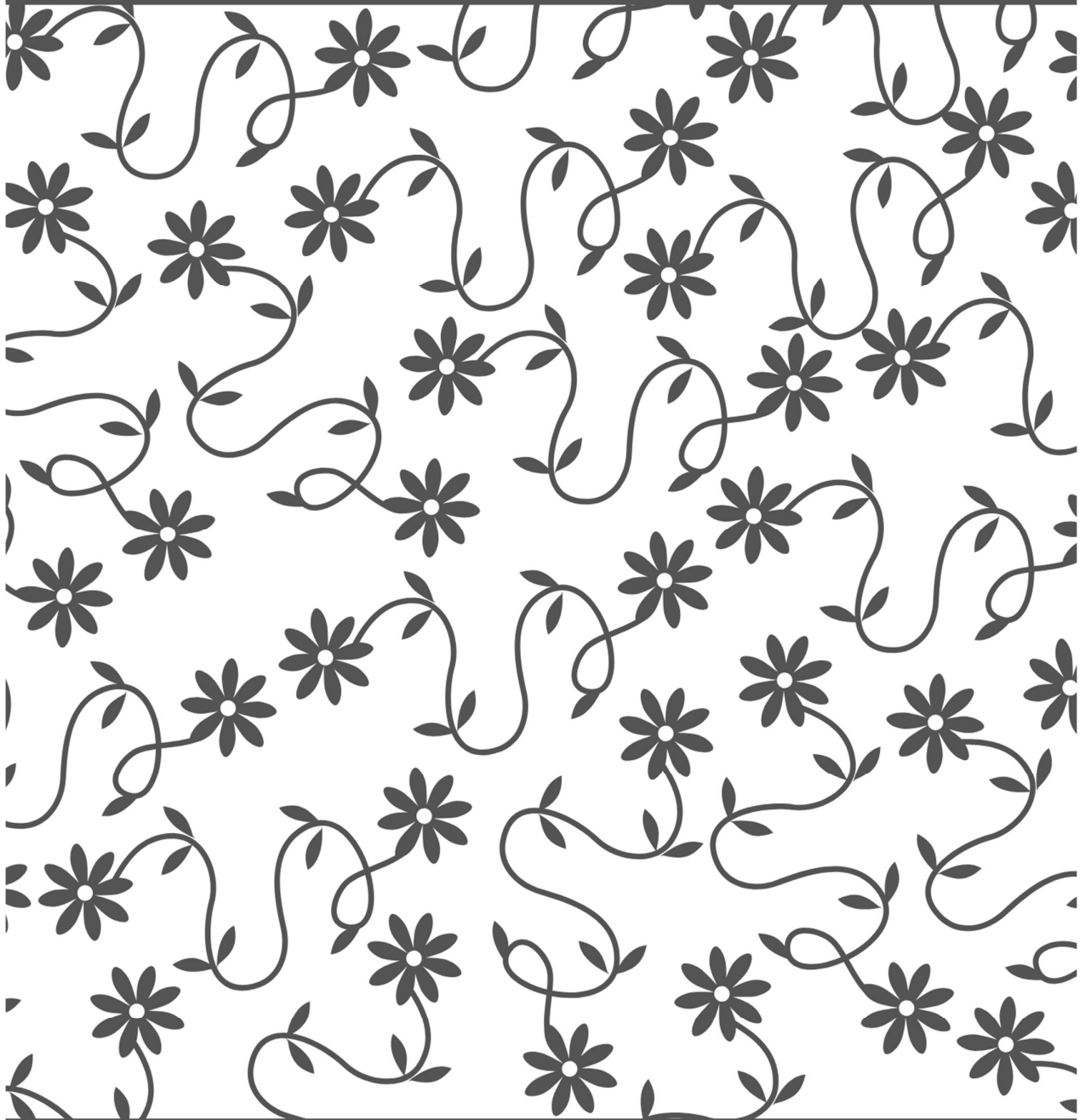


ST PETER'S

LITURGY



SPACE FOR GOD

E ngā hoa aroha (dear friends),

We have put this booklet together to help us while we cannot meet kanohi-ki-kanohi (face to face).

At a time when there is much uncertainty and where the daily rhythms of our lives have been interrupted – our times of pausing for prayer help to anchor our days and weeks. We want to be a people who continue to be marked by love, grace, gratitude, generosity and hope. Prayer remind us of who God is and who we are as God’s children; and it lifts our eyes from what we see or experience to the hope that Jesus offers us and the world, now and forever.

Our hope is that these morning and evening prayers can offer a bookend to our daily activities, while the Thanksgiving Liturgy can be used to remember the week that has been and prepare us for the week ahead. The booklet has some information at the beginning particularly for those who have not used or led a liturgy before.

We read in the Bible, to “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God that is greater than all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” May we experience this peace in the days and weeks ahead and share it with those around us.

Ana & Paul Fletcher

St Peters

March 2020

WHY DO WE USE A LITURGY?

Liturgy has been used by the church for hundreds of years. It helps us to tell God's story and our own in a way that everyone can participate together. It helps us to focus us on who God is, who we are, and what we are called to be. It may seem strange and uncomfortable at first because it is different from our usual way of being and doing. That's ok! Liturgy helps to remind us that this time together is a special time; a sacred time.

Liturgy is helpful because it reminds us that all we need to do is show up and wait. It is easy for us to feel like we are meant to achieve a spiritual mood or experience through our own effort. But there isn't a special formula or routine we need to follow to reach a "spiritual or mental state." If we show up and wait with expectation, Jesus will show up.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE LITURGY FOR?

The Gathering

God is always inviting us to be with Him. We acknowledge that God has welcomed us as his children and is present here with us. In our liturgy we often light a candle to remind us of this.

Thanksgiving

We believe that God is good and God is great. This part of the liturgy helps to remind us of who God is, what God is like and what God has done for us.

Forgiveness

In confession we recognize that we do not live as God intended – in right relationship with God, with ourselves, with others and with creation. We ask for (and receive) forgiveness and God’s help to live the way Jesus has shown us.

The Word

Two of the ways that we hear what God is saying to us are through scripture (the Bible) and through teaching. We are invited to respond to what God is saying to us.

Prayer

Prayer is a conversation with God. We pray because we believe that God cares for us and His world and that God responds to us. Prayer is also another way that we hear what God is saying to us.

Communion

God has lovingly invited us to join his whānau. Communion shows God’s grace to us; we gather around God’s meal table as brothers and sisters and remember that Jesus’ life, death and resurrection transform the world – and therefore us!

Dismissal

We bless one another as we go back to our daily routines and we commit to God and to each other to love and serve God and our neighbours in the way Jesus taught us.

HOW DO WE USE THE LITURGY?

These liturgies are written so that anyone can lead. Sometimes one person will lead the whole liturgy. Or people can take turns leading different parts. Kei a koutou – it's up to you!

The normal text is read by the leader. We say the parts in **bold** together. The parts in *italics* are instructions.

At times there is an option for either English or te reo Māori to be used. The alternative will be written in italics.

SETTING THE SCENE

The most important thing to remember is that God doesn't need us to do anything special in order to show up. This section has some suggestions to help us to be fully present to God and to one another.

Having tangible reminders of God's beauty and the story that we have been invited into helps us to respond to God's goodness and beauty. One way we do this is through visual symbols (a candle, the communion, a cross, a bowl of water). Another way we do this is by creating a space where all our senses can engage. For example, this might include ensuring that everyone is comfortable and removing things that might distract us from participating fully (e.g. putting our cell phones away).

KAIROS CIRCLE

In our liturgy, we use something called the Kairos circle. It's super simple – we ask each other two questions: What is God saying to you? And what are you going to do about it?

This bit has some extra info to help you answer these questions. There is also a link at the bottom to a useful Vimeo clip if you're not sure how to use it.

WHAT IS THE KAIROS CIRCLE?

Each time we gather we listen for what God might be saying to us. We call the moment where we feel God is saying something to us a 'Kairos event.' It is often the part of our discussion that stands out to us the most - a niggle, an 'aha!', a moment of discomfort.

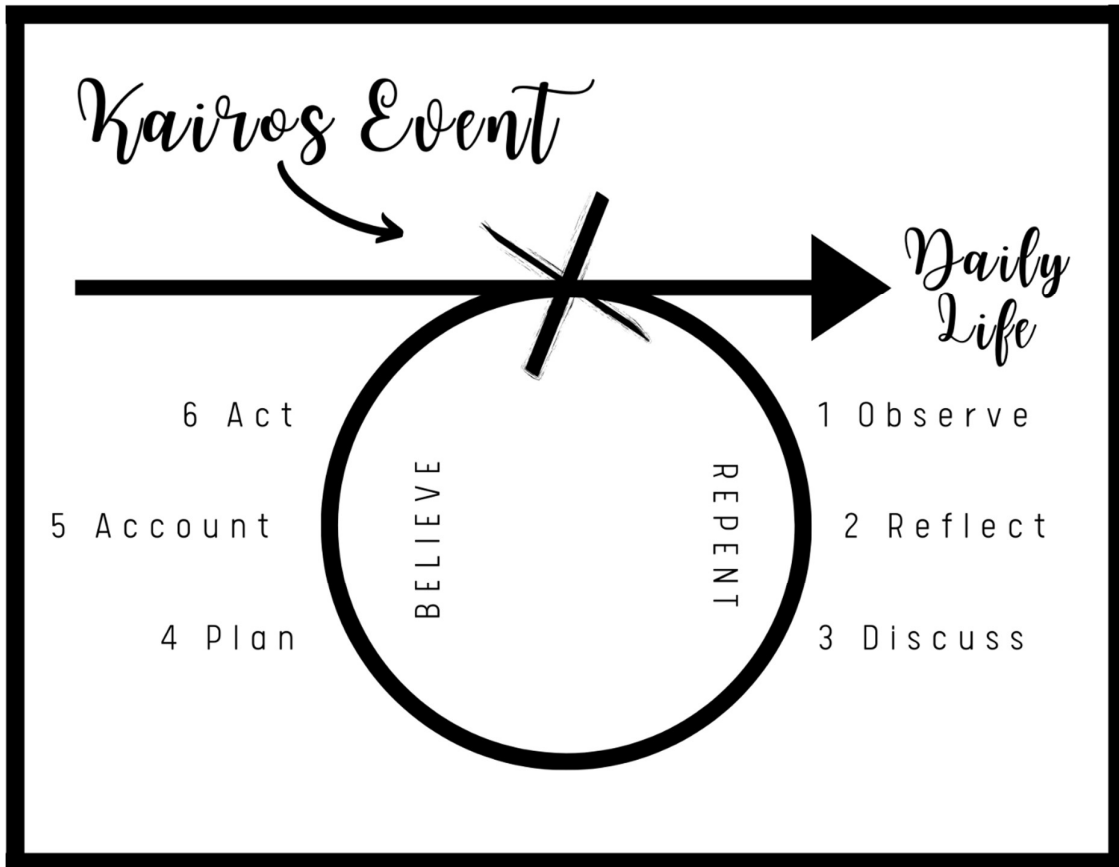
We need to first consider – **What is God saying to me?** Some questions to help:

- What was going on for me? How did it make me feel?
- What is the reason that this stood out for me?
- What difference does/could it make in my life?

Once we have an idea of what God is saying to us, we then need to ask **What am I going to do about it?** God is always inviting us to grow more and more like Jesus. We need to consider:

- What is the next step God is inviting me to take? (Make it specific)
- Who is going to hold me accountable? When?
- Do it!

THE KAIROS TOOL



The Kairos Circle: <https://vimeo.com/205450248>

THE LITURGIES

THANKSGIVING LITURGY

TE WHAKATIKATIKA | THE GATHERING

Open with some silence or a simple song.

Welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (*Nau mai, haere mai i te runga i te ingoa o tō tātou Ariki, a Ihu Karaiti*) who welcomed into his presence children, women, men, the sick, the sinful, the skeptical, the rich and the poor, law-makers, law-breakers, drunkards, and tax collectors – you and me. Welcome.

The candle is lit as a symbol of God's presence.

The Lord is here! **God's Spirit is with us!**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord!**

This is the day the Lord has made! **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

TE WHAKAMOEMITI | THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to God, for he is good.

His love never quits.

God remembered us when we were down.

His love never quits.

And rescued us from fear and death

His love never quits.

He takes care of everyone in time of need

His love never quits.

Give thanks to the God of all.

His love never quits. *From Psalm 136*

Have a time of thanking God out loud for what we are grateful for this week.

(e.g. God I am thankful for...)

A song of thanksgiving may be sung here.

TE HOUHOU-I-TE-RONGO | FORGIVENESS

God we confess that we lack faith about who you are and what you are like:

Father, we fail to trust your goodness and might.

Jesus, we don't often live with you as our King.

Spirit, we doubt your work in this world.

We minimize you, we sideline you, we make you something you are not.

God, give us more faith. God enlarge our imagination. God inspire our minds with a fuller picture of who you truly are! May Jesus be revealed in us.

E te Ariki kia aroha mai, **E te Karaiti kia aroha mai**, E te Ariki kia aroha mai.

*(Lord have mercy. **Christ have mercy.** Lord have mercy.)*

God the Creator gives us new life, forgives and restores us. Let us turn to Christ in faith and live our lives in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

TE KARAIPITURE ME TE KŌRERO | SCRIPTURE & DISCUSSION

Read today's scripture. Watch the 'Thought for the Day'. Discuss:

- *What does this say about who God is and what God is like?*
- *What does it say about us?*

Have a few minutes silence. During this time, each person uses the Kairos Circle to answer: What is God saying to me and what am I going to do about it? Share your one sentence action point with each other.

NGĀ ĪNOI | PRAYERS

This is an open time to bring before God anything that is on our hearts: in our homes, our communities, our city, our country, our world.

TE HĀKARI TAPU | COMMUNION

Optional. See separate insert for the Communion liturgy.

TE HAERENGA ATU | THE DISMISSAL

God, may we encounter you and live your life more fully.

May we live lives that reflect your creativity as the creator.

May we believe and pray for the miracle of your presence in the most unlikely places and unlikely of ways.

May we suffer well for what is good and just and loving.

And may we God, live resurrection lives; lives that believe that hope and beauty and new life can flourish from the darkest and most deathly situations.

Give us faith as a church; now and forever. Amen.

MORNING PRAYERS

Open with some silence or a simple song.

Kia tau tonu te rangimārie o te Ariki ki a koutou.

The Lord's peace be with you this morning.

Ki a koe anō hoki.

And also with you.

Today is a fresh day. It is a good day because you God have made it. Therefore it is full of possibilities and hope.

The candle is lit as a symbol of God's presence. Take a moment to consider your day knowing that God goes ahead of you, beside you, and behind you.

God fill us with hope. Give us eyes to see and ears to hear what is possible this day. Among the places we dwell, the people we meet, and the challenges we face – keep us conscious of your nearness, your goodness and your ability to bring transformation.

As we enter this day Jesus remind us that your are our source.

Help us to live the day with You in the centre.

You call us together as your body.

Help us to share the day well with others.

You bid us to follow in your revolution of love.

Help us to share good news with the last, the lost and the least.

You said we would do even greater things than you, in your name!

Help us step into your authority and liberation.

Prayer for others / Place stones on altar as symbol

Waiata / Song (optional)

God as we enter this day help us to be generous with our homes, with our meal times, with our bed spaces, with our personal wealth, with our emotional energy, with our time, that we may welcome Jesus into our midst. **Lord have mercy.**

As you enter this day, **know that the peace of Christ goes with you wherever he sends you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm, and may he bring you back rejoicing, once again into these doors. Amen.**

Waiata / Song

EVENING PRAYERS

The angels of God guard us through the night **and quieten the powers of darkness.**

The Spirit of God be our guide, **to lead us to peace and to glory.**

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early, and so late take rest, and eat the bread of anxiety. For God's children are given gifts even while they sleep.

Silence: Use this time to hand over anxiety, fear and concerns you are carrying to God.

E te Ariki kia aroha mai. **E te Karaiti kia aroha mai.** E te Ariki kia aroha mai.

Know that you are loved, forgiven, and empowered: be at peace. *(Pause)*

Today was a day in eternity. The fruit of your kingdom, God, will last forever. Your Spirit transforms the world. And we are grateful for this day.

Tonight **we recall your mercy; given so gently and generously.** Each thing we have received, has come from you. Each thing for which we hope, will come through your love. Each thing we find joy in, is due to your abundance. For all your goodness, we thank you.

Prayers of thanksgiving

God we thank you for all that is good, for our creation and our humanity, for the stewardship you have given us of this planet, for the gifts of life and of one another, and for your love which is unbounded and eternal.

Waiata/Song (Optional)

Lord it is night. The night is for stillness. Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day. What has been done has been done; what has not been done has not been done, let it be.

The night is dark. Let our fears of the darkness or the world and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet. Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn. Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.

And now as we enter rest - into your hands, O God, we commend our spirits. **Preserve us, O God, while waking and guard us while sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep may rest in your peace.**

O God of love and mercy: grant us, in Christ, rest and peace. **Āmine.**

These liturgies have been compiled drawing on numerous sources. In particular, we acknowledge:

- *A New Zealand Prayer Book | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*, Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
- *Daily Prayers*, Ngatiawa River Monastery
- *A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals*, Shane Claiborne, Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, Enum Okoro
- *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, Iona Community



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