



Galaxies

Evening Service

4 June 2006

Service by Pete Cowley



Welcome:

The theme for tonight's service is "Queens Birthday", which we have repossessed and rebranded as our "collective birthday". Celebrated in part by the annual Out Takes film festival, and collectively here at Galaxies.

Call to togetherness:

Leader: We are all part of the parties in life.
As we mark this, our special "Queens Birthday", may rapture be with us.

People: **May we be makers of the rapture.**

Leader: Where there is joy and hope. **People:** We will celebrate and share it together.

Leader: Jesus says to us, 'Come and follow me' Now we bind our hearts together and reaffirm our commitment to think wisely, to act justly, to live compassionately and party joyously.

People: Amen.



Affirmation of Faith

I give thanks for life and put my trust in all its possibilities for good ... For my good, for the good of those whose lives mine touches, for all people, and for the earth itself;

I celebrate the honest search for meaning, for purpose, for truth and wholeness shown by people of faith through the ages, and join them in the quest;

I recognise in Jesus a man of integrity, insight and vision who continually challenges my willingness to settle for too little, both in myself, and in the world around me;

I find in the Christ of faith a source of strength and wholeness, an inspiration to new beginnings, and a spur to be all I am capable of;

I affirm the communities of trust, love and endeavour of those who, from time immemorial, have shared in the search, and who, with me, have felt our imagination quickened, our creativity fired, the boundaries of our understanding and empathy extended;

**In these ways, and in the dynamic of their inter-linking I experience that which I call God
And in God I put my trust,**

Now and into the future, Amen

(by Ian Harris)

Contemporary Celebration

Leader: We celebrate the enormous contribution Gay people have made to society over the years. Some time ago a list was compiled of these notable people (and there are thousands of others who are unrecognised!

People: Please dip into the bowl and read aloud the name out of the person and what they are known for.

The Offering

Leader: We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the table and those given to support the mission of Galaxies.

Passing the Peace

Leader:

Let us share our peace and love

Let us feel the power of the earth that holds us together.

Let us celebrate our gifts in song and dance.

Let us all rejoice in our power and our beauty.

People:

We open our hearts to the miracle of birth and the mystery of God's love in all creation.

We carry in us the divine light that shone so brightly the night of Christ's birth.

The gift of love, which we share tonight, deepens us as people, deepens us as sisters and brothers.

People share the peace with those around them.

The blessing

Let us stop for a moment and calm our thoughts as we prepare ourselves for radical action, just like Jesus:

- to act with peaceful, careful listening; even in the face of aggression
- to calmly and lovingly challenge duplicity, bigotry, prejudice and injustice wherever we encounter it.
- to accept people with loving-kindness in all our interactions.
- to share our joy and blessings freely with others.

Notices

"What are you afraid of?" Photo Exhibition Launch (now 20 years since Homosexual Law reform)

Photographs of the fight for Homosexual Law Reform, by David Hindley

Turnbull House, Bowen Street, Wellington Exhibition launch, 2.30pm Sunday July 9.

Exhibition continues Monday July 10 to Wednesday July 12, 10am to 6pm.

Free entry, koha welcome

Tea, Coffee, Birthday Cake and Conversation