

CASHMERE | PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



“The Stone Church on the Hill”

Mission Statement

To worship God, follow Christ,
transforming the world in the
power of the Spirit

www.cashmerechurch.org.nz

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Sunday 24th April 2022 Harvest Thanksgiving

Preacher: Anne Shave



A

very warm welcome to you all, whether this is your first time or thousandth time in church. You are welcome whatever your age, gender, marital status, disability, poverty or wealth, race or sexuality. You are welcome whether you have a deep and mature faith in Christ; are uncertain and still seeking; or have no faith. If you are new to church, please do not hesitate to ask one of those on duty if you have any questions.

You are invited to stay for morning tea after the service.



At the present time, we ask you to please continue to wear a mask during worship.

Order of Worship

*Congregational responses are in bold italics.
Please stand as the Bible is processed in.*

Lighting of the fellowship candle (*Shirley Wilson*)

Hymn 70 (ii): All things bright and beautiful

Psalm 65 Praise and Thanksgiving

O God, it is right for us to praise you in Zion
and keep our promises to you,

because you answer prayers.

People everywhere will come to you
on account of their sins.

***Our faults defeat us,
but you forgive them.***

Happy are those whom you choose,
whom you bring to live in your sanctuary.

***We shall be satisfied with the good things of your house,
the blessings of your sacred Temple.***

You answer us by giving us victory,
and you do wonderful things to save us.

***People all over the world
and across the distant seas trust in you.***

You set the mountains in place by your strength,
showing your mighty power.

***You calm the roar of the seas
and the noise of the waves;
you calm the uproar of the peoples.***

The whole world stands in awe
of the great things that you have done.

***Your deeds bring shouts of joy
from one end of the earth to the other.***

You show your care for the land by sending rain;
you make it rich and fertile.

***You fill the streams with water;
you provide the earth with crops.***

This is how you do it:

you send abundant rain on the plowed fields
and soak them with water;

***you soften the soil with showers
and cause the young plants to grow.***

What a rich harvest your goodness provides!
Wherever you go there is plenty.

***The pastures are filled with flocks;
the hillsides are full of joy.***

The fields are covered with sheep;
the valleys are full of wheat.

All: *Everything shouts and sings for joy!*

Prayer of confession

Generous God, on this day of thanksgiving
for all the goodness we see in the natural world around us,
we pray for the many who do not have enough:

enough food to eat, or shelter to keep warm;
enough employment, or money to pay their bills;
enough medicine or medical care.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We also pray for those who have more than enough,
but who still struggle to find meaning and purpose in life;
who indulge in dangerous or self-serving activities
to dull their pain or loneliness.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Strengthen us, Lord, to live in a manner worthy
of the Good News we have received,
offering our lives in service of Your kingdom,
where the last are first, and the first are last,
and there is grace enough for all.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,

Amen.

~ Adapted from a prayer by Christine Longhurst, re:Worship
<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>

Notices

Time with children – Harvest Thanksgiving and gifts to those in need

Hymn 59: We plough the fields and scatter

Bible readings: *Helen Matthews*

- John 20:19-31 (p.146 NT)
- Acts 5:27-32 (p.156 NT)

Sermon: Faith lessons from “Doubting Thomas”

Hymn: Thomas [*Tune: Wareham WOV 52*]

1. Safe, locked inside that upper room,
too scared to let the truth be known,
disciples had to see their Lord
before that truth could be their own.
2. And Thomas, still so full of doubt,
would not believe the tales they told
till Christ appeared, to show his wounds -
then his conviction made him bold.
3. We have not seen, but we believe
and we must witness by our faith
to living truth we have received,
awakened by the Spirit's breath.

Text (2 verses omitted): Marjorie Dobson
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Prayers for others, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

Our freewill offering to support the mission and church of Jesus Christ will be received. If it is comfortable for you do to so, please stand to join in the prayer of dedication:

***God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer;
and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Song: Now the green blade riseth [*Easter carol: Noel Nouvelet TiS 382*]

1. Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

2. In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.
3. Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.
4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Concluding prayer

*Please remain standing as the Bible is processed out.
Thank you for sharing in worship this morning. Please come through to the
hall for morning tea.*



Thank you for your donations for the City Mission Foodbank, not only for today's Harvest Thanksgiving, but throughout the year.

For more information on ways to help out the City Mission, go to their website:
<https://www.citymission.org.nz/>

Name Badges: Do you need a name badge? If you don't yet have one, or yours has gone missing, please let Gail know and she will organise one for you.

Pondering the gospel reading at home: You may like to listen to a very moving recording of the 20th chapter of John's gospel, from the King James Version of the Bible, read by the actress Dame Patricia Routledge.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBoAge80pEw>

Small group Bible study – "A Glorious Whisper": Over four Tuesday evenings during May Anne Shave will lead a Bible-based discussion group exploring the question, "How does God speak to us?" The resource we will use has been written by John Birch, the author of two lovely studies that some church members looked at last year ("Meet the Disciples" and "Followers of Jesus"). The group will meet in the Kowhai Lounge from 7:30-9pm. Do consider coming along, even if you are unable to make it to all four of the evenings.

- **Tuesday 3rd May** – *Through Creation and Created Places*
(Note: we will not meet on 10th May)
- **Tuesday 17th May** – *Through Signs and Symbols*
- **Tuesday 24th May** – *Through the Word, Spirit and People*
- **Tuesday 31st May** – *Through Creativity*

Please speak to Anne if you have any questions and/or if you would like a copy of the study booklet.

Some prompts for prayer as we continue to pray at home for those caught up in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine:

- For all in hiding, seeking safety...
- For those forced to take up arms...
- For all leaving behind homes and loved ones...
- For all providing welcome and protection to those who have fled...
- For children surrounded by chaos...
- For journalists risking safety to report the truth about daily events...
- For those in Russia who bravely advocate for peace...
- For the difficult work of diplomats, world leaders, and international organisations ...
- For medical workers as they attend to the injured...
- For all grieving those who have died...

The Alpine Presbytery Newsletter is produced weekly, and a copy is on the notice board in the foyer. Speak to Gail if you would like to subscribe to receive it directly.

Church Rosters	This week: 24th April	Next week: 1st May
Door Duty	David & Jane Kim	Peter & Tric Nelson, Jill McAra
Morning Tea & Coffee	Judith & Tony Waters	Elizabeth & Don Cho
Bible Reading	Helen Matthews	Cecile Pierce
Candle Lighting	Shirley Wilson	Elizabeth Taggart
Food Trolley	Elisabeth Cooch	Ian Shaw
Money Counting (Monday)		

Leading Worship over the next few weeks:

1 st May	David Coster
8 th May	David Coster
15 th May	Anne Shave
May	Anne Shave

