



WESLEY WELLINGTON

75 Taranaki Street

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 25th December 2022

CHRISTMAS DAY 2022

Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia

Welcome to this House of Prayer



**We are a multi-racial Christian community:
Methodist in affiliation – Ecumenical in intention
Diverse in theology – Inclusive in outreach.**

Kia ora koutou katoa — Talofa Lava

Malo e lelei — Bula Vinaka Greetings to you all!

FAMILY SERVICE

A special welcome to any visitors joining us. Visitor packs are available for your information.

We hope you enjoy worshipping with us this morning and will join us again.

GREETING AND WELCOME

House Keeping

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

INTROIT

Tongan Choir

(Congregation remain standing)

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning was the word,
and the word was with God,
and the word was God.

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Let the seas roar and the mountain quake.**

Everything came into being through the word.
What came into being was life,
and the life was the light for all people.

**Sing to the Lord a new song,
For God has done marvellous things.**

The word became flesh and blood,
and lived among us to bring all people to the light.

**Let heaven and earth break forth into joyous song,
Singing praise to our God.**

The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness has not overcome it.

**Christ, our light, shines forth in glory.
Christ, our life, brings grace and truth.**

Let us worship. Alleluia!

HYMN 'O come All ye Faithful'

1 English

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.

2 Tongan

Ko e 'Otua

Tupu mei 'Otua;

Na'e 'ikai ngaohi kae fakatupu mai

Maama ne ulo;

 Mei he Maama mu'a, Mou omi ke tau lotu,

 Mou omi ke tau lotu, Mou omi ke tau lotu mo fakafeta'i.

3 Fijian

Kalou dina sara,

Vu ni lagilagi,

Yaco me vakataki keda oqo:

Luve i Tamana,

Sega ni ka buli,

 Mai vakarokoroko, Mai vakarokoroko,

 Mai vakarokoroko vei Karisito.

4 Samoan

Tonu viiga

A le au agelu,

Ave viiga i le Tupu o le Lagi,

Faamanu atu

I lana Afioga

 O mai, tatou lotu, O mai, ta tou lotu,

 O mai tatou lotu ma faafetai.

5 English

Yea, Lord, we greet thee

Born this happy morning

Jesus, to thee be glory given

Word of the Father

Now in thy flesh appearing

O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,

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

Opening Prayer *(please seat)*

Incarnate One, we bow before you on this day
to celebrate the coming of your presence among us.

You are the fulfilment of God's ancient promises,
a living testimony to God's faithfulness.

We thank you for your life-transforming love:

you are a gift of sustenance

to souls who hunger and thirst;

you are balm to the wounded

and strength to the lame;

you are the very light of God,

shining for all the nations to see.

With all creation, we rejoice at your coming,

as we worship before your manger.

Renew our church as the body of Christ and

strengthen us with your Peace and Justice

We pray in the name of the one whose coming we celebrate,

Jesus Christ, who taught his disciples to pray and say,

(Let's Pray together the Lord's Prayer, in the language of your choice)

10am Singing Group

SCRIPTURE READING

Samoa Youth, sing first and then read the Scripture. Psalm 98.

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,

burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—shout for joy before the Lord, the King.

Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy; let them sing before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Fijian Youth, sing first and then read the scripture. Isaiah 52:7-10.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

Tongan Youth, sing first and then read the scripture. John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

ANTHEM

Tongan Choir

REFLECTION

Rev. Simote Taungā

Prayer of confession

Rev. Nicola Teague Grundy

All- seeing and all- merciful God,
Christmas day always seems to catch us off guard.
Instead of moving in concert
with the peace of your coming,
we have exhausted ourselves

dancing to the world's tune.
Instead of making time and space for your presence,
We have spent our energy on physical,
rather than heavenly endeavours.
Instead of grasping the awe of your coming,
we have allowed sheer busy-ness
to batter all wonder from our lives.
Forgive us, we pray.
In your mercy, help us to reclaim
the marvel and mystery of your birth.
In your grace, help us encounter you once again
In the great rhythms of creation, incarnation,
and salvation.
Amen

HYMN 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing'

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King,
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled.
 Joyful, all ye nations rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies,
 With the angelic host proclaim,
 Christ is born in Bethlehem!
 Hark! The herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King.

- 2 Christ by highest heaven adored;
 Christ the everlasting Lord;
 Late in time, behold him come,
 Offspring of a virgin's womb!
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 Hail the incarnate Deity!

Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus our Immanuel.

Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

- 3 Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise the ones of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

PRAYER FOR INTERCESSION

Rev. Utumauu Pupulu

Leader Loving God, with us we bring the hopes and hurt of our
World in this season of excess, Christmas, we remember
All who are empty. We remember neighbours who are
Unemployed. Whose dreams have been shattered and
Whose futures have been frustrated
In this season of carols, we remember all in our midst
Who have little to sing about.
All who are lonely, depressed, anxious or sick.
In this season of Festivity, we remember all
Who face the harsh reality of oppression
Prisoners, refugees, exiles, and all facing tortures.
We pray for the church of Jesus Christ that we may be bearer
Of your light, singers of the Angels song and messengers of
The goodwill to all on earth.
We pray for all in power and authority
That they may be open to hear the glorious song

With its message of justice and peace to all humankind
For ourselves, we pray for strength and purpose to live the
love of Christmas. Emmanuel, God's with us, abide with us
as we pray in Jesus Name.

All Amen

Invitation to the offering

Leader Remember the words of Jesus who said
 Freely you have received, Freely, give
 With joy let us present offering of commitments
 For the work of Christ's Church.

Offertory Prayer

O God, in this sacred season,
We offer you these treasures from our stores,
Along with the gift of our hearts.
We place these gifts on your altar
to help build the kingdom you opened to us
on this day of Christ's birth. We lift our hearts to you,
Even as we place our lives into your care,
As we follow your son, who is the way, the truth,
and the life.
Amen.

HYMN 'JOY TO THE WORLD' H&P 77

1. English

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.

2 Samoan

Ia olioli tatou nei
Ua pule le Alii
Ia tatou pepese ma faafetai
Osana ia Iesu, Osana ia Iesu
Osana, Osana ia Iesu.

3 Fijian

Ni drodro tun a uciwai,
Se tubu main a co,
Sai Kemuni sad au lewa
Me vaka tu oqo,
Me vaka tu oqo,
Me vaka, vaka tu oqo.

4 Tongan

'Ofa ka ko ha 'ofa e,
Ho' 'ofa kia au.
'Ofa ne 'ikai ke mamae,
'Ofa ne fai ke a'u,
Koe'uhi pe ko au!
Koe'uhi, koe'uhi pe ko au.

5 English

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

Benediction

Go out now with joy and peace,
hearing the mountains and hills break forth in song.
**We will sing with the trees of the forest
and about for joy with the flowers in the fields.**

Go forth with thanksgiving to the Father, the Son,
and Holy Spirit, one God, Mother and Father of us all.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord.

We will sing praise to our God.

Walk in the light of Christ

We will share the joy of God's holy love

Be messengers of hope and peace.

We will proclaim the good news.

Christ is born. Alleluia!

THE GRACE

**All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 The love of God and the fellowship of the
 Holy Spirit be with us all,
 Amen.**

HYMN Ma Te Marie

Ma te marie a te atua
Ta tou katoa e tiaki;
Mana ano e whakau
O Tatou ngakau ki te pai.

Ma te Atua Tamaiti ra,
Ma te Wairua Tapu hoki,
Ratou, Atua Kotahi nei.
Tatou katoa e whakapai.
Amine.

Extinguishing of the candles

