

Church Service by Distance 21 November 2021

St Andrews Presbyterian Church Manurewa

The following “service” is designed for those who normally attend St Andrews Presbyterian Church Manurewa but anyone else is welcome to join. Even though we are in our own homes rather than physically together for church, we know that others from St Andrews are also using this church service material at the same time – having the same prayers and message and songs etc. so really, we are still having church together.

Welcome and call to worship

Welcome to the St Andrews home church service. We serve a good God. He is faithful and true. I hope that you will know and enjoy the presence of God in this next hour.

Prayer

Let's pray.

Heavenly Father, thank you that we can join together for church this morning even though we cannot be physically together. We thank you that it is because of Jesus Christ that you have made us one family. May you receive all the glory for all you have done in our lives and all you continue to do. We commit to you this time. Have your way in our lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Song

Please check your volume level and click/tap on the link below for our opening song. Whether you are by yourself or with others, sing along, or just think about the words as they are sung so that you are thankful for what the Lord has done for you. Click/tap the below link. (And skip ads if they come up.)

Rescuer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leh-4fCc5MI>

Notices

Please Don't Divide Us Petition

A family advocate (Bob McCoskrie) and an educational leader Dr Christine Clark (also a registered nurse with a PhD in aged care) are making a joint application to get a rapid COVID test (nearly 100% accurate) authorised in New Zealand so that thousands of kiwis don't lose their jobs on the 16th November. The Don't Divide Us Petition would make for a safer and less divided society. There is a lot of support for this in the church and community. So far there has been 60,000 signatures in a short time.

If you want to support this, read the details and sign the petition at:

<https://familyfirst.org.nz/dontdivideus/>

Future Services for St Andrews

While we are in step 2 of level 3, St Andrews will offer outdoor church services, with restricted numbers (weather dependant). You will need to book a seat each week. We will also continue to offer the usual online format that is emailed out each Saturday (as has been done for the last three months).

Auckland Prayer Breakfast

This year's Auckland Prayer Breakfast was a wonderful time of prayer and unity.

If you want to see a two-minute highlight, check out

<https://vimeo.com/647108375/8836e53bf0> for a montage of various church leaders saying a blessing over Auckland.

Offering

During lockdown, we can continue to worship the Lord in our giving.

2Corinthians 9:7 says, "God loves a cheerful giver." You can give to St Andrews through internet banking as a one-off payment or by AP as a regular payment. The church bank account number is 06-0359-0201482-00. If you want a tax receipt for your donation, please include your name or envelope number in the reference field. (If you don't have an envelope number, please email Craig: craig@sapc.org.nz)

If you prefer not to give by internet banking, you can save up your offerings until we meet again in person.

Three Songs

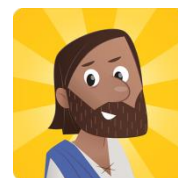
Again, whether you are by yourself or with others, sing along, or just think about the words as they are sung so that you are thankful for what the Lord has done for you.

Click/tap the below link then click/tap the "PLAY ALL" button. (And skip ads if they come up.)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGGAxmqq4yoUZNw9TBljAMVC6PtzN6GZ>

Kids' Talk

If you have children in your house, I encourage parents read a bible story from your children's bible or download the app called "Bible App for Kids" (See image to the right for what the icon looks like.) Have fun clicking/tapping on stories as well as animals/objects as a story is being told.



For Older Children

There is another free app called “The Big Little Bible” that is put out by the Bible Society. (See image to the right for what the icon looks like.) This app has bible stories with less images and more bible text.



Prayers for Others

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our many blessings. Many people are far worse off than us, so we thank you for all you have given us. Most of all we thank you for forgiveness of sins for all who trust in your Son Jesus Christ.

We thank you that your Holy Spirit guides us and strengthens us through good times and bad. Help us to serve you and follow you with all our hearts.

We thank you for the safe arrival of the Bloks and Greenfields back to New Zealand. May you help them to adjust to life here; and may they be able to fulfil the plans you have for them while they are here.

Lord we ask that you would empower and bless those who are finding things challenging. Help them to look to you and not give in to worry or fear. May they know your presence at all times.

We pray for our government officials, both local and central. May they act with integrity and sensitivity to help others. May they have wisdom and courage to make good decisions.

Help churches to continue the work of spreading the gospel and helping believers grow in their faith. May people stay connected to one another, and live in unity, and may we respect one another even when we disagree on topical issues. May our love and unity be a demonstration that we are your disciples.

We pray for schools around the country, as they seek to put safeguards in place for students that are returning. Give the teachers and staff patience and understanding for those they serve.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

Message

This morning, we have a message by me:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQPYuabN7Uk>

Click/tap the below link. (And skip ads if they come up.)

Song

Click/tap the link below and sing along: Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SN_xKwxVktQ

Benediction

May God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you and strengthen you and may he give you peace. Amen.