

25TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS DAY 2016 9.00AM

Welcome to worship this morning - May the joy of Christmas be yours.

CAROL - Kauri, Flax, and Rata Trees.

Kauri, flax and rata trees,
ferns with koru, signs are these
of new life: the Christ has come,
under Southern Cross, warm sun.

*Christ our Lord, be born anew,
shape our lives in all we do.
In this South Pacific land
let your peace and justice stand.*

Land of lakes, and rushing streams,
snow-capped mountains, deep ravines:
teach us all Lord Christ, to be
stewards of this rich beauty. *Christ our Lord, be born anew...*

In this highly favoured place,
make us clear signs of your grace;
break down walls of selfish greed,
justice bring to all in need. *Christ our Lord, be born anew...*

Than shall Christmas here be found
deep in Aotearoa's ground;
mountains, lakes and peoples too,
all will render praise to you. *Christ our Lord, be born anew...*

Norman E. Brookes

Call to Worship

Leader: Gracious God, creator and lover of the universe.

People: **Be born in us again, as you were born long ago.**

Leader: Be born in us.

People: **In the words and deeds of faithful people.**

Leader: Be born in us as light, as joy, as peace, as justice.

People: **Be born in us so that we may be the body of Christ in this time and this place in this country.**

Light the Christmas Candle

O God of hope and peace, joy and love, from that stable so long ago, your light shines out into every corner of the world. Help us to sing with the angels of the joy of your coming. Help us to live your

light not only today but throughout the whole year, so that tidings of peace and goodwill to all will truly change our world to make it a better place to live.

The placing of Jesus to the crib scene:



Forgiveness:

We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and do as members of Christ's body.

Silence

In God there is forgiveness.

**Loving and all seeing God,
Forgive us where we have failed to support one another
and to be what we claim to be.
Forgive us where we have failed to serve you;
and where our thoughts and actions have been
contrary to yours we ask your pardon.**

God forgives us; be at peace.

Silence

Rejoice and be glad,
for Christ is resurrection,

reconciliation for all the human race.

Sentence: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. John 1:14

Collect: Son of God, Child of Mary born in the stable at Bethlehem, be born again in us this day that through us the world may know the wonder of your love.
Amen

Epistle: Titus 3:4-7

CAROL 367 – While Shepherds watched their flocks

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground;
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around,
and glory shone around.

2. "Fear not!" said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind.
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to all of humankind,
to all of humankind."

3. "To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
and this shall be the sign,
and this shall be the sign:"

4. "The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid,
and in a manger laid."

5. Thus spake the seraph and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God on high,
who thus addressed their song,
who thus addressed their song:

6."All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to earth
begin and never cease,
begin and never cease!"

Gospel: Luke 2: 8-20

The play. Various ones will load the camel and we all are invited to join in the script.

Prayers

In the familiar carols and songs and the glowing decorations of
Advent and Christmas,

we rejoice, Loving God.

In the worship of those who join us at this festival time,

we rejoice, Loving God.

In the opportunity to give to mission funds and to local food and
shelter groups,

we rejoice, Loving God.

For the joy of family and friends around us,

we praise you, God.

For the break from the daily work routine,

we praise you, God.

For contact with those who are at a distance, yet whose love is
present with us,

we praise you, God

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven
hallowed be thy name
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread

Forgive 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: (Please stand)
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CAROL 357 - O Come, All You Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of Angels!

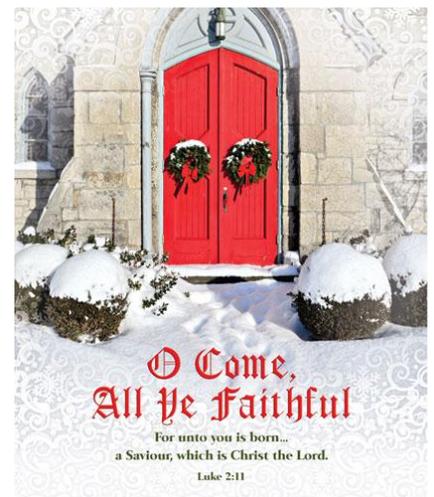
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Sing, alleluia,
All ye choirs of angels;
O sing, all ye blissful ones of heav'n above.
Glory to God
In the highest glory!

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be the glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in the flesh appearing,

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is here.

We praise God together.

Let us say thank you to God.

Who has done so much for us.

God, you made us, and the world and everything in it.

All the good we see comes from you.

You have always loved us

but people have not always loved you.

You sent Jesus to show us how to live

and to bring us back to you again.

**Sing: Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel.**

He died for us on the cross

So that through your Spirit

We can all be your people.

And so with thanks

We praise you.

Sing: O come let us adore him

O come let us adore him

O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

We are here because the night before he died

Jesus shared a meal with his friends

There he took some bread

and gave thanks to you, God.

He broke it into pieces, and gave it to them.

“This is my body,” he said

“Do this, and know that I am with you.”

And so, remembering Jesus who died,

was raised to new life by you,

and is alive forever,

we are glad to share that life

and live in him.

Send your Holy Spirit
so that this bread and wine
can be for us the body and blood of Jesus,
and through this food
give us strength to live as your people.

**Sing: Come and worship, worship Christ the King
 Come and worship, worship Christ the new born
 King.**

Help us care for your world and each other
in the way that Jesus showed us.

Until he comes again,
with all your people
in every time and every land,
we worship you and say:

We praise you.

We thank you.

We bless you.

Amen

We break this bread to share the body of Christ

**We who are many are one body
for we all share the one bread.**

All are invited to join in Communion

CAROL - Te Harinui

1. Not on a snowy night by star or candlelight,
nor by an angel band there came to our dear land
te harinui, te harinui, te harinui, glad tidings of great joy.
2. But on a summer day within a quiet bay
the Maori people heard the great and glorious word :
te harinui, te harinui, te harinui, glad tidings of great joy.
3. The people gathered round upon the grassy ground,
and heard the preacher say I bring to you this day
te harinui, te harinui, te harinui, glad tidings of great joy.
4. Now in this blessed land united heart and hand
we praise the glorious birth and sing to all the earth,
te harinui, te harinui, te harinui, glad tidings of great joy,
glad tidings of great joy. Willow Macky

Blessing

Christian World Service needs our support. Please take an envelope and make a contribution.

The Christmas tree and the Christmas flowers are giving great joy. Thank you to those who have prepared them.

The Selwyn centre on Wednesday mornings at 9.30, the Thursday communion at 10.00 and the Sunday services at 9.00 continue during summer. Phone 078263723 Rev. Joyce Marcon Priest in charge. May you be richly blessed this summer.