



Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

134 Sixteenth Ave. Tauranga, Phone 578-3040

"God honouring, Christ following, Holy Spirit led"

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Hon. Assistant Minister: Rev George Bryant Ph 027 3146690

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Office hours: Mon & Tues 8.30am-12noon & Friday 8.30am—4pm (Office)

27th November 2022

Advent - Hope

This is always an exciting time of year for a lot of people, but it can also be a time of busyness, even a time of regret. Some might be excited to get some rest away from work and time with family, for others this period can be a vivid reminder of lost relationships, a season that accentuates our loneliness.

What is advent? We'll briefly touch on that this Sunday, but in short for Christians, it is a season in the church calendar where we prepare ourselves for the celebration that is the coming or arrival of Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus Christ is our hope, in love did He become flesh over two thousand years ago, and in love will He return. We celebrate his first Advent, and we look forward in hope to His second Advent.

When we engage with these seasons in the Christian calendar, it is a way for us to continually relive and retell the story of Jesus, the truth that is Jesus. Let us dwell in this season of advent, let us prepare our hearts and minds to remember, to engage with and celebrate the birth of Jesus and everything that this means for us as believers and for the world, and for what He calls for us to do. The Old Testament prophets prophesied about the Advent of the Messiah, and we will explore this hope through the prophet Isaiah this Sunday.

Blessings Josh



ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome

Call to Worship

Songs

Light a Candle

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

What is Advent?

Notices / Celebrations

Offering

Samoan Hymns

Prayer

Song

Blessed Assurance

Reading

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Sermon

Song

Hope is a Candle

Benediction

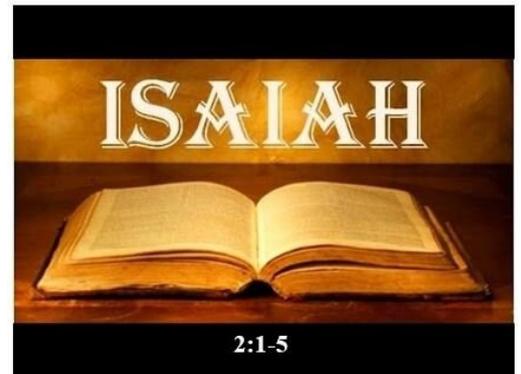
Prayer available after Service at the front of the Church

Join us for refreshments in the lounge

Farewell for Josh and his family is being planned for Sunday 4 December during the morning worship service. *Session invites every member to sign the card available in the foyer for the next three weeks.* If you would like to contribute to a farewell gift, please hand it in at the office or make arrangements with Marie.

Josh's Licencing and Graduation: You are warmly invited to Josh's graduation and licencing service on Sunday 4 December at 15:00. The Kaimai Presbytery runs this service. After the service we will celebrate with Josh, Carolyn and family in the lounge. Please bring a plate.

Sunday off: This is Jaco's fourth quarter Sunday off. He will be back in the office on Tuesday.



As Advent starts today, you will receive an Advent candle pack prepared for you by Robyn (producing the cards) and the Have-a-Go group. Use the content of the pack to help you prepare to celebrate the expression of God's love for you by the birth of Jesus Christ. The candles remind us of the hope, peace, joy and love Jesus brought. This culminates in the lighting of the Christ candle on Christmas day. God is with us!

Ministry opportunity: Please talk to Louise if you want to get involved in preparing and serving lunch for homeless and needy people alongside the Under the Stars trust, on 15 December.

Be Covid-19 sensible and keep yourself and those around you as safe as possible as the virus seems to be more prevalent in the community at the moment.

Hymn and Carol Sing: As part of building relationships with neighbours (another part of the Body of Christ) we invite you to a hymn/carol sing we co-host with Wesley Methodist at their place (100 Thirteenth Avenue) on Sunday 11 December at 14:00. Please invite neighbours, family and friends and bring a plate to enjoy during a shared afternoon tea at around 15:00.

Christmas Play: Wendy Roberson is working with the Sunday school to present a Christmas play on Sunday 18 December. Please let Wendy know if you want to help with costumes, props etc.

Readers' Group meets on the last Wednesday of each month from 1.30pm - 3pm. Next meeting is on 23rd November at Joans home at 224A Welcome Bay Road. Please contact Joan for more information (027 7733811).

Men's Coffee Group invites you to join them on a Tuesday at 10:00 in the Mitre 10 Mega Columbus Café for a nice chat and some laughter. (Contact Rex: 027 284 2317)

Ladies Coffee Group Tuesday at 10:00. All ladies are welcome to join this lovely group at Columbus Café at Gate Pa. On the last Tuesday of each month the ladies will go to Broomtree Café (next to 11th Ave Petrol Station). Contact Cynthia for more information on 027 324 1027.

St. Enoch's Working Women (STEWV) home group meets every first Thursday of the month. We are currently discovering more of the Kingdom of God by studying the parables. Contact Anel for more information: 021 268 3064

Have-a-Go is an opportunity to bring your craft along to the lounge on a Wednesday morning from 09:30, have a chat and a few laughs and a lovely morning tea. Their last gathering for this year is on the 14th of December and they start up again on 11 January.

Spiritual Growth Group Everybody is welcome to join in and use the opportunity to grow together with others. Our last gathering is on 8 December at 12:30 for a shared lunch. The first meeting for 2023 is on 18 January at 13:00. Contact: Jaco – 0273259003

ROSTERS FOR THIS WEEK

MORNING TEA: Bernice & Geoff Tyrrell

DOOR / OFFERING: Doug & Kitty Naude'

PRAYER PARTNER: Joan Bryant

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Sunday 1st December

SERVERS: Josh,Carolynn, Aline & Tarquin Tepou

MORNING TEA: Anua Abbott, Anel Reyneke

DOOR / OFFERING: Barrie & Marylyn Smith

PRAYER PARTNER: Joan Bryant

Prayer

After each service someone will be sitting in one of the front pews. Go to them to **have them pray for you** or **pray with them for someone or something**. If you would like the **Prayer Chain** to pray for you, or for your prayer need to be made known on the Sunday bulletin, talk to Gail Walker or Jaco.

Please pray for:

that the senseless violent crimes will stop; that New Zealand society will hold on and reaffirm values like respect for people and property, friendly helpfulness, honesty and trust; that young people involved in ramraids find meaning in other constructive activities; that many people will experience Christ's love this festive season; for growth at St. Enoch's; for mortgage holders put in a difficult spot by rising interest rates; for people in the education sector; people in war torn Ukraine facing winter without some of the basics.

Prayer Needs:

Let us pray for a wonderful time of refreshing for our minister Jaco and Anel as they spend time away this Sunday, let us continue to pray a blessing over their marriage and their ministry here. Let us pray for our leaders here at St Enoch's and the leaders of the other congregations who fellowship within these premises. Let us pray for families, young and old, the scriptural ideal of strong and loving family relationships committed firstly to Christ and to each other. Our wider Presbyterian churches in the Kaimai Presbytery and on throughout the national church. Let us pray that we here at St Enoch's truly emulate the hope that is Christ as we commence this season of Advent.

Individual Needs:

Leiona Tupou (Covid); Ruth West; James McPetrie; Lois Rout; Gloria Mouatt's daughter; Verena Brungger's daughter Corinne; Iris Dudson; Kim Cleary, Delia Vermaak