



SAINTS A & A A New Church Emerging

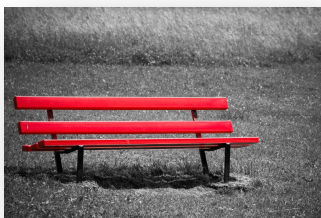


Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Birkenhead

**Worship Service @ St Andrews
Sunday 6th 2020 9:30am**



Welcome and settling in ...

Silence invites our bodies into stillness.
Stillness invites us to look inward and to listen
to the still, small, voice within us.

***What do you hear in your moments of
stillness?***

**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:

- Carol our Christmas
- Child in a manger
- Emmanuel

Celebrating the inclusive community.

Advent is about the birth of something sacred.
For something sacred needs to be born:
born from the mating of what is,
and what might be.
It needs a manger.



So let us prepare a manger in our hearts
for the birth of the sacred.ⁱ

A voice cries out in the wilderness,
“Prepare the way of our God.”

**We hear God’s voice and so we come
to proclaim God’s justice for all.**

A voice cries out in the wilderness,
“Prepare the way of our God.”

**We hear God’s voice and so we come
to announce peace to all our neighbours.**

A voice cries out in the wilderness,
“Prepare the way of our God.”

**We hear God’s voice and so we come
to live out God’s unconditional love.**

You cry out to us, O God,
calling us to come to you.

**Open our ears to hear your voice of love
that we might experience your unending grace
as we are gathered here today.**

**Open our ears to hear your voice of justice
that we might boldly work to realize your peace
throughout all creation.ⁱⁱ**

**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 its work for peace in our world.

Our Second Advent candle speaks to our hunger for
peace, it speaks to our world’s hunger for peace.

(Light the candle)

The candle represents that the future is full of peaceful
possibilities for a new way of living
as we dream of peace.

We are hungry for peace



When I was hungry

Support the 2020 Christmas Appeal to give hungry families good food and the basics of a sustainable life.

donate now
christmasappeal.org.nz

Christian World Service

Singing/offertory: Advent is here Hope / Peace.

Story for young and old:

Reading: Mark 1:2-3 with a prayer in-between Mark 13:33-37

Thoughts:

This communion ritual will have a different emphasis from the traditional one. Rather than remembering Jesus' death, we will use this meal as an opportunity to remember his life and teachings: his inclusion of outcasts and strangers, his insistence on abundance over scarcity, his call to generosity, and his challenge to systems of greed. In song, prayer, and shared food, let us celebrate the way of Jesus.

We are grateful for this time together. as we gather, lift the veil from our eyes, that we may know your presence among us and live as Jesus taught, finding abundance through joyful habits of sharing, generosity, justice, and hospitality.

Remembering the life of Jesus, sharing food is a natural, daily way to build community. As Jesus showed us, sharing food can also be a subversive act that challenges all systems that finds hunger acceptable. In this meal, we remember the witness of Jesus, who instructed his followers to clothe the naked and feed the hungry ... who showed the power of sharing over hoarding by the feeding of the five thousand ... who defied religious teaching by eating with outcasts and welcoming all to his table.

Prayers for others:

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

Blessing the food.

Everyone is welcome to be here. Open the doors call into the streets that the meal is prepared and all are welcome.

In this way, we lift up a world of inclusion, where all people live with respect and dignity.

With this bread everyone will receive a share.

In this way, we lift up a world of generosity, where, as in the examples of Jesus, abundance overcomes scarcity so that all are fed.

With this wine everyone is invited to share from the same juice of the vine.

In this way, we lift up a world of sufficiency, where entrenched systems of privilege are challenged, wealth is shared equally, and all are satisfied with enough.

Generous God, as we share food, both now and at home, may it sustain our firm belief in the transforming Spirit of nonviolence and love. May it remind us of Jesus' teachings and strengthen us as we journey toward your will of justice and peace.

Amen

Sharing the peace ...

Let us take a moment to celebrate each other.

May a heart of peace rest with you.

And also with you.

Singing: Now to your table spread

Sharing of bread and wine.

Please eat the bread in your own time being reminded of your own relationship with God and when taking the wine we will drink together acknowledging our shared relationship with our Creator.

We eat from the one loaf
We share one cup.



Responsive prayer.

Jesus taught us these truths:
The world is filled with good things:
May we share them equally.

Sufficiency is the key to abundant life:
help yourself and pass it along.

Food is the gift of the Generous Spirit:
thanks be to the Giver.

We eat from one loaf:
make room at the table.

Let us pray. Generous Spirit,
thank you for this food. A thank you for the pleasers of eating together. With this meal you have given us both strength and hunger: strength for our bodies, strength for our community, and hunger for a world of justice. May we taste these same gifts at every meal. Amen

Singing: Come now, Lord Jesus

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 peace. Amen.

Singing: Be with us Lord.

ⁱ (Davidson Loehr/First UU Church of Austin).

ⁱⁱ (Adapt. Jessica Perersen/ct)

ⁱⁱⁱ (David Sorrill)