling anew,
to smell the scent of God in our world.
God invites us to engage in ministry with her,
to share the good news of God's unconditional love.

What a joy it is to work with our God!

What a joy it is to share the good news!

Through the power of love,

R: *through the work of our hands,*

L: those who were hungry are filled.

Through the power of love,

R: *through the work of our hearts,*

L: through the power of love,

R: *through the work of our minds,*

L: those who were oppressed are freed.

We rejoice in God's amazing love.

We rejoice in the life-changing opportunities open to us.

Out of that joy, we offer our thanks and praise as we gather in this place.

May we be challenged.

May we be encouraged.

May we be empowered.

**So that we may continue to live as joyous partners
in creating a world filled with love
and ruled by justice. ⁱ**

In this special season, let us continue to 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

LIGHTING OUR ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Today we remember 75 years of Christian World Service's Christmas Appeals. We celebrate the work of our Aid Agency in spreading joy in our world.

Our Third Advent candle speaks to our hunger for joy, it speaks to our world's hunger for joy.

The people of Haiti have survived hurricanes and look to defeat Covid-19.



(Light the candle)

The candle represents that the future is full of joyful possibilities for a new way of living as we look to the future with joy.

We are hungry for joy.



Singing: Advent is here

Story for young and old: Margaret Larsen

Song with the children: Under Bethlehem's Star so Bright *(Czech Carol)*

Under Bethlehem's star so bright, Shepherds watched their flocks by night.

CHORUS: Hydom, hydom, tidlidom.
 Hydom, hydom, tidlidom.

1. Came an angel telling them / They must go to Bethlehem.
2. "Hurry, hurry," they did say, "Jesus Christ you'll find that way"
3. Sleeping in a manger bare / Lies the holy child so fair.

Reading: Psalm 130, John 1:1-8, 19-28 Helene

Message: Rev. John Bluck

Singing/offertory: The Stars Danced

Presentation

Love kindness, humbly walk with God
and, through compassion, trace
the person we are called to love
in each and every face. ⁱⁱ

Prayers for others: Helene

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

**O God, you love us like a good parent,
and are present in every aspect of our existence
May your nature become known and respected by all
May your joy, peace, wholeness and justice
be the reality for everyone
as we live by the Jesus Way**

**Give us all that we really need to live every day for you
And forgive us our failures as we forgive others for their failures
Keep us from doing those things which are not of you,
and cause us always to be centred on your love**

**For you are the true reality in this our now,
and in all our future.
In the Jesus Way we pray. Amen. ⁱⁱⁱ**

Singing: Joy to the World

notices/celebrations –

Parting Words

**Go now in joy and service –
Scattering like tiny seeds.
Trusting that you are in the right place.
Rooting in the Soil of Infinite Love.
Accepting the Invitation to emerge.
Breaking up the pavement of greed and exclusion.
And blooming in joyful bunches.
Amen, we are the irrepressible weeds of joy. Amen.**

Singing: Go with us Lord.



ⁱ (Adapt. Jessica Petersen/ct)

ⁱⁱ (Andrew Pratt/ea)

ⁱⁱⁱ (David Sorrill)