

Whare Karakia

Home prayers

5 December 2021

Luke 3:1-6

ADVENT

PEACE

Opening Prayer

As we come today we remember that Christ is the Prince of Peace, the one promised from the beginning of the world and the One who will return again. We thank God for the hope he gives us and the peace he bestows. As we worship today we will welcome the peace our Lord longs for us to walk in.

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

Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
the peace that was meant to
be.

With God as our Father
family all are we
let me walk with my whanau
in peace and harmony.

Let peace begin with me,
let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take
let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
and live each moment
in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me.

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



CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Northwest Anglican

Reflection: From Val

In ancient times when a King planned to travel to some part of his dominion, he would send a messenger ahead of him to tell the people to prepare the roads, to make them smooth and straight for the King's arrival. This is the role that John the Baptist had as a messenger from God, telling the people not to prepare roads but to prepare their hearts and lives for the coming King, Jesus. But, where do we even begin the work of levelling mountains such as pride, injustice and unforgiveness, or to fill in such valleys as selfishness and hatred. This work has always been too big for people to do themselves, so let's consider the image of our God being an earthmover?! Moving mountains is God's work, for nothing is too big or impossible for him. Change can come to our communities and to our own hearts if we are willing to partner with the Lord in prayer. We do the asking, God does the heavy lifting of mountain moving. When we ask in prayer, and practice waiting in peace for answers to come, the Lord grows our faith, and surprises us with changes that we couldn't have imagined - changes from the inside out. We become the peaceable people of God whose lives point to King Jesus.

Questions

- What is something that is "too big" for you? Ask the Lord to bring change, to level the mountain and make a way forward. "Ask and keep on asking."



As you pray today take some time to colour this picture as you focus on the Prince of Peace

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Intercessions

Continue colouring in while you pray

Pray for some of the places in the world and in our nation where peace is needed.



Pray for the people you know who would benefit from the peace that our Lord Jesus Christ can bring.



What problems in our community are "too big" for people to resolve? Speak a blessing of peace for your neighbourhood. e.g. "I bless you with peace, with freedom from anger and hatred, I bless you with receptivity to the love of God, and acceptance of Jesus as the way."



Closing Prayer

Our God we thank you for this time worshipping you. As we finish we thank you that the peace that passes understanding can be ours. May we go from this space sharing the peace and hope and love of this Advent season with others. Amen