

CASHMERE | PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



“The Stone Church on the Hill”

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**Mission Statement**

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

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[www.cashmerechurch.org.nz](http://www.cashmerechurch.org.nz)

**Ministers**

Rt. Rev. Hamish Galloway

Phone 027 603 0063

Email: [minister@cashmerechurch.org.nz](mailto:minister@cashmerechurch.org.nz)

Rev. David Coster

Phone: 027 220 5765

Email: [drcoster@xtra.co.nz](mailto:drcoster@xtra.co.nz)

**Church Office:**

2 Macmillan Avenue, Cashmere,  
Christchurch

Phone 332 7129

Email: [cashmere.church@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cashmere.church@xtra.co.nz)

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent: Love**  
**Service of Readings and Carols**

*Service led by David Coster*

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.

**Children are welcome** to sit anywhere in the church, but if they wish to be more active then there are a selection of toys and books at the very back, and also in the Family Room (door between the organ & piano).

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

Whilst Masks are no longer *required*, we ask you to please respect the decisions of others with regard to whether or not they wear one.

## Order of Worship

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

### **Lighting of the Advent Candles** (*Pothen/Chacko family*)

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!  
Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,  
remembering the promises of God with prayer.  
We light this candle in hope.  
We light this candle for peace.  
We light this candle in joy!  
We light this candle with love.

### **We sing:** Light one candle

1. Light one candle for hope,  
one bright candle for hope.  
he brings hope to every heart.  
He comes! He Comes!
2. Light one candle for peace,  
one bright candle for peace.  
He brings peace to every heart.  
He comes! He comes!
3. Light one candle for joy,  
one bright candle for joy.  
Every nation will find salvation  
in Bethlehem's baby boy.
4. Light one candle for love,  
one bright candle for love.  
He brings love to every heart.  
He comes! He comes!  
He brings love to every heart.  
He comes! He comes!

Natalie Sleeth  
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Hear again the Word of the Lord drawn from Zephaniah 3:171

The LORD your God . . . will rejoice over you with gladness; God will quiet you with divine love like a child upon the breast. The Lord will exult over you with loud singing.

### Let us pray:

As we light our advent candles

***Light of the world shine on us.***

As we prepare for Christmas time

***Light of the world, shine on us.***

In this world of pain and darkness,

***Light of the world, shine through us.***

To all the people who don't know you,

***Light of the world, shine through us.***

Jesus you are coming again,

***Light of the world, light the way.***

In the service here today

***Light of the world, light the way.***

### Call to Worship:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.

***For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.***

**We sing:** Come now Lord Jesus (Tune AA 23)

1. Come now, Lord Jesus  
enter our Christmas,  
be to us no stranger  
in this new-made manger.
2. Come, small and human,  
born of a woman,  
yet a Son much greater  
of our own Creator.
3. Come, cold and crying,  
comfort denying,  
no place to receive you,  
few yet to believe you.
4. Come poor and simple,  
our flesh your temple,  
in your body feeling  
hurt as well as healing.
5. Come gift and token,  
bread to be broken -  
star and sign still point you,  
myrrh will yet anoint you.

Shirley Murray

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### Greeting

May the grace and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, with all whom you love, and all whom you pray for here this day.

***And may the grace and peace of our Lord be with you also.***

## Prayer of Adoration and Confession

As we approach Christmas, O God, we wait with hopeful hearts for a fresh experience of your Holy presence in our lives.

Help us to have the patience to wait for you and to pay attention as did Joseph and Mary. Help us to be trusting and faithful as they were. May we continue to see your word come alive in our world.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has the lyrics "Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el,". The second staff has "His name is called Em-man - u - el". The third staff has "God with us, re-vealed in us". The fourth staff has "His name is called Em-man - u - el." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with some rests and ties.

***Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel***

***God with us, revealed in us***

***His name is called Emmanuel. (sung)***

There are times when, caught up in the busyness of our day-to-day living, we forget about you, O God, or ignore your call.

There are times when we look for shortcuts, times when we don't want to face up to reality, times when we look for an easy way out.

***Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel***

***God with us, revealed in us***

***His name is called Emmanuel. (sung)***

In this Holy Season, make us new. Cleanse us.

Teach us, Change us. Forgive us.

Hear this Good News: God has not abandoned us, but has come in the person of Jesus of Nazareth to be our friend and Saviour, and in his name, we are forgiven.

***Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel***

***God with us, revealed in us***

***His name is called Emmanuel. (sung)***

## **Words of Assurance**

The prophet Isaiah assured a fearful king long ago saying,  
Do not be afraid for the loving presence of God is coming among you.  
A messenger of God spoke to Joseph in his dream saying,  
Do not be afraid for the loving presence of God is coming among you.  
The Spirit of God speaks in the stillness of our hearts saying,  
Do not be afraid for the loving presence of God is coming among you.  
**Amen**

**Choir:** Light of the world

## **Notices**

### **We Pass the Peace of Christ**

**Choir:** Like a candle flame

**Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 9: 2, 6 & 7 (*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah*) read by Jill Fenton

**Solo, Mithila Chacko:** He shall feed his flock (Messiah)

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 1: 26-33 (*The Angel Gabriel visits Mary with astonishing news*) read by Peter Nelson

**We sing:** Hark the glad sound the Saviour comes (Tune WOV 197)

1. Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long;  
let every heart prepare a throne  
and every voice a song.
2. On him the Spirit largely poured  
exerts its sacred fire;  
wisdom and might and zeal and love  
his holy breast inspire.
3. He comes the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.
4. He comes the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures of his grace  
to enrich the humble poor.

5. His silver trumpets publish loud  
the jubilee of the Lord,  
our debts are all remitted now,  
our heritage restored.
6. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
your welcome shall proclaim,  
and heaven's exalted arches ring  
with your beloved name.

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 1 :46-55 (*The Magnificat*) read by Richard Leete

**Pothen Family** singing an Indian Carol

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 2:1-7 (*St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus*) read by Robin McKee

**We sing:** God was in Christ (Tune 49 HIOS)

1. God was in Christ and in that frame,  
a human child, God truly came.
2. In us is held all that God is –  
the will to good, the well of peace.
3. The spark to fire the shape of stars,  
the shout of joy and passion's scars.
4. That child is born time after time:  
in each of us God dreams a dream.
5. God is in us, by love conceived,  
in struggle born, in faith believed.

Shirley Murray

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**Scripture Reading** Matthew 2:1-11 (*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus*)  
read by Karen Glithero

**We sing** Silent Night (*v 2-3; 1<sup>st</sup> verse will be sung in German by Ira, Elisabeth & Anne*)

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht  
Alles schläft; einsam wacht  
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.  
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

1. Silent night, holy night:  
shepherd quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia";  
Christ the Saviour is born,  
Christ the Saviour is born.
  
2. Silent night, holy night,  
wondrous star, lend your light;  
with the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King,  
Christ our Saviour is born,  
Christ our Saviour is born.

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 2: 8-16 (*The shepherds go the manger*) read by Kathleen Anderson

**Choir:** Joseph dearest, Joseph mine (Song of the Crib)

**Scripture Reading:** John 1:1-14 (*The Word became flesh*) read by Ian Gray

**Korean Choir sings:** The First Nowell

**Dedication of Offering and Lord's Prayer**

***Love shone from the stable at Bethlehem;***

***a love that encouraged the dispirited,***

***a love that accepted the vulnerable,***

***a love worked out in community and family,***

***a love that encompasses all nations and ethnic groups,***

***a love that blesses.***

***That love we share through our offerings through Jesus Christ, our Lord.***

**We sing:** He hōnore (seated)

He hōnore, he korōria  
Maungārongo ki te whenua  
Whakāro pai e  
Kingā tangata katoa  
Ake ake, ake ake  
Āmine  
Te Atua, te piringa,  
Toku oranga

All Honour and glory to our maker  
Let there be peace on earth  
May good thoughts come to all men  
For ever and ever, for ever and ever.  
Amen  
The Maker, the refuge and my life.

**Poem** read by Elisabeth Cooch: "Refugee" from *Sounding the Seasons*  
Malcolm Guite

**We sing:** Peace to the world (Tune HiOS 114)

1. Peace, peace to the world!  
the time for peace will come.  
Peace, peace to the world!  
The time for peace will come.  
And all the bells will ring again -  
good news, good news they'll bring again -  
and all the people sing again:  
"The time for peace has come!  
The time for peace has come, has come,  
the time for peace has come!"
2. Peace, peace to the world!  
The power of fear will go.  
Peace, peace to the world!  
The power of fear will go.  
And kindness, trust and honesty  
must conquer greed and cruelty  
and sadness, pain and poverty:  
The power of fear must go!  
The power of fear must go, must go,  
the power of fear must go!
3. Peace, peace to the world!  
The reign of love will come.  
Peace, peace to the world!  
The reign of love will come  
when all the bells on earth declare  
to all God's creatures everywhere  
that move through land and sea and air:  
"The reign on love has come!  
The reign of love has come, has come,  
the reign of love has come!"

Willow Macky  
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**Prayer of Intercession:** The Choir sings ***Praise to God in the Highest***

1. Praise to God in the highest! Bless us, O Father!  
Praise to thee.
2. Guide and prosper the nations, rulers and people:  
Praise to thee.
3. May the truth in its beauty flourish triumphant:  
Praise to thee.

4. May the mills bring us bread, for food and forgiving:  
Praise to thee.
5. May the good be obeyed, and evil be conquered:  
Praise to thee.
6. Give us laughter, and set us gaily rejoicing:  
Praise to thee.
7. Peace on earth, and goodwill be ever among us:  
Praise to thee.

**We sing:** Go tell it on the mountain (*accompanied by Janice Lee on saxophone*)

*Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born*

1. While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light
2. The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo! above the earth  
Rang out the angels chorus  
That hailed our Saviour's birth
3. Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn

### **Benediction**

My friends in Jesus Christ  
May you be strengthened by the good news  
that God proclaims in Jesus Christ.  
May you be drawn to the wonder  
of the mystery revealed,  
God's eternal love for us  
made flesh in Jesus Christ.  
Go in the glory of God's abundant love.

***We go with hope.***

***We go in peace.***

***We go with joy.***

***We go in love***

## Threefold Amen

*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.*



### ***Carol singing at homes***

On the evening of **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**, we will visit some of our parishioners in retirement villages to sing carols. All are welcome. Meet at the church at 6pm so that we can travel together. We shall finish with supper at Anne Shave's home in Cracroft.

### ***Christmas Eve***

The church will be open during the day on Saturday for prayer and remembrance. Please speak to Anne Shave this morning if you would like to be on the roster to spend a quiet hour in the church, keeping an eye on the candles. (This can be a lovely experience.) Thank you.

### ***Office Hours & Ministers' availability***

**Gail** will work up to and including Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, and is then on leave, returning to work on 9<sup>th</sup> January.

**Hamish** will be on leave from 26 December until 12 January

**David** will be on call throughout this period, and can be contacted on 027 220 5765.

### ***Rebate Donations***

Donations to charities (including the church) are issued with Tax Receipts (which are usually sent out at the end of the tax year) and are entitled to a Donations Rebate from the IRD, equivalent to one third of the total donations (subject to earnings criteria). Some parishioners choose to donate some or all of this rebate back to the church to assist further with our finances. If you would like to do this, you can do so either by:

- Direct Credit to our bank account (020800-0181604-01) – please use “Rebate donation” as a reference.
- Placing cash in an envelope marked “Rebate Donation” and either leave it at the office, or place it in the offerings plate.

You will, of course, receive a Tax Receipt for these donations also.

### ***Faith and Hope in Midlife***

If you wish to purchase a copy of Anne Shave's book (perhaps as a Christmas present?) there are some copies available in the church office, so pop in any morning except

Wednesday if you would like one, or contact Anne by email - [shavea6@gmail.com](mailto:shavea6@gmail.com) - if you would like her to drop one off to you. They are \$30. Internet banking details are available with the books, so no need to have cash on you.

***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**

	<b>This week: 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>
<b>Door Duty</b>	Warren Campbell, Annette McAdam, Jill McAra	Clare Shave <i>More volunteers, please</i>
<b>Morning Tea &amp; Coffee</b>	Peter & Tric Nelson	<i>None</i>
<b>Bible Reading</b>	(Christmas Music Service)	<i>Organised by David Coster</i>
<b>Candle Lighting</b>	The Pothen Chacko Family	<i>Organised by David Coster</i>
<b>Food Trolley</b>	David Troughton	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Money Counting (Monday)</b>	Rouie Swan	<i>Gail on leave until 9 January</i>

	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>New Year's Day – 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>
<b>Door Duty</b>	Annette McAdam, Kathleen Anderson, Ian Gray	Annette McAdam, Kathleen Anderson, Clare Shave
<b>Morning Tea &amp; Coffee</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>Volunteers, please</i>
<b>Bible Reading</b>	Ian Gray	Clare Shave
<b>Candle Lighting</b>	<i>Volunteers, please</i>	<i>Volunteer, please</i>
<b>Food Trolley</b>	Margaret Ford	Ian Shaw
<b>Money Counting (Monday)</b>	<i>Gail on leave until 9 January</i>	

### **Leading Worship over the next few weeks:**

24 December	Christmas Eve: David Coster
25 December	Christmas Day: Hamish Galloway
1 January	Anne Shave
8 January	David Coster
15 January	Hamish Galloway



# Christmas in Cashmere

## COMMUNITY CAROLS

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December @ 6pm** *Community carols in the open air.*

An event for all ages, with music from the Steadfast Band and a sausage sizzle.

Bring rugs and a picnic. (In the church if wet)



## CHRISTMAS EVE: Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December

### Light a Candle in Remembrance

The church will be open during the day for personal prayer, remembrance & contemplation

### Midnight Watch Candlelight Service

Commencing at 11.30pm

## CHRISTMAS MORNING: Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December @ 9.30am

All-age family friendly celebration