

**GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH  
WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S GISBORNE**

*Matawhero Church – Church Lane  
St Andrew's Church and Community Centre:  
176 Cobden Street, Gisborne*

*13 December 2020*

*Advent 3*

*Communion*



**Ministers:** *All the people in Christ*    **Minister:** *Rev Jin Sook Kim*

**Reader:** *Cathy Porter*

**Organist:** *A person/s*    **Director of Music:** *Catherine Macdonald*

*We gather together as the people of God*

***Welcome & Notices***

*We take a few moments of silence to prepare ourselves to worship God*

*The Bible, representing the Light of Christ among us, will  
be carried into the Church during the singing of the Introit.*

*Please remain seated during the singing.*

***Introit*** – Hope is a candle, Music © Douglas Galbraith, CH 4#284,  
verses 1-3

Hope is a candle, once lit by the prophets,  
never consumed, though it burns through the years;  
dim in the daylight of power and privilege –  
when they are gone, hope will shine on.

Peace is a candle to show us a pathway,  
threatened by gusts from our rage and our greed.  
Friend, feel no envy for those in the shadows –  
violence and force their dead-end course.

Love is a candle whose light makes a circle,  
where every face is the face of a friend.  
Widen the circle by sharing and giving –  
God's holy dare: love everywhere.

### *Call to Worship*

Come, continue on the journey. It is not far now.

**But where are we going?**

God is welcoming us to God's kingdom.

**Can we see it from here?**

We see it in the faces of those who know of God's love.

**Will that same love be given to us?**

It already has been given, and his name is Jesus!

He is God's beloved Son, our Light and Hope.

**Quickly, let us journey toward his light. AMEN.**

### *Lighting the Advent candle of Love*

[After each successive lighting]

The Lord says to his servant,

“It is to light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,

That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

*(light the candle)*

*We sing* – God, whose almighty word, Harmonisation © Oxford University Press, CH4#112, verses 1-4

**God, whose almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight; hear us,  
we humbly pray,  
and, where the gospel-day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.**

**Saviour, who came to bring,  
on your redeeming wing,  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
now to all humankind  
let there be light.**

**Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving, holy dove,  
Speed forth your flight;  
move o'er the waters' face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.**

**Blessed and holy Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might,  
boundless as ocean's tide  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the world far and wide  
let there be light.**

*Prayer of praise and confession*

*Words of Assurance*

Fear not, for our creator is the loving maker  
of every thought and thing...In the name of Jesus, who is the Christ,  
you are forgiven.

**In the name of Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

*Storytime* – Good news bad news by Jeff Mack



Question: what is the good news for you in this story?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmb8jbAm19w>

*We sing* – O Little town of Bethlehem, CH4 #304 vv 1-4

**O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above the deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in the dark street shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.**

**O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary;  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.**

**How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.**

**O Holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.**

*Readings:*

**First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

*Cathy Porter*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church  
**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel reading: John 1:6-8, 19-28**

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
**Praise to Christ the Word**

*Sermon* – Good news to all!

(We will have reflection on the message while listening to the Choir)

*Anthem* – God was in Christ, Music © Colin Gibson, Words © Shirley Erena Murray, *Hope is Our Song*, #49, verses 1-2 and 5

God was in Christ  
and in that frame,  
a human child,  
God truly came.

In us is held  
all that God is –  
the will to good,  
the well of peace,

God is in us,  
by love conceived,  
in struggle born,  
in faith believed.

*Prayers of Intercession*

*Offering*

*Offering prayer* (altogether)

**Lord, you have blessed our lives in so many ways. Receive these tokens of our blessings and cause them to work in this world which you have loaned to us to make light shine in the darkness and peace an attainable goal in all conflicts. We offer these gifts in Jesus' name. AMEN.**

*We sing* - Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, CH4 #662, verses 1-4

**Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts,  
Thou light of life, thou fount of grace;  
from the best bliss that earth imparts  
we turn unfilled to seek thy face.**

**Thy truth unchanged has ever stood;  
thou savest those that on thee call:  
to those that seek thee thou art good,  
to those that find thee, all in all.**

**We taste thee, O thou living Bread,  
and long to feast upon thee still;  
we drink of thee, the fountain-head,  
and thirst our souls from thee to fill.**

**Our restless spirits yearn for thee,  
where'er our changeful lot is cast, -  
glad when thy gracious smile we see,  
blest when our faith can hold thee fast.**

**O Jesus, ever with us stay;  
make all our moments calm and bright;  
chase the dark night of sin away;  
shed o'er the world thy holy light.**

**[Communion]**

**Invitation to Communion**

Come to the table of peace.  
Come to the table of love.  
Come to the table of joy.  
Come to the table of power.  
Come to the table of Christ.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

You are worthy of all our praise, O God, for you are the source of all good power.

By your power,

**Heaven and earth were formed.**

By your power,

**You created us and gave us life.**

By your power,

**We are guided and protected.**

By your power,



**Jesus Christ triumphed over the grave.**

By your power,

**The Holy Spirit comes to sustain and care for us.**

And so, in praise and gratitude, we join the generations of the faithful in singing your praise.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

The tradition comes down to us from the Lord is that on the night when he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and having blessed it, he broke it, and giving it to his disciples, said:

“Take, eat. This is my body which is broken for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way he took wine and having given thanks for it, he poured it out, and gave the cup to his disciples, saying,

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again.**

When Jesus ascended into heaven, he promised his followers a baptism with the Holy Spirit,

A power from on high. Clothe us in this Spirit, that we might share a common ministry of service to the world.

By your power,

**Fill our voices with stories of your grace.**

By your power,

**Strengthen our hands for the work of your mercy.**

By your power,

**Transform us into your representatives of your love.**

Acknowledging our weakness and failure in prayer, we pray as our Lord teaches us to pray, saying...

**Our Father in heaven,...**

**Glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

The body of Christ broken for the life of the world.

The cup of the new covenant given for the life of the world.

*Distribution*

*Prayer after communion*

*The peace*

The peace of Christ be with you all

**And also with you**

(We exchange a sign of peace each other)

*We sing* – The advent of our God, Arrangement © Australian Hymn Book Co., *WOV* #198, verses 1-3 and 6

**The advent of our God  
with eager prayers we greet,  
and singing haste upon his road  
his coming reign to meet.**

**The everlasting Son  
was born to make us free;  
and he a servant's form put on  
to gain our liberty.**

**Daughter of Sion, rise  
to meet your lowly king;  
nor let your stubborn heart despise  
the peace he comes to bring.**

**Praise to the incarnate Son  
who comes to set us free,  
with Father, Spirit, ever one,  
to all eternity.**

*Sending*

*Benediction (Together)*

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
Be with us all now and forever.**

*Sing: AMEN x 3 CH4 #819*

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Sunday	Reader	Door & Team	Morning Tea	Sound Visual
December 13 <i>communion</i>	Cathy Porter	<b><u>Pat Smith</u></b> Dianne Burrows Joan McKay	Val McGreevy Trish Kwak	S: Peter Cowley V: Linda Savage
December 20	Lynnor Cooke	<b><u>Jenny Lawton</u></b> Peter Lawton, Jean Hillyard	Marilyn Matthews Wendy Morris	S: Hans Kwak V: Colin Matthews

## DIARY

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Combined Evening Service Carols &amp; Readings St Andrew's</b>
Monday	14	9.00am	Walking Group
		9.30am	Matawhero Gardening
Tuesday	15		Open Door Lunch
Wednesday	16	9.45am	mainly music – last one
Wednesday	16	12.30pm	Korero me kai St Andrew's
		<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Finance Committee Meeting</b>
		4.30pm	Advent Study 3 – <i>Love</i> -
Thursday	17	3.30pm	Dunblane service
		<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>
Friday	18	1.00pm	Choir practise
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Matawhero worship service</b>
		<b>10.30am</b>	<b>St Andrew's Worship</b>
		<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Carols at Dunblane – all welcome</b>

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**FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 10.30AM** Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85713096342>

Meeting ID: 857 1309 6342    Passcode: 416954

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**\*\*THIS EVENING \*\*7pm Sunday December 13th**



Interdenominational Lessons and Carols St Andrew's  
please bring a plate for shared supper

### **ADVENT STUDIES IN LOUNGE**

Advent Study 3 – **LOVE** on Wednesday 16 Dec 4.30 -5.30pm

Advent Study 4 – **JOY** on Wednesday 23 Dec 4.30 – 5.30pm