

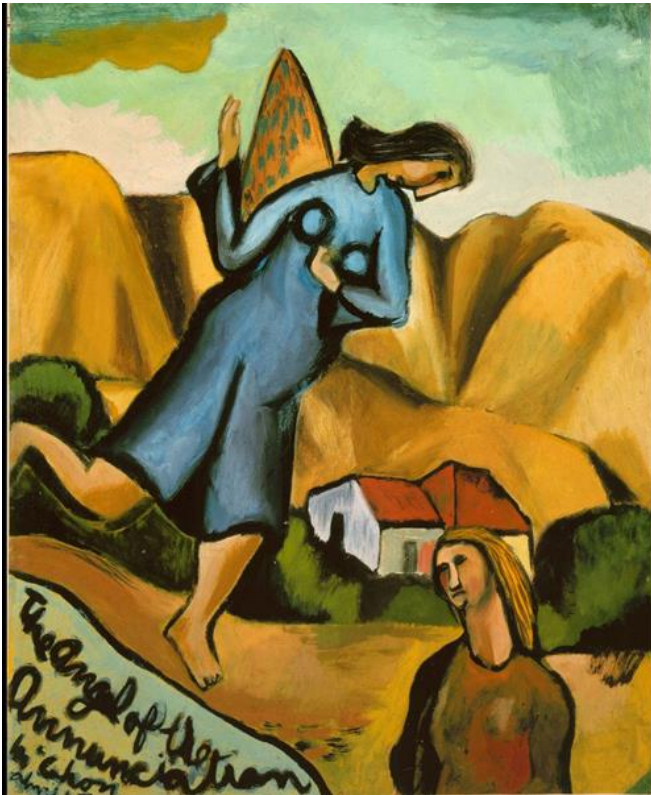


KAPITI UNITING PARISH

ChristianChurchesNZ – Methodist – Presbyterian
10 Weka Road, Raumati Beach, Paraparaumu 5032

Raumati 10am HC 1 December 2024 Advent 1

Worship Leader: Rev Anna Gilkison
Musician: Noeline Cuzens
Reader: John Lawton



Angel of the Annunciation by Colin McCahon

Welcome and notices

Introduction

Call to worship

Among the hungry, among the homeless,
Among the friendless,
Come to make things new.

Among the powerful, among the spoilt,
Among the crooked,
Come to make things new.

In halls for fame, in corridors of power,
In forgotten places,
Come to make things new.

With all-seeing eyes, with tender touch
With cleansing love
Come to make things new.

O Come O Come Emmanuel WOV193

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Rejoice, Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice, Rejoice! ...

O come, thou rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice, Rejoice! ...

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice, Rejoice! ...

Candle Lighting prayer

Response: in Advent we give thanks for the hope we have found in family and community, in creativity and beauty, within us and in the world around us. Amen!

Advent Activity: Labyrinths

Labyrinth prayers – said together:

“...We give thanks for places of simplicity and peace. Let us find such a place within ourselves. We give thanks for places of refuge and beauty. Let us find such a place within ourselves... We give thanks for places of nature's truth and freedom, of joy, inspiration and renewal, places where all creatures may find acceptance and belonging.

Let us search for these places: in the world, in ourselves and in others. Let us restore them. Let us strengthen and protect them and let us create them. May we meet this outer world according to the truth of our inner life and may our souls be shaped and nourished by nature's eternal wisdom....”

Michael Leunig

Hymn Long ago, prophets knew (tune: personent hodie, 193CH4)

Long ago , prophets knew
Christ would come, born a jew,
Come to make all things new;
Bear his People's burden,
Freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?

God in time, God in man,
This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
Born himself of woman,
God divinely human.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?

Mary hail! Though afraid,
She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid;
Till the time expected,
Nurtured and protected.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?

Journey ends! Where afar
Bethl'em shines, like a star,

Stable door stands ajar.

Unborn Son of Mary,

Saviour, do not tarry!

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!

Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!

When he comes,

When he comes,

Who will make him welcome?

Readings Jeremiah 33: 14-16

 Luke 1: 68-79

Reflection

WOV200 Come thou long expected Jesus

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 forever,

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.

Prayer of Dedication for our offering

Prayers for the World

The offering –

Intercessory Prayer

Communion hymn : I come like a beggar

I come like a beggar
with a gift in my hand;
I come like a beggar
with a gift in my hand.

*By the hungry I will feed you,
By the poor I make you rich,
By the broken I will mend you.
Tell me,
Which one is which?*

I come like a prisoner
to bring you the key;
I come like a prisoner
to bring you the key.

*By the hungry I will feed you,
By the poor I make you rich,
By the broken I will mend you.
Tell me,
Which one is which?*

By the need of another,
By the gift that I bring;
By the need of another,
By the gift that I bring.

*By the hungry I will feed you,
By the poor I make you rich,
By the broken I will mend you.
Tell me,
Which one is which?*

Take the wine that I bring you
And the bread that I break
Take the wine that I bring you
And the bread that I break

*By the hungry I will feed you,
By the poor I make you rich,
By the broken I will mend you.
Tell me,
Which one is which?*

Communion Liturgy

Call to Communion

Let us give thanks!
God has come to feed us

Like a mother, God has held us;
God has calmed and quieted our fear.

Like a father, God has forgiven us;
And removed our sins from us.

Bless God's holy name!
And forget not all God's benefits.

We thank you for the promise of this meal:
Your presence to break the bonds of isolation,
Your power to overcome our powerlessness.
We thank you for the promise of this day:
New life for tired spirits, accomplishment for the faithful.
Help us to reach out to each other in community
And be agents of renewal.
May your coming happen in and through us.

God in Christ breaks down the walls
That make us strangers to ourselves
And divide us from one another.
We are the body of Christ.
As we enact our faith
The body broken is restored to wholeness;
Life poured out brings healing to our world.

At this table we receive God's love made flesh.
What we receive, we now share.

The Eucharistic Prayer

We dream, O God, of community,
But in our daily lives we forget such hopes.
Our dreams recede,
Sister and brother we call "stranger."
**Yet this Advent we remember with thanksgiving
Your promise of new life in Christ.**

We thank you that you have given us to one another
Even as you have given yourself to us.
**With arms outstretched, as a child reaching to be held
Christ calls us to himself,
And names us as his family.**

So with our arms outstretched
We reach out to one another.
**Be born again in us, O God,
That we may receive this mystery
Of Christ, the Living Bread.**

The Words of Institution

We remember all the meals we have taken with Jesus,
And we recall the last meal he shared in Jerusalem,

*“This is my body, broken for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”*

In the same way, we remember that Jesus took the cup, saying
*“This is the cup of the new covenant.
Do this as often as you drink it
In remembrance of me.”*

Eternal God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,
that Christ may be within us as we share this meal, that our eyes may
be opened and that we may recognize him.

**Bless this bread and cup and bless your church that in the
fullness of time every cup will be filled to overflowing, every
table will be one of welcome, and every life will be filled with
abundant love.**

Blessed are you, God of all creation,
You are the bread of life.
Blessed are you, God of all creation,
You are the cup of blessing.

Prayer after Receiving

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, we thank you for your presence in the simplicity
and peace of this
holy Advent meal. In the joy of this season unite us with all
whom Christ welcomes, that we may be the servant church of
the servant Christ, in whose name we pray.**

AA23 Come now, Lord Jesus

Come now, Lord Jesus
Enter our Christmas,
Be to us no stranger
In this new-made manger.

Come, small and human,
Born of a woman,
Yet a Son much greater
Of our own Creator.

Come, cold and crying,
Comfort denying,
No place to receive you,
Few yet to believe you.

Come poor and simple,
Our flesh your temple,
In your body feeling
Hurt as well as healing.

Come gift and token,
Bread to be broken –
Star and sign still point you,
Myrrh will yet anoint you.

Blessing

In hope the universe waits:

Response: God's purpose shall be revealed

Limited by mortality, yet destined for liberation, in hope the universe waits:

Response

Trusting in what is unseen, believing the best is to come, in hope the universe waits:

Response

In the hiddenness of a byre, where the Maker of All will be born, in hope the universe waits:

Response

The Uniting Church labyrinth in Johnsonville



There is evidence of the existence of the classical labyrinth symbol (the most ancient labyrinth pattern) across southern Europe and North Africa from roughly 2000BCE

It is against a long history of shifting design and use that the contemporary revival of interest in labyrinths has blossomed.

Labyrinths seem to have emerged again at a time when we need help in recovering a more balanced, reflective and inclusive way of living together on this planet.