**The Last Sunday of Trinity.**

**The Second in Our Advent Exploration**

**At St Andrews’s, Gisborne**

**26th., November, 2023.**

**https://youtu.be/ZiS4MhfP6FA**

**By way of our Introduction to today’s EXPLORATION Theme ‘ Our Calling “**

**Music for you to Contemplate upon :-**

***“ The Road Home ” by Stephen Paulus, (1949-2014)***

**Sung by the Choir of King’s College , Cambridge. UK.**

**Words - Michael Browne. [ printed below ]**

*Tell me where is this Road that I can call my own?*

*That I left - that I lost -- so long ago?*

*All these years I’ve wandered.;*

*Oh! When will I know there‘s a way, there’s a road*

*that will lead me home.*

*After wind; after rain; when the dark is done;*

*As I wake from a dream, to the gold of day.*

*Through the air there’s a calling from far away.*

*There’s a voice I can hear that will lead me home*

***“Rise up ! Follow me !”*** *‘ Come away is the call ‘.*

*With LOVE in your heart as our only song.*

*There is no such beauty as where you belong*

***“ Rise up ! Follow me ! “***

***“ I will lead you home.”***

**Commemorating the Discipleship of the Apostle Andrew,**

**This Church proudly wears & bears his Name..**

**\*\*\*A WARM WELCOME : Pat Flockhart Duty Elder**

**\*\*\*Our Call to Worship:**  **[Jeremiah 12, v1-2.] (adapted©cbyates2023)**

*L : You, Lord, are the source of all goodness and righteousness;*

*So when we complain, and questions arise in our human minds,*

*You will also forgive us if we ask You these questions.*

**All : We may seem like petty lawyers when we ask questions with You !**

**Why does it seem to us ‘ that wicked people seem to prosper ?’**

**They live at ease without being troubled by a care for others?**

*L : Like the dew that falls heavily each morning upon hillsides and valleys*

*Similarly the rain falls equally on all our neighbours around us.*

**All : It seems as though wickedness has firmly taken root amongst us;**

**it grows very rapidly, and now its fruits spreads everywhere.**

**Injustice competes with Lawlessness, and they both go unchecked.**

**There seem to be no rules or logic; only this seeming chaos !**

*L : Why is it, to our minds -- ‘ It seems that only wickedness seems to prosper?’*

**All : Equally importantly; -- ‘ WHY do we think that this is NOT the case?’**

**\*\*\*1-PRAISE:** **CH-4 162** [ Leoni ] The God of Abraham praise …

**The God of Abraham praise,**

**who reigns enthroned above,**

**Ancient of everlasting days,**

**and God of love.**

**Jehovah, Great I AM!**

**by earth and heaven confessed,**

**I bow, and bless the sacred name**

**for ever blest.**

**The God of Abraham praise,**

**at whose supreme command**

**from earth I rise, and seek the joys**

**at his right hand.**

**I all on earth forsake,**

**its wisdom, fame and power,**

**and him my only portion make,**

**my shield and tower.**

**He by himself has sworn,**

**I on his oath depend:**

**I shall, on eagle’s wings upborne,**

**to heaven ascend;**

**I shall behold his face,**

**I shall his power adore**

**and sing the wonders of his grace**

**for evermore.**

**There dwells the Lord our King,**

**the Lord our Righteousness,**

**triumphant o’er the world and sin,**

**the Prince of Peace;**

**on Zion’s sacred height**

**his kingdom he maintains,**

**and glorious with his saints in light**

**for ever reigns.**

**The whole triumphant host**

**give thanks to God on high;**

**‘Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!’**

**they ever cry.**

**Hail, Abraham’s God, and mine! –**

**I join the heavenly praise –**

**all might and majesty are thine,**

**through endless days.**

**\*\*\*Prayer of Approach, Confession, and Assurance.**

*L : Living Lord, creator God, we come because we wish to worship You;*

*we come as a people called by You to praise Your Holy Name.*

**All : How wonderful You truly are: how great our lives have been.**

**There is no created thing which has not been sustained by You.**

**You looked upon Your creation, and You saw that it was all good.**

**Only now, do we begin to realise, that You have made us Trustees;**

**to share its bounty equally, but without destroying it.**

*L : As we approach the season of Advent, we recall it is the season of Light;*

*the Light that You chose to send to illuminate our way in this world.*

**All : Just as the morning sun warms all the living things on earth,**

**the Light You place within us recognises Your loving action**

**by Your teachings taught by Jesus , written down ages ago.**

*L : Your Word is not sent in anger to punish, but to instruct and guide us,*

*remind us what You would have us be; a life with ‘freedom’ to choose.*

**All : We recall what Your love has meant to us at different times.**

**We know that Jesus commanded us to love God, our Father;**

**to love one another; and yet we find this too difficult.**

**We have not loved you as we should, nor others around us:**

**our own needs and wants seem to always pre-occupy us.**

**We admit to so many other failures; pride, envy, animosity.**

**Forgive us again, so we may walk upright within your presence.**

*L : Forgiveness does not mean escape from the consequences.*

*Forgiveness is the Grace needed for us to face up to ourselves.*

**All : Being assured that this is so, help us to face the world more bravely,**

**to serve more gladly and joyfully, and to see more clearly.**

*L : We finish our prayer together in these words*

*which follow Jesus' teaching to His disciples:*

**All : God our Father and creator,**

**it is Your name we worship.**

**We await Your Kingdom's presence,**

**when Your will is obeyed**

**at all times and in all places.**

**Satisfy our needs for living today.**

**Make it possible for us to forgive**

**and to be forgiven,**

**and to avoid straying from Your ways.**

**For You have all the power and the glory**

**forever and a day, Amen.**

**>>1-READING : The Book of Deuteronomy, Ch 26 : v. 3 -10**

**\*\*\*2-PRAISE**: **Ch-4 334 On Jordan’s bank, the Baptist’s cry Tune: Winchester New**

**On Jordan’s bank, the Baptist’s cry**

**announces that the Lord is nigh;**

**awake and hearken for he brings**

**glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every heart from sin;**

**make straight the way for God within;**

**prepare we in our hearts a home,**

**where such a mighty Guest may come**

**For you are our salvation, Lord,**

**our refuge and our great reward;**

**without your grace we waste away,**

**like flowers that wither and decay.**

**Stretch out your hand, to heal our sore,**

**and make us rise to fall no more;**

**once more upon your people shine,**

**and fill the world with love divine.**

**All praise to you, eternal Son,**

**whose advent has our freedom won,**

**whom with the Father we adore,**

**and Holy Spirit evermore**

**>>2-READING : The Prophet JEREMAIAH, Ch. 1 : v. 4 -9**

**>>3-READING : Gospel of John, Ch. 1 : vs. 35 - 42.**

**\*\*\*PRAISE: Choir CH4 340** When Jesus saw the Fishermen

Tune: The Seven joys of Mary

**When Jesus saw the fishermen**

**in boats upon the sea,**

**he called to them, ‘Come, leave your nets**

**and follow, follow me’.**

**They followed where he healed the sick**

**and gave the hungry bread,**

**and others joined them as they went**

**wherever Jesus led.**

**And now his friends are everywhere;**

**the circle once so small**

**extends around the whole wide world,**

**for Jesus calls us all.**

**In this great circle we belong,**

**wherever we may be,**

**if we will answer when he calls,**

**‘Come, follow, follow me’.**

**Our REFLECTION on the THEME of TODAY’S SCRIPTURE**

**led by a Minister Emeritus Revd Dr Clive Yates**

**TODAY’s TOPIC :: “… OUR CALLING GIVES US MEANING …”**

**\*\*\*OUR OFFERING and DEDICATION:**

**Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise God, all creatures high and low;**

**give thanks to God in love made known:**

**Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

*L : Let us pray together,*

*We thank you God for acknowledging our presence here today,*

*and for accepting us and for even thinking of calling us- …*

**All : Lord ! Please accept the worship of our hearts and minds,**

**and receive from our hands, our humble gifts and donations,**

**Use them and us; guide us into living out your Gospel**

**to all our friends and neighbours who live around us**

**as messengers from Jesus Christ in the here and now.**

**Amen.**

**\*\*\*PRAISE:** **CH-4 251** [ Schutte. ] Here am I Lord. Is it I, Lord …

**I, the Lord of sea and sky,** *Based on Isaiah 6 ; by* *Dan Schutte*

**I have heard My people cry.**

**All who dwell in dark and sin**

**My hand will save.**

**I who made the stars of night,**

**I will make their darkness bright.**

**Who will bear My light to them?**

**Whom shall I send?**

**Refrain**

***Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?***

***I have heard You calling in the night.***

***I will go, Lord, if You lead me.***

***I will hold Your people in my heart.***

**I, the Lord of snow and rain,**

**I have borne My people's pain.**

**I have wept for love of them.**

**They turn away.**

**I will break their hearts of stone,**

**give them hearts for love alone.**

**I will speak My word to them.**

**Whom shall I send?**

**I, the Lord of wind and flame,**

**I will tend the poor and lame.**

**I will set a feast for them.**

**My hand will save.**

**Finest bread I will provide**

**till their hearts be satisfied.**

**I will give My life to them.**

**Whom shall I send?** *Schutte*

**>>Responsive Prayers of Intercession::-**

*L : Lord : hear this our prayer*

**All : Lord: Help us to be Your people**

**\*\*\*5-PRAISE:** **CH-4 509) Jesus calls us ! O’er the tumult Tune: St Andrew**

**Jesus calls us! O’er the tumult**

**Of our life’s wild restless sea,**

**Day by day his voice is sounding,**

**Saying, ‘Christian, follow me’.**

**As, of old, Saint Andrew heard it**

**By the Galilean lake,**

**Turned from home and toil and kindred,**

**Leaving all for his dear sake.**

**Jesus calls us from the worship**

**of the vain world’s golden store,**

**from each idol that would keep us,**

**saying, Christian, love me more’.**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,**

**Days of toil and hours of ease,**

**Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,**

**‘Christian, love me more than these’.**

**Jesus calls us! By your mercy,**

**Saviour, make us hear your call,**

**Give our hearts to your obedience,**

**Serve and love you best of all.**

+++ + OUR SENDING FORTH :

*L : Stay with us good Lord, and bless us, all the day long of all our journeyings.*

**All : Put Your Divine spark to work within me.**

**Kindle a fire in the hearth of my heart.**

**Protect and nurture these growing flickering flames.**

**Let them burn warmly as a beacon of brightness**

**to all who seek to find their way in the disabling darkness.**

**For You are the Father who pitied and sought me:**

**You are the Son who came and bought me:**

**You are the Spirit who found and taught me:**

**Our God, our faith; our Lord,**

**Who draws us closer and closer together. Amen.**

**(C) cbyates 2023).**

**AMEN**

*Please join us celebrating St Andrew’s Day in time of fellowship and friendship over Lunch and a cuppa.*

**Ministers*: All the people* Worship Leader:** *The Rev Dr Clive Yates*

**Duty Elder:** *Pat Flockhart* **Reader:** *Ruth McLennan*

**Organist:**  *David Russell* **Choir**

**DIARY**

**SUNDAY 26** **ST ANDREW’S DAY CELEBRATED**

**10.00am** **St. Andrew’s**Rev Dr Clive Yates

Followed by Pot luck luncheon in the hall.

Matawhero **– No service**

3.00pm Sea of Faith

Monday 27 9.00am Walking Group

Tuesday 28 10.00am Open Door

7-8pm Lessons and Carols choir rehearsal

Wednesday 299.45am mainly music

Thursday 30 **St Andrew’s Day**

Friday 1 1.00pm Choir rehearsal

**SUNDAY 3** **ADVENT 1**

**10.00am** **St. Andrew’s**Rev Dr Clive Yates

Matawhero **– No service**

**Coming up:**

**Sunday 17 December** Lessons and Carols for Christmas. All-comers choir rehearsals on Tuesdays 7-8pm St Andrew’s church

**Mindful Prayer topics:** 19th & 26th Nov 2023 Peace in the world between countries at war; Carers and clients; Church and Community Volunteers; Our Faith journey; GPP; Parish Council; Family issues & concerns The Right Rev Rose Luxford and her ministry as Moderator of PCANZ.

.Mindful Prayer contact Margaret Graham ph. 021 026 03990 or email [m.n.e.gra@xtra.co.nz](mailto:m.n.e.gra@xtra.co.nz)

**Note:** The offering is now received at the door as we enter. If you miss noticing this, you may place a retiring offering in the offering boxes at the door as you leave.

Christian Blind Mission accepts used stamps. Send directly to them or Val Hall. (Leprosy Mission no longer accepts them)

**Please remember** donations for the Love basket when shopping. All offerings gratefully received.

As you will have read in the recent *Signpost* Val Hall and Pat Flockhart are offering Home Communion, and they need an Elder to be present. Any Elders willing to assist, please phone or email Val Hall.

For all Pastoral care needs please contact one of the committee members:

Jenny Lawton  868 4268; Ruth McLennan 021 02704867; Jan Gordon 0211836008 Annette Ormiston 0275535028 Barbara Larsen 863-9009

With blessings from the Pastoral Committee

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday | Reader | Door & Team | Morning Tea | Sound Visual |
| 26 November  Reign of Christ  St Andrew’s Day  Rev Dr Clive Yates  Pat Flockhart | **Matawhero**  No service  **St Andrew’s**  Ruth McLennan | **Chrissie Parker**  Marilyn Matthews  tbc Hall | Pot luck lunch  Dianne Burrows  Val Hall  Paulina Melief | S:Hans  V:Don  C:Don |
| 3 December  Advent 1  Rev Dr Clive Yates  Val Hall | **Matawhero**  No service  **St Andrew’s**  Deborah Loew Black | **Don**  **McConnochie**  Sarah McC  Linda Savage | Pat Flockhart  Trish Kwak | S:Hans  V:Alan  C:Hans |

***Gisborne Presbyterian Parish***

***St Andrew’s Church and Matawhero Historic Church:***

***Office: 06 868 5513******Hours 10-12 Tuesday – Friday***

***176 Cobden Street 4010 Bank A/c number 03-0638-0462917-000***

[standrewsgisb@xtra.co.nz](mailto:standrewsgisb@xtra.co.nz)[www.standrewsgis.org.nz](http://www.standrewsgis.org.nz)