

St Paul's Presbyterian Church

'Partners in God's Mission of Love'

'We celebrate life in Christ. Join us on the journey'

10:00 am Service led by Heather Brown

Advent 3, Sunday 11th December, 2022

It is delightful that you are here as we worship God together this morning. Please join in reading the ***words in bold italic type*** if you would like to.

Where you see a * please stand if you are able.

Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Talofa lava, Anyoung haseyo, Malo elelei,

Ni hao, Ohayo gozaimasu, Fakaalofa atu!

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome!



Welcome and Notices

We offer a very warm welcome to representatives from Swinburn House and Napier Family Centre at this very special Gift Service.

***Call to Worship:**

As we light our advent candle

Light of the world, shine on us.

As we prepare for Christmas time

Light of the world, shine on us.

In this world of pain and darkness,

Light of the world, shine through us.

To all the people who don't know you,
Light of the world, shine through us.

Jesus you are coming again,
Light of the world, light the way.
In our service here today
Light of the world, light the way.

***Carol:** **Come Thou Long Expected Jesus** *(Video)*

Prayer

Readings: Isaiah 35: 1-10
 Matthew 11: 2-11

***Carol:** **Joy to the World** *(WOV 224)*

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 Earth, 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

Drama: **Silent Night, Holy Night**

***Carol: While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night (WOV 223)**

While shepherds watched their flocks by night
All seated on the ground
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around

"Fear not", said he, (for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind)
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind"

"To you, in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
The Saviour, who is Christ the Lord
And this shall be the sign"

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands
And in a manger laid"

Thus, spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song

"All glory be to God on high
And on the earth be peace
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease"

***Hymn: Silent Night (WOV 236)**

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, and 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,
Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born,

Silent night, holy night
Wondrous star, lend your light,
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born,

Giving of Gifts to Swinburn House and Napier Family Centre

Prayers for Swinburn House:

Bruce Tucker

Prayers for Napier Family Centre:

Kerry Marshall

Followed by The Lord's Prayer:

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day 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.*

Offering:

*Holy one, this Advent season we wait in joy,
And we give with joy.
Joy for all you have given us;
Joy because of your sacred promises.
Receive these generous offerings,
And use them to spread your joy in our world.
Amen*

Carol: Long Time Ago in Bethlehem *(Video)

Blessing:

The blessings of God await those who watch and wait for the signs of Christ's coming.

Go forward into this day watching for the signs.

Go forward into this day and become signs for the whole world that Christ is coming.

*The contemporary hymns used in our liturgies are reproduced with permission under license #A608963
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THIS WEEK'S NOTICES 11th December 2022

Helping Today

Greeters: Penny Marshall & Jill McConnochie

Offering: Liz Willis

Bible Reader: Marion Fell

Musician: Dorothy Finlayson

Flowers: Eleanor Holmes & Yvonne Dickson

Grounds: Paul Hentschel

Helping next week Sunday 18th December 2022

Greeters: Lynne & Murray Arnold

Offering: Sylvia Low

Bible Readers: Various

Musician: Pam Clare

Flowers: Pam Clare & Marian Eagle

Grounds: Bev & Mike Coghill

What's On This Week

Thursday Prayers in Church & Revelation Studies at 9am

Saturday Remembrance Service for Anne Silson at 10.30am

Sunday Christmas Carols & Readings Service at 10am

Prayer Focus: Let us pray for: -

* Ministry among us: **Grounds**

* Partners in God's Mission of Love: **Napier Food Bank/Nourished For Nil**

* Partners in the Napier Inner City: **St John's Cathedral**

* Parishes in our Presbytery: **St Andrew's Hastings**

A message from Les and Brenda Silson

Thank you to those who have extended their condolences following the death of Anne Silson. At Anne's request, a private cremation has been held. A **Remembrance Service** will be held here at St Paul's **on Saturday 17th December at 10.30am** for those who wish to attend. Les and Brenda

Thank You

A big thanks to everyone who gave so generously for the children's gifts.

40 books are being donated to the children attending Swinburn House and 40 gifts for the children of families helped by the Family Centre.

Extra money was given and this has been spent on bonbons for the food bank to include in their Christmas packages.

Note time of Christmas Day Service

Please note a correction to the start time of the **Christmas Day service at Trinity Methodist**. It will start at **9.30am** on the morning of the 25th December.

What's on the noticeboard?

Poster outlining the various Christmas services at Waiapu Cathedral of St John the Evangelist, including the following: -

- Sun 11th Dec at 5pm A service of Remembrance
- Sun 18th Dec at 7pm Nine lessons and Carols
- Christmas Eve Midnight Mass starting at 11pm

Church Recycling

As you all may or may not be aware that St Paul's is now part of the Eco Church N.Z. In the kitchen there are two recycling bins, one for recyclable hard plastics. The other one is for tins, cans, glass, and soft plastics. The office has a paper recycling bin/box. Please use any of the above, and they will be emptied frequently. We are also hoping to bring in Eco friendly cleaning products, and detergent. In the corridor, heading towards the toilets there is also another recycling facility, where you can put batteries, toothpaste tubes, coffee pods, cling film. Hope you all make use of these facilities. Thank you.
Helen, Richard and Adair.

Napier Food Bank/Nourished for Nil

“Nourished for Nil are running very low on tinned spaghetti and baby food for over 4 mths olds. Thank you, Jane”

Bible Readings for Monday 12th December – Saturday 17th December

Monday, December 12, 2022:

Psalm 42; Isaiah 29:17-24; Acts 5:12-16

Tuesday, December 13, 2022:

Psalm 42; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Jude 1:17-25

Wednesday, December 14, 2022:

Psalm 42; Zechariah 8:1-17; Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34

Thursday, December 15, 2022:

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Galatians 3:23-29

Friday, December 16, 2022:

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:18-22; Galatians 4:1-7

Saturday, December 17, 2022:

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:23-29; John 3:31-36