



Onewa Christian Community



Gathering on Zoom

Sunday 12th September 2021

Come and join in any time after 9:30am for a 10am Start

Onewa Christian Community is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.



A bouquet of flowers offered in love or friendship is no less valued because it will soon wither. In fact, the beauty of spring only grows as years of experience teach us that it cannot last.

What do you love all the more because you know you can't keep it forever?

(this arrangement of flowers is from Robin Baxter. Robin is also responsible for the flower arrangements each Sunday at our Church. Thanks Robin)

Welcome

Today we are into the 2nd Sunday of the Season of Creation, **wisdom from our home planet.**

Fountain of life...

Pulse of life...

Breath of life...

Earth is filled with the presentness of God.

A planet filled with the presence of God
a living green blue planet,
peoples from every corner of creation,

**the vast reaches of space above us,
and the rocks and hills and wonders of the wild.**

Together this day,
let us sense the face of God in all creativity.

We sing together: Spring Song – Come to our Land

Gathering Words

We are born to make manifest
the glory of the Sacred that is within us.
It's not just in some of us;
The Sacred is in everyone
in everything,

lighting of our community candles

And as we let our own light shine,
we unconsciously give other people
permission to do the same.
As we are liberated from our own fear,
our presence automatically liberates others.¹

**Haere Mai, Aere mai, Hwan-Yeong, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Afio mai, Ulu
tonu mai, Talofa Lava, Foon Ying, Selamat Datang, Vitajte, Bula,
Welkom, hoki mai, welcome to our gathering.**

Creativity God, whose renewing breath fills our planet,
may we discern your vibrant presence among us.
And may our spirits be lifted
as we celebrate the kinship between humanity
and the rest of creation, this day.

May it be so.

Singing with young hearts:

Confessions

Great Spirit of compassion and love, you have given humanity power beyond that of any other creature. But in our brokenness, we have often failed to be good stewards of that which you have given into our care. You have shown us your endless generosity and power in providing to us the many resources of the Earth. But in our spiritual blindness we experience fear and insecurity in the face of this abundance. We struggle to follow your ways of generosity and compassion, but we often lose our way, falling into the sins of greed, gluttony, arrogance, wastefulness, tribalism, racism, classism, nationalism, and other forms of bigotry, deceit, theft, neglect, pollution, wanton destruction, even murder and war – all out of blindness and fear. We forget that the world is yours, and there is more than enough for all.

We neglect the poor, the sick, the old, the dying, the oppressed, the imprisoned – or we allow those in power to neglect them without raising our voices. And we allow the continued abuse of your natural world in order to serve our unholy appetite for ever more acquisition and consumption. We look upon our failures and our brokenness and regret them. We repent and resolve to take up again our task of caring for your world and all its creatures, including our fellow human beings.

*In the name of Jesus the Christ, who has shown us the way of justice and compassion, look upon us kindly and forgive us. Crack open our hearts, O God, and fill them with your spirit, that we may become the incarnation of your compassion in the world. **Amen.***

Random acts of kindness – the passing of the peace

Kia tau tonu te Rangimarie o te Ariki ki a koutou

The peace of Christ be always with you

And also with you

You are invited to share the peace in breakout rooms.

Readings.

- Made from this Earth, By Susan Griffin.
- Mark 8:27-29, 31-36
“Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.”

What have you been thinking – some thoughts

Singing – God make me a channel of your peace

Offertory Prayer

**By our smallest actions,
 we become part of a bigger world.
 The smallest giving can be an expression
 of the good spirit of generosity and caring.
 May we be helped to carry through the doorway
 of each new day, this good spirit
 of generosity and caring. (Francis Macnab/h)**

Parting Words

It is now come for us to leave this sacred time.
 As we do, may we embrace the challenges
 of our lives and our world...
 Hold again the fragrant symbol in your hands
 and go forth to serve.

Will you care for Planet Earth?
We will remember our planet home!
We will nurture our planet!
We will celebrate life!

Sung Benediction. Friends**ZOOM DETAILS**

Onewa Christian Community – ZOOM worship

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81451789516?pwd=UWkwVVV4RUhrbnFabmdDOTNKS0Fvdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5178 9516

Passcode: 518373

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.

ⁱ (Adapt.Marianne Williamson/ep)