

# Whare Karakia

## Home prayers

12 December 2021

Luke 2: 8-20

ADVENT

JOY

### Opening Prayer

As we still ourselves before you Lord,  
we thank you that joy runs deeper than happiness.  
As we read your word, and pray for others,  
and welcome you here we are mindful that you  
are Immanuel, God with us, Joy to the world.  
Amen

### Confession

Merciful God, we have sinned  
in what we have thought and said,  
in the wrong we have done  
and in the good we have not done.  
We have sinned in ignorance:  
we have sinned in weakness:

we have sinned through our own deliberate  
fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to  
you. Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake,  
and renew our lives to the glory of your name.  
Amen

### Absolution

The God of love brings us back to himself,  
forgives us our sins,  
and assures us of his eternal love.  
In Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Song

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 us our 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 of His love  
and wonders, wonders of His  
love.

If you are in need of support (prayer or otherwise) please contact us:  
Rev. Learnie 021 984 002 or [office@northwestanglican.org.nz](mailto:office@northwestanglican.org.nz)



CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Northwest Anglican

## Scriptures

Luke 2: 8-20

## Reflection: From Learne

What a wonderful thing it is to come towards this Christmas season and sing Joy to the World. Surely 2021 is another year where we are all needing some joy. The angels declared that they were bringing good news that would cause great joy, and we know it was wrapped up in the baby boy who is Emmanuel God with Us. On hearing the words from the angels, the shepherds went to see. Having seen the baby, they spread the word and all who heard it were amazed. There seems to be a domino effect where an announcement from one angel begins a chain of events that led to praise and glory going to God because this was indeed good news. It is worth us noting that these events do not happen in a vacuum. The Israelite people have been waiting and waiting and waiting for God to come and rescue them. Having waited for the Messiah, a chorus of angels have declared this is the one. And now, we too are waiting and this is what Advent calls us to remember. The Lord will return again and it will be more good news as the world is restored to a place of peace and justice and truth. With God there is only Good News of great joy. As we approach Christmas, like the shepherds, let us see what God has done, share it with others, and turn to glorifying and praising God.

## Questions

- To what degree have you welcomed the Christ child into your life, allowing Jesus to be your Saviour and Lord? Perhaps you could talk to the person who gave you this whare karakia.
- In a world that is crying out for good news, think about who you can share the good news of Jesus with and pray for them.

## Intercessions

*In our prayers today, we put all our thoughts and worries and hopes into the hands of God. You may like to hold your own hands in front of you as you pray. Create your own prayers for each of the headings below:*



The World



The Church



Communities



Sickness

## Closing Prayer

Dear God, you have heard our prayers. Help us to share what we have with others during this holy season. May we keep our minds and hearts on the coming of your kingdom now and always. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen

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