

Advent 2019

SOURCE:

ange@blundell.net.nz

Angela Blundell, St Mary's
By the Sea, Auckland

This year we will focus on the traditional themes of Hope, Joy, Peace and Love. We are drawing from an Advent candle liturgy Angela has written and resources from A Sanctified Art www.sanctifiedart.org

For the whole church we will have:

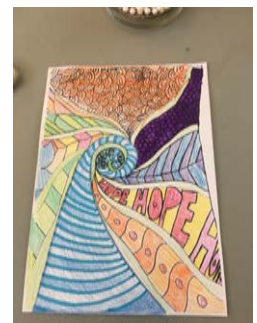
- Art panels outside church (painting by Nanette)
- Advent station with candles, new symbol every week
- Colour-themed flower arrangements
- Candle lighting liturgy including theme and symbols
- Weekly Advent reflection booklet with prayers, art, poems, colouring and prompts for reflection.



In addition our Intergenerational service will include stations as part of worship:

- Stone painting
- Creation of a Advent candle (different one every week)
- Colouring inspired by the theme (drawn by Gabriella)
- Reflective Art station (from A Sanctified Art)
- Scripture reflection

Text



Week 1 - Hope

Colour - Green

Symbol - Koru/New life

Hope can't wait/God's promised day can't wait

Scripture Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122

- the vision of hope and change made possible through the Messiah
- Hope and despair
- Alternative to what is present now (swords into ploughshares, what would that look like now)
- How can we be hope bringers, what brings us hope, how do we hope in despair.

Week 2 - Peace

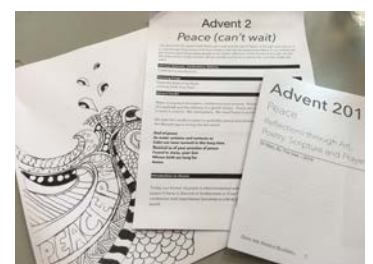
Colour - Blue

Symbol - Water

Peace can't wait/Repentance can't wait

Scripture Isaiah 11:1-10, Matthew 3:1-12

- a vision of peace
- First we must repent in the ways that we turn away from God and do harm
- Once reconciled we become vessels of God's peace



- Repent comes from the word Metanoia which refers to a change of heart, the word shalom speaks to completeness, wholeness and restoration
- Connection between repentance and peace.

Week 3 - Joy

Colour - Red

Symbol - Pohutakawa

Joy can't wait/Delight can't wait

Scripture Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 1:46b-55

- vision of abundance and joy (desert blooming)
- Mary was so joyful in her response to startling news - and prophetic
- How can we be bringers of joy, how do we experience joy, what brings us joy.



Week 4 - Love

Colour - Purple

Symbol - Paua

Love can't wait/Courage can't wait

Scripture - Mathew 1:18-25

- courage required of Joseph and Mary to go through what they did
- Choosing the way of justice and love rather than law
- The root of the word courage is cor, the latin word for heart, it used to mean "to speak ones mind by telling all ones heart".
- Courage is about putting vulnerability on the line

