

Today we celebrate, honour and mourn
 the role and place of women in this world.
 The strength and colour of women,
 the fragrance and wholeness of women,
 the damaged and bleeding women,
 the relationships between women and men,
 the life of women and men we know and don't know.
 We come to God, who created women as well as men.

Lighting of the Community Candle

Dear Mother God, your wings are warm around us,
 We are enfolded in your love and care,
 Safe in the dark, your heartbeat's pulse surround us,
 You call to us, for you are always there.ⁱⁱⁱ

Time with the young-uns:

Singing: I have a loving heart

Readings:

Acts 10:44-48

John 15:9-17

“Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.”

Proverbs 31:10-31 (*Adapted and paraphrased*)

Who shall find a valiant woman?

Look! We are all around you...

unheralded,

invisible,

some say non-existent,

but we know otherwise.

She is in the work rooms of industry and on every functioning enterprise.

Broadminded, her global perspective is a source of nurture for her.

She rises early, before the dawn,

to prepare food for her family

and organise the tasks of the day...

contributing,

setting standards,
 changing the course of history.
 She considers her options, then makes her move,
 investing the experience she already has
 or even profits previously earned.
 She works diligently, taking pride in her inner resources and
 strengths.
 When her gifts are encouraged and their value affirmed,
 she will work well into the night,
 entering wholeheartedly into even the menial tasks...
 She opens her heart to the needy,
 she is generous with the poor,
 yet she does not neglect her family's needs
 nor priorities of her own...
 She often speaks with wisdom, and she teaches in a kindly way...
 Her children rise up and call her happy;
 her husband too, and he praises her:
 'Many women succeed or do outstanding things, but you surpass
 them all...'

Message:

Singing/offertory: For the beauty of the earth

Our Prayers for others:

Singing the Lord's prayer:

NOTICES –

Birthdays and anniversaries

Significant events

Greetings to one another

Parting Words

I set the keeping of Christ about you.
 I send the guarding of God with you
 to possess you,
 to protect you,
 to accompany you on all your paths,
 through trouble,

through danger,
 through loss.
 And I set the dancing of the Spirit around you,
 each day, each night,
 each night, each day.^{iv}
Amen. May it be so.

Singing: May the road rise up

New Emerging Church

- Mission Vision

We aspire to be an active and innovative Christian community that provides leadership and builds partnerships in our fast-changing world.

- Values

We will:

- **be innovative in our approach to life and worship**
- **demonstrate our willingness to share life experiences and spiritual awareness, promoting the teaching and practice of Jesus**
- **seek out opportunities to promote inclusiveness, interfaith awareness and collaboration, especially through partnerships with local community organisations**
- **be visible in the community as we live our values**

- Naming – **Onewa Christian Community**
- Future Church Worship Location and Facilities:

What is NEXT

- We Need to ask Presbytery to approve these changes
 - to do this we need a Congregational meeting
 - Then Presbytery will also require a congregational meeting

Then we can celebrate

ⁱ Keri Wehlander/sosob

ⁱⁱ (Gretta Vosper/hb)

ⁱⁱⁱ (Janet Wootton/cw) Hymn/Song "Dear Mother God" (Tune: 'Intercessor')

^{iv} (Kate McIlhagga/ghs)