

TOGETHER WE PRAY JANUARY 7 2018

Bidding: You are our Beloved Father

Response: **We praise and adore you**

God of steadfast love, we begin our New Year with you. We may have made our resolutions. We may have broken some already. One resolution, help us to keep we pray – a renewed resolution to follow Jesus as Master, as Friend, as Saviour.

You are our Beloved Father

We praise and adore you

Spirit of God, hover with your gentle comfort over the emptiness of those for whom the year stretches endlessly in the loss of a loved one.....

Spirit of God, hover with your healing over the darkness of people we know who are in pain, struggling with discomfort, unwell.....

Spirit of God, hover with your love over us and our families to guide and protect us, to motivate us to act from love, and in love.....

You are our Beloved Father

We praise and adore you

We would love to have been there to see the Spirit come to rest on Jesus and hear your delight and deep love for him. We were not there but we are here.

We ask that you fill us afresh with your Holy Spirit and remind us again of your delight and love for us.

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We praise and adore you

We thank you for the effective ministry of John, drawing to its completion and for the mission of Jesus about to begin. As the days of this year unfold, help us to surrender to you, with thanks, the past twelve months..... and reach out to anticipate, with courage and faith, the changes and chances of the next twelve months.

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“Let there be respect for the earth, peace for its people,
love in our lives, delight in the good,
forgiveness for past wrongs and from now on a new start.”

(Eighteen years ago, at the turn of the new millennium, the Conference of Churches in Aotearoa penned this resolution. It is still utterly relevant.)