

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

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

24 December 2020

Christmas Eve

Candle light service at St Andrew's church at 11:30 pm



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

Reader: *Gwenda Crawshaw*

Organist: *Belinda Behle* **Director of Music:** *Catherine Macdonald*

Call to Worship

(After a health and safety notice is given, the Choir will begin to sing Star-Child. The congregation will join from verse 3-5.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, Music: Carlton R. Young, Words and Music © 1994 Hope Publishing Company vv 1-5.)

(The worship leader lights the first candle of hope)

1. Star-Child, earth-Child, go between of God,
love Child, Christ Child, Heaven's lightning rod,
This year, this year, let the day arrive
when Christmas comes for everyone,
everyone alive!

Come, Lord Jesus, Come.
Come into our hearts today.

(A person lights the 2nd candle of peace)

2. Street child, beat child, no place left to go,
hurt child, used child, no one wants to know.
This year, this year, let the day arrive
when Christmas comes to everyone, everyone alive!

Open our hearts today, Lord Jesus.
Help us to receive you.

(A person lights the 3rd candle of Love)

**3. Grown child, old child, memory full of years,
sad child, lost child, story told in tears,
This year, this year, let the day arrive
when Christmas Comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

Help us to reach out to each other, Lord Jesus
Illuminate our path this night.

(A person lights the 4th candle of Joy)

**4. Spared Child, spoiled child, having, wanting more,
wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store,
This year, this year, let the day arrive
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

Remind us of the needs of the world, Lord Jesus.
Help us to witness to your Light by serving others.

**5. Hope for peace Child, God's stupendous sign,
Down to earth child, Star of stars that shine:
This year, this year let the day arrive
When Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

Prayer of Praise and confession

Words of Assurance

The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-5

Gwenda Crawshaw

We sing – O little town of Bethlehem, Music: English traditional melody, Harmonised: Ralph Vaughan Williams 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.**

Jesus is Born

Luke 2:6-7

We sing - Away in a Manger, Music: Melody by William James Kirkpatrick, *Around the World with Christmas*, 1895, CH4#312, vv 1-3

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes,
I love you, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

*(As the congregation sings, A person lights the Christ candle.
All the lights will be turned on)*

Jesus' Birth is Announced to the Shepherds

Luke 2:9-14

We sing – Silent night, Author: Joseph Mohr, Translator:
Jane M Campbell, TUNE: STILL NACHT

*(While the congregation sings, two people come forward to light their
candles from the Christ candle. Then the light will be passed on to the
next person onwards)*

**Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child;
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight:
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ, the Saviour is born!
Christ, the Saviour is born!**

**Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

Reflection

Response to the Word

A child has been born to us.

Glory to God in the highest heaven!

A Saviour has been given to us.

Glory to God in the highest heaven!

The grace of God has appeared in human form.

Glory to God in the highest heaven!

Salvation has come to all the earth.

Glory to God in the highest heaven!

Passing the Peace of Christ

As you greet those around you, offer these words:

“Hear the good news!”

Respond in kind:

“A Saviour is born!”

We sing – Joy to the World, *CH4 # 320*, vv 1-3

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!

Let all their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
 And makes the nations prove
 The glories of his righteousness
 And wonders of his love,
 And wonders of his love,
 And wonders, wonders of his love.**

Benediction

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday	25	9.00am	Christmas Day Service No Service at Matawhero
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****Revd Jin Sook Kim will be on leave until 16th January****

****The office is closed until 18th January****

Sunday	27	10.30am	St Andrew's Celebration Service (<i>Lynnor Cooke</i>)
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JANUARY 2021

Sunday	3	10.30am	Combined Service & picnic at Matawhero (<i>Alvin Hall</i>)
Monday	4	9.00am	Walking group
Tuesday	5	10.00am	Open Door at 109 Ormond Road
Saturday	9	8.00am	Car Boot Sale
Sunday	10	10.30am	St Andrew's Service (<i>Val Hall</i>)
Sunday	17	10.30am	Combined St Andrew's Communion Service No Service at Matawhero