

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

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

*28 November, 2021*

*Advent 1*

*Celebration Sunday*



**Ministers:** *All the people in Christ*    **Minister:** *Rev Jin Sook Kim*  
**Reader:** *Jill Wallis*  
**Director of Music:** *Catherine Macdonald*

*We gather together as the people of God  
Kia Ora, Talofa, Bulla, Shalom and Annyeong-haseyo*

***Greetings with news and notices***

***Call to Worship***

People of faith, prepare for the coming reign of Christ!

**As we gather to pray and sing and listen,  
a spirit of anticipation and hope fills us.**

The days are surely coming, says Our God,  
when justice and righteousness will prevail.

**May our worship illuminate our hearts and minds,  
freeing us to respond joyfully  
to God's call in the days to come.**

***We sing*** - Come now Lord Jesus (CB #10, vv1-5)

***Advent candle lighting***

The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language – the *coming* of Christ – because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ *is* coming. Christ is always coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so we light the first candle, the candle of hope, and dare to express our longing for peace, for healing, and the well-being of all creation.

*(The First candle is lit.)*

***We sing*** – CH4 #284, v1

**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**

***Prayers***

***Celebration Time***

***Celebration song***

***Story***

***Activities*** Making Christmas cookies

***We sing*** – Light of lights beholden (CB #55, vv1-2)

***Gospel Reading*** – Jill Wallis

Luke 21:25-36

**Reflection**

***Offering***

***We sing*** - O Come, O come, (CB #33, vv1-5)

***Sending***

Take time, in the busyness of this season, for quiet reflection – For the light of God’s love is discernible everywhere.

The good news of Advent is this: Christ is coming. Christ is always coming.

***THREE FOLD-AMEN***