



# Onewa Christian Community

**Communion Service @ St Andrews**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021 10am**



“Life is not a problem to be solved, but a mystery to be experienced”  
*Joseph Campbell*



We can recognise discomfort as a sign of growth. We can recognise discomfort as a sign that we are being asked to do something new. For those of us who move through the world with some measure of privilege, we can recognize discomfort as a necessary step to centring the needs of the marginalized.

*How do you need to learn to live with your discomfort so that others' needs are centred?*

**Celebrating and opening the community**

**The inclusive community**

**Gathering singing:**

- Saviour I heard your voice gently say
- Loaves and Fishes

**Community Candle**

**Prayer:**

Gathered in this sacred place, may we feel ourselves as integral parts of God's continuing growth of meaning throughout the universe.

A kinship to all that is.

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



**Welcome -**

Now let silence gently enfold us.

*(Silence)*

Breathe deeply... unclench your hands  
and let your shoulders and neck relax.

*(Silence)*

Today is the beginning of the rest of our lives  
and the world awaits the emerging wonders  
we are and will yet be.

*(Silence)*

Deep peace to you all.

**Readings:**

- 1st Kings 19:11-18
- John 6:24-35

**Message**

**Singing/ Offering** – Let there be peace on earth

**Eucharist**

Through these gifts we offer our thanks:

for all we have,

for all we are.

Especially the gift of our lives.

**God of fresh bread and new wine,  
we sense your presentness among us  
in grace-filled moments of sharing,  
in carefully created communities of loving solidarity,  
in holy times of birthing new life amid all the suffering.**

We delight in the moving of your steadfast Spirit  
demanding that we find water for the thirsty,  
demanding that we prepare meals  
for all who hunger, and  
encouraging us to welcome all in our midst.

As we share this meal  
 may we be nourished by the dangerous memory  
 of Jesus and his friends,  
 who dared to feed those no one else would feed,  
 who included the 'sinners' that society shunned and oppressed,  
 who drew healing energy out of people past hope of healing,  
 who heard the cries of people dried up and desperate,  
 and nourished them with living water,  
 and life-giving bread.

This daring community uplifted the  
 power of justice and righteousness.

**This daring community embraced those who were  
 searching, longing, and aching for acceptance and love.**

**Our tradition says...**

**On the night that Jesus was betrayed for his dreaming and daring and  
 healing, and according to the rules of hospitality and meal customs...**

Jesus took bread, gave thanks  
 and looking at his friends passed the bread to them.  
 And all of them ate from it.

**The bread symbolised human lives  
 interconnected with other human lives,  
 and the power of giving and receiving.**

Then Jesus took a cup of wine and after giving thanks,  
 he passed the cup to his friends.  
 And all of them drank from it.

**Passing the peace**

**Communion song – Take our bread**

Holy One, we remember the death and life of Jesus,  
 and the many committed faithful people then and now,  
 who have kept alive the dangerous memories of  
 fresh bread,  
 new wine, and  
 living water,  
 prepared, and shared and blessed, for all.

**May our lives give birth  
to your healing power in us and among us,  
that turns water into wine,  
bare tables into feast,  
outsiders into beloved friends.**

Together may we make all things new.

**Together may we make your presence real in and around us.**

**This is the Bread of compassion and hope.**

*Bread broken*

This is the Cup of blessing and of new life.

*White wine poured*

These the signs of love for the community of hope.

Let us share this meal together.

### **Communion**

*The Bread and White wine served*

Divine Presence in all of life we give thanks  
for the gift of love that reaches into our hearts,  
for the refreshment of this food that renews us,  
for the memories of Jesus and his passion for justice and truth.

**May we be awakened to live faithfully and boldly,  
with deep compassion and integrity.<sup>1</sup>**

**Singing:** Everyday I will offer you

**Notices:**

**Blessing:**

As the sun in its shining brings glory  
As the stars in the night scatter dark  
As the moon gives us hope in its radiance  
So may the light of God  
fill your heart  
and your mind  
and your life.  
**Amen! May it be so!**

## Onewa Christian Community

- Mission
  - **We aspire to be an active and innovative Christian community that provides leadership and builds partnerships in our fast-changing world.**
- Vision
  - 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**
- Values
  - **Community** – We focus on people, personal connection and treating everyone with respect in practical ways ('manaakitanga').
  - **Diversity and inclusion** - We want to reflect and support the community around us through diversity and inclusion.
  - **Open heart / open mind** - We make space for personal and spiritual growth. We promote real and meaningful connection with others.
  - **A living faith** - Active faith begins at the point where certainty ends. A living faith involves faith in oneself, faith in others, faith in the future and faith in God.

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<sup>i</sup> (Adapt/ Carter Heyward)