



As followers of Christ, we wait with hope for his return.

Let us pray -

Loving God, we thank you for the hope you give us.

Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by being open seeing to the light of Christ in others. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*We light the 1st (HOPE) candle and sing (Tune: "Sussex Carol")*

O come, God's Son, into our night

And let your HOPE shine clear and bright *(repeat)*

CHORUS: *Glory to God,*

*on Earth, be peace*

*Goodwill to all shall never cease.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

And now we come seeking forgiveness for the times when we are slow learners, lukewarm believers, yet skilled excuse-makers, let us pause, take stock, and confess our sins.

*Silence*

For the times we have busied ourselves religiously, as if the success of God's kingdom depended solely on us: Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy

For the times we opt out, and with a perverse piety we leave everything up to God and the holy angels: Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Because your mercy is over all your works, and your grace is greater than our pride, foolishness and weakness: Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy

Have pity, loving God, on our little lives and our errant ways.

Forgive our sins which are many and diverse,

correct the distorted view we have of ourselves and the world,

lead us from discouragement to hope,

and restore within us a passion to seek your will and do it.

Through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

*Silence*

PRIEST: Through the cross of Christ, God have mercy on you,  
pardon you, and set you free.  
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.  
God strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in life eternal.

**Thanks be to Christ our Hope.**

### **COLLECT for ADVENT SUNDAY**

**Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness,  
and put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility;  
that in the last day, when he shall come again  
in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **1<sup>ST</sup> LESSON: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**

*Jer 33:14-16: God promises to raise up a descendant of David to reign over God's people and to bring goodness, rightness, justice, and security to Israel and Judah.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 25:1-9:** *A prayer for God's compassion and forgiveness, for God to lead us in God's truth. For God guides the weak to justice and leads those who keep God's covenant in paths of love and faithfulness.*

1. To you, Lord, I lift up my soul, my God, I have put my trust in you:  
**let me not be disappointed,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
2. For all those who hope in you shall not be ashamed:  
**but only those who wantonly break faith.**
3. Make known to me your ways, O Lord:  
**and teach me your paths.**
4. Lead me in the way of your truth and teach me:  
**you are God my saviour,  
for you have I waited all the day long.**
5. Call to remembrance, O Lord, your tender care:  
**and the unfailing love which you have shown from of old.**

6. Do not remember the sins and offences of my youth:  
but according to your mercy,  
remember me, Lord, in your goodness.
7. You O Lord are upright and good:  
therefore you show the path to those who go astray.
8. You guide the humble to do what is right:  
and those who are gentle you teach your way.
9. All your ways are loving and sure:  
to those who keep your covenant and your commandments.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> LESSON: A reading from the 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to the Thessalonians**

*3:9-13: The apostle gives thanks for the Thessalonian church, praying to see them and that they may grow in love, and have strong and holy hearts when Jesus comes.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

**Thanks be to God**

### **67 BE STILL FOR THE PRESENCE** - David Evans © 1986 Thank You Music ccli

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Come bow before him now, with reverence and fear.

In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.

Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.

How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!

Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.

No work too hard for him, in faith, receive from him.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Luke**

#### **Praise and glory to God!**

*21:25-36: Jesus teaches the disciples to be watchful for the signs of the coming destruction, using the apocalyptic language of signs in the heavens, dismay among the nations, and unusual behaviour in the natural world. People will see the Son of Man coming on a cloud in splendour. So, disciples must be watchful, read the signs and keep their hearts faithful.*

This is the gospel of Christ

**Praise to Christ, the Word!**

**SERMON: The Rev Kim Parker**

*We stand for:*

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen THE

## **WE PRAY for the CHURCH and for the WORLD**

Lord, show us your way

**And teach us your paths**

Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory  
are yours now and forever. Amen**

**THE PEACE:** Kia tau tonu te rangimārie a te Ariki ki a koutou

The peace of Christ be always with you

**And also with you**

*We exchange a sign of peace*

## **OFFERTORY SONG: 259 HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED**

*- James Montgomery, 1771-1854*

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!

Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;  
to save the poor and needy, and help the weak grow strong;  
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;  
and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.  
Before him on the mountains, shall Peace, the herald, go,  
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

Kings shall bow down before him and gold and incense bring  
All nations shall adore him, his praise all peoples sing  
To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows attend  
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

## **WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE GIFTS**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (NZPB 512)

The Lord is here

**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

*We sit to pray*

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.

He is the one foretold by all the prophets,  
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.

John the Baptist was his herald  
and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ fills us with joy  
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,  
so that when he comes again he may find us  
watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your glory,  
and join in their unending hymn of 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.**

To you indeed be glory, almighty God,  
because on the night before he died,  
your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread.

When he had given you thanks,  
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
*“Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you;  
do this to remember me.”*

After supper he took the cup;  
when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said:  
*“This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you.  
Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.”*

And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen,  
Christ will come in glory!**

Therefore, loving God,  
recalling now Christ's death and resurrection,  
we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration,  
that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son  
and be filled with your life and goodness.

Strengthen us to do your work,  
and to be your body in the world.

Unite us in Christ and give us your peace.

All this we ask through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

**Amen**

*(the priest breaks the bread in silence)*

Christ's body was broken for us on the cross

**Christ is the bread of life**

His blood was shed for our forgiveness

**Christ is risen from the dead**

Come, God's people. Come to receive Christ's heavenly food

All are welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion or to request a blessing.



If you prefer gluten-free wafers, please come to the right-hand altar rail, and indicate by extending your left hand.

**PRAYER for HEALING** - members of the Order of St Luke the Physician will be in the Selwyn Chapel today and each 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, after Communion, to offer healing prayer with you. If you wish, you may receive the laying-on of hands and anointing with oil. This is a gentle, non-threatening ministry for you, or on behalf of others for whom you are praying - whether it be prayer for healing of body, mind, or spirit.



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of unveiled truth - faithful flame  
In times of darkened sun and waning moon  
Lift up our unknowing hearts  
And waken our sleeping love  
To announce the coming dawn of unexpected peace  
Through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen

## PĀNUI / NOTICES

**BLESSING:** Put off the works of darkness: put on the armour of light. Know that God comes to you in power and in peace.

Be steadfast in your hope that the Lord may find you ready at his coming, and the blessing of God... ..now and always.

Amen

## HYMN 263: HARK, A THRILLING VOICE

6<sup>th</sup> century Latin carol. Tr Fr Edward Caswall b 1814

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding; "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
"Cast away the dreams of darkness, O ye children of the day!"

Wakened by the solemn warning, let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected, comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all to be forgiv'n;

So when next he comes in glory, wrapping all the world in fear,  
May he with his mercy shield us, and with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit, while unending ages run.

## WE ARE SENT OUT

Go now in peace, to love and serve the Lord  
Amen! We go in the name of Christ.



**TODAY:** 11am Eucharist at All Saints', Maungakaramea



**4pm: MESSY CHURCH** will be a Christmas celebration, and we need a gift of your help! Are you able to give an hour or two of your time to help out in the kitchen to prepare tea, or set out or clear away tables? Are you able to make a pavlova for dessert? Please contact Catherine Anderson: [catherine@whangarei.anglican.org.nz](mailto:catherine@whangarei.anglican.org.nz)

**MONDAY: SELWYN CENTRE** - Join our seniors - Monday at 9;30am at the Parish Hall \$10 per person. Morning tea and chat, exercise, fun then lunch. All welcome. Contact Jan Weston-Arnold 435 3058.

**TUESDAY MORNING PRAYERS** - All are welcome to join the staff team for prayers: Tuesdays, 9am, Selwyn Chapel.

**FOR OUR PRAYERS** - We pray for those who are need: Deborah; Doreen; Ngaire; Sue; Ruth & David; Colin; Pauline; Shirley, Julian, Levi, Win & John; Freda; Rita; John; Jenny; Nancy & Geoff. We pray, too, for those who have died. May all the departed faithful rest in peace; may light perpetual shine upon them.

**PASTORAL CARE CO-ORDINATOR:** Kim Parker has taken on this role. If you know of any members of our community who are unwell, unable to make it to church or have been admitted to hospital, please contact Kim, 021 435 781 and she will arrange a visit/home communion.

## CHRISTMASSY THOUGHTS:

**ANGEL TREE GIFTS** for children of prison inmates – again this year, our Christmas gift appeal is to bless these children with gifts chosen by their parents. Please see Geoff Bollen *today* for details.



**FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES** – Dec 3-24, St John's Golden Church, Kensington. 10am-1pm and 6.30-9pm. See the trees decorated by community groups in Whangārei.

**COMBINED ANGLICAN-ROMAN CATHOLIC ADVENT SERVICE:** 5pm, Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December, at Christ Church, Regent.

We are the hosts, and so all are invited to bring a plate of finger food for the hākari (shared meal) after this annual ecumenical celebration

### YET MORE IDEAS FOR SHARING THE CHRISTMAS JOY . . .



Christ Church Women's Fellowship/ AAW invite your kindness plus financial help.

We aim to send \$1,000 to supply soap, personal supplies, and materials for sewing their own clothes to young women in Papua New Guinea highlands.

Life is tough there.

And wait, there's more - for each \$10 donation, you'll receive a copy of the unique **FAVOURITE PARISH RECIPE BOOK**, compiled by your friendly Fellowship Women to raise funds to empower others.

On sale at back of church. Good cooking, and great gifts!

Convenor - G. Needham. Contacts - Sheila Swarbrick, 438 8374;

Rosemary Shepherd, 459 1413. Gay Allely, 437 1167.

*This is a Whangarei Women's Fellowship project with NZCMS*

**ANGEL TREE GIFTS** for children of prison inmates – again this year,



our Christmas gift appeal is to bless these children with gifts chosen by their parents. *Thank you* to the parishioners who immediately responded so generously. On the strength of this, our

Angel Tree co-ordinator, Geoff Bollen, got some more gift cards. (Gifts costing no more than \$25 per child) Please see Geoff today for details.

*Angel Tree Aotearoa is a Prison Fellowship of NZ project*

## GROCERY BOXES FOR EMERGENCY HOUSING CLIENTS

Advent is upon us and our year hastens on. We take this opportunity to remind those of our congregation who made a commitment to buy a box of groceries once a month for Tai Tokerau Emergency Housing clients, that the need is still extreme.



If anyone else can now assist, please let the Administrator know. The cost is \$60 a month and involves providing a basic list of food items as specified by TTEH.

*This is a Whangarei Anglican Social Justice project*



### O COME, LET US SING TO OUR INFANT KING

The popular choral Waipū carol event (Musical Director Lachie MacLean, with orchestra and choir) will be at Christ Church, Regent.

**You are invited to join in singing the traditional Christmas songs, and hearing the Biblical story of the**

**Incarnation proclaimed again.**

We will need a team to offer the orchestra and (large) choir refreshments before the performance; and to be ushers. Please advise the office.

**Singers – experienced or not: Come, let us rehearse to adore him, on:**

THURS, Dec 13 - 7.30

TUES, Dec 18 - 7.30

**FULL REHEARSAL:**

**THURS Dec 20 - 7.30**

**SUNDAY before Christmas, 23<sup>rd</sup> December:**

**ORCHESTRA - 1pm;**

**CHOIR - 6pm;**

**SERVICE - 8pm**

**Funds raised will benefit *Soul Food*.**



# WHANGAREI ANGLICAN

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN AOTEAROA, NEW ZEALAND AND POLYNESIA

## ADVENT 2 READINGS

Baruch 5:1-9 (*apocrypha*)

Canticle is *The Benedictus* - NZPB p85

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

## DECEMBER at CHRIST CHURCH, WHANGĀREI

Eucharist – Every Sunday, 9am

Messy Church – today, 4pm

Combined Anglican/Roman Catholic Advent Service – Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup>, 5pm

Waipū Carols comes to the Regent – Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8pm

Family Crib Service with Christingles – Christmas Eve, 5pm

Midnight Christmas Service – Christmas Eve, 11pm

Tikanga-rua service at Regent with the Whangarei Pastorate – Sun, Dec 30<sup>th</sup>, 9am

## ALL SAINTS, MAUNGAKARAMEA

Eucharist – Second Sunday, 11 a.m.

## WEEKDAY SERVICES in SELWYN CHAPEL, CHRIST CHURCH

Morning Prayer – Tuesday, 9am

Litany and BCP Holy Communion – Friday, 10:15am

## THE WHANGĀREI ANGLICAN TEAM

Priest in Charge: The Reverend Peter Minson,

(09) 437 6087; mobile 027 206 9632

[peter.minson@whangareianglican.org.nz](mailto:peter.minson@whangareianglican.org.nz)

Parish Administrator, Chris Tobin: (09) 437 6085

[admin@whangareianglican.org.nz](mailto:admin@whangareianglican.org.nz)

Office: Open from 9am to 12pm, Monday-Friday

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[office@whangareianglican.org.nz](mailto:office@whangareianglican.org.nz)

Interim Vicar's Warden: Rosemary Roberts

[stan.roberts@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stan.roberts@xtra.co.nz)

People's Warden: Catherine Anderson

[catherine@whangareianglican.org.nz](mailto:catherine@whangareianglican.org.nz)

Parish Vestry: Contact all members

[vestry@whangareianglican.org.nz](mailto:vestry@whangareianglican.org.nz)

*Please have notices to the Office for the newsletter by 10am on Wednesday morning*