#### **GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH**

**WELCOME TO ST ANDREW’S GISBORNE**

***Matawhero Church – Church Lane***

***St Andrew’s Church and Community Centre:***

***176 Cobden Street, Gisborne***

***11 December 2022 Advent 3***

***Service of Third Sunday of Advent***

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**Ministers*:*** *All the people in Christ* **Minister*:*** *Rev Jin Sook Kim*

**Reader:** Lynnor Cooke **Organist:** David Russell

**Director of Music:** *Catherine Macdonald*

*We gather together as the people of God*

*Kia Ora, Talofa, Bula, Shalom, Dobry den and Annyeong-haseyo*

***Greetings with news and notices***

***Introit***

Come now, Lord Jesus, Music: Traditional Zulu, Words © Shirley Murray, *Alleluia Aotearoa*, 23(II) vv 1-2

1. Come now, Lord Jesus,

enter our Christmas,

Be to us no stranger

in this new-made manger.

2. Come, small and human,

born of a woman,

Yet a Son much greater

of our own Creator.

***Call to Worship***

In the midst of the barren land,  
**flowers burst into bloom.**  
In the midst of the dry desert,  
**streams of water gush forth.**  
In the midst of sorrow and sighing,  
**joy and gladness dance together.**  
We shall see the glory of God!

**Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy**

On this third Sunday of Advent, we remember the joy we find in God, and the gifts of joy we offer to others.

**Read the Partner Story**

***Light the candle***

***Together***

**God of abundant joy, May we be people who shine the light of joy in your world through our words and by our actions. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen**

***We sing -*** Hark the glad sound, *CH4* 277 (CH3 160), vv1-5

**Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,**

**the Saviour promised long;**

**let every heart exult with joy,**

**and every voice with song!**

**He comes, the prisoners to relieve,**

**In Satan’s bondage held;**

**the gates of brass before him burst,**

**the iron fetters yield.**

**He comes the broken hearts to bind,**

**the bleeding souls to cure;**

**and with the treasures of his grace**

**to enrich the humble poor.**

**The sacred year has now revolved,**

**accepted of the Lord,**

**when heaven’s high promise is fulfilled,**

**and Israel is restored.**

**Our glad hosannas Prince of Peace,**

**thy welcome shall proclaim;**

**and heaven’s exalted arches ring**

**with thy most honored name.**

***Prayers***

***We sing*** – Joy to the world, *CH4* 320, vv1-3

**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 world, 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.**

***Story time***

*We will talk about joy and write our prayers on paper stars to share this joy with the world. And then, we will hang the prayer stars on the Christmas Tree.*

***We sing*** – Come, thou long expected Jesus, *CH4* 472 (*CH3* 320), vv1-4

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus,**

**born to set thy people free;**

**from our fears and sins release us;**

**let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel’s strength and consolation,**

**hope of all the earth thou art,**

**dear desire of every nation,**

**joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver,**

**Born a child, and yet a King,**

**born to reign in us for ever,**

**now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit**

**rule in all our hearts alone;**

**by thine all-sufficient merit**

**raise us to thy glorious throne.**

***Readings***

***First Reading****-* Isaiah 35:1-10

***Gospel Reading*** – Matthew 11:2-11

***Sermon -*** Waiting for Joy in Advent

***Prayers of Intercession***

***Offering***

***We sing*** - I come with joy, a child of God, Words: © 1971, 1995, Stainer & Bell Ltd, Arrangement: © CH Trust, *CH4* 656*,* vv 1-5

**I come with joy, a child of God,**

**forgiven, loved and free,**

**the life of Jesus to recall,**

**in love aid down for me,**

**in love laid down for me**

**I come with Christians far and near**

**to find, as all are fed,**

**the new community of love**

**in Christ’s communion bread,**

**As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,**

**each proud division ends.**

**The love that made us, makes us one,**

**and strangers now are friends,**

**The Spirit of the risen Christ,**

**unseen, but ever near,**

**is in such friendship better known,**

**alive among us here,**

**Together met, together bound**

**by all that God has done,**

**we’ll go with joy, to give the world**

**the love that makes us one,**

***[ADVENT COMMUNION]***

(*Written by Alydia Smith*(PCCANADA)

As we come to this table, …

…are welcome here.

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift our hearts in prayer.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is good to give God thanks and praise.**

*Let us pray:*

Blessed are you, Breath of peace,

…We join in the Advent prayer of all your people,

**“O come, Emmanuel.”**

And, as we wait and watch for your coming among us,

…Gracious God, Breath of peace,

Source of love,

we pray for your Spirit.

**Make us, while many, one.**

**Make us, though broken, whole.**

**Make us, despite death, alive.**

And so we pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

And so we join with our siblings around the world in the prayer of Jesus:

***SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP***

The body of Christ,

**the Bread of life.**

The lifeblood of Christ,

**the cup of blessing.**

Let us eat and drink together

for our strengthening in the faith,

and for the sake of the world.

*Communion is served*

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION***

**We thank you, God,**

**for breaking into our world**

**and pouring into our lives and our experiences.**

**We thank you, God,**

**for this meal of thanksgiving**

**and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.**

***We sing –*** Once in Royal David’s City, *CH4* 315, vv 1-4

**Once in royal David's city**

**stood a lowly cattle-shed,**

**where a mother laid her Baby**

**in a manger for his bed.**

**Mary was that mother mild,**

**Jesus Christ her little Child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven**

**who is God and Lord of all,**

**and his shelter was a stable,**

**and his cradle was a stall.**

**With the poor and mean and lowly**

**lived on earth our Saviour holy.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him,**

**through his own redeeming love;**

**for that Child so dear and gentle**

**is our Lord in heaven above;**

**and he leads his children on**

**to the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable,**

**with the oxen standing by,**

**we shall see him, but in heaven,**

**set at God's right hand on high,**

**when, like stars, his children crowned**

**all in white shall wait around.**

***Sending***

***The Grace***

**Kia tau ki a tātou katoa  
Te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki, a Ihu Karaiti Me te aroha o te Atua  
Me te whiwhingatahitanga, Ki te wairua tapu  
Ake, ake, ake  
Amine**

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and forever.**

***Sing***: AMENx3 CH4#819