

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

Ministers

Rt. Rev. Hamish Galloway

Phone 027 603 0063

Email: minister@cashmerechurch.org.nz

Rev. David Coster

Phone: 027 220 5765

Email: drcoster@xtra.co.nz

Church Office:

2 Macmillan Avenue, Cashmere,
Christchurch

Phone 332 7129

Email: cashmere.church@xtra.co.nz

Sunday 19th March 2023
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Preacher: 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).

There will be **Sunday School and children's activities** today, led by Janice, for those that wish to participate.

Whilst Masks are not *required*, we ask you to please respect the decisions of others with regard to whether or not they wear one.

Please remember to wear your **Name Badges**. If you do not have one, please leave a note for Gail and she will print one for you.

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

Order of Worship

Congregational responses are in bold italics

Fellowship Candle (*Elizabeth Taggart*)

Call to worship

As a mother cradles her child to her breast;

so does God enfold us with nurturing love.

As a father proudly carries his child atop his shoulders;

so does God bear us forward into the paths of life.

As friends embrace each other warmly after a long absence;

so does God welcome our presence.

Held, carried, and welcomed,

we worship God in a spirit of joy and with trust in our hearts.

Hymn: Lord of all being, throned afar

CH4 125

1. Lord of all being, throned afar,
thy glory flames from sun and star;
centre and soul of every sphere,
yet to each loving heart how near!
2. Sun of our life, thy quickening ray
sheds on our path the glow of day;
Star of our hope, thy softened light
cheers the long watches of the night.
3. Our midnight is thy smile withdrawn,
our noontide is thy gracious dawn,
our rainbow arch thy mercy's sign;
all, save the clouds of sin, are thine.
4. Lord of all life, below, above,
whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,
before thy ever-blazing throne
we ask no lustre of our own.
5. Grant us thy truth to make us free,
and kindling hearts that burn for thee,
till all thy living altars claim
one holy light, one heavenly flame.

Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)

Reproduced with Permission under CCLI License #382179

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 Invocation and Confession

God of soulful love – a love that finds and lifts us in the most confusing and despairing of times – with gratitude we enter in this sacred space, not to remain as we are or have been, but to be led somewhere new.

Shepherd us. Hold us. Carry us homewards into the heart of Love.

When faith falters and hope evaporates

Touch our lives that we may see anew.

Silent Reflection

When love is spent and fear takes hold:

Touch our lives that we may see anew

Silent Reflection

When despair burdens and the future becomes a colourless void:

Touch our lives that we may see anew.

Silent Reflection

When we repeat hurtful actions or rehearse vengeful responses:

Touch our lives that we may see anew.

Silent Reflection

Words of Assurance

God in Christ breaks through to us with love. Even death does not separate us from that gift.

When we struggle to believe it, grace flows firmly past our doubts and fears.

Thanks be to God. Amen

Notices

We pass the peace of Christ to each other.

Time with the children

Hymn: O God we bear the imprint of your face Tune AA 106

1. O God, we bear the imprint of your face:
the colours of our skin are your design,
and what we boast of beauty in our race
as man or woman, you alone define:
you stretched a living fabric on our frame
and gave to each a language and a name.

2. Where we are torn and pulled apart by hate
because our race, our skin is not the same,
while we are judged unequal by the state
and victims made because we own our name,
humanity reduced to little worth -
dishonoured is your living face on earth.

3. O God, we share the image of your Son
whose flesh and blood are ours, whatever skin,
in his humanity we find our own,
and in his family our proper kin:
Christ is the brother we still crucify,
his love the language we must learn, or die.

Words: Shirley Murray

Reproduced with permission under CCLI Licence #382179

Introduction to the Reading (*Readers: Gordon & Jean Dewar*)

Ephesians 5: 8-14 (p.242 NT): Paul writes encouraging us to actively seek to know how we should live, not just as individuals but as a community of faith.

John 9:1-:23 (p.130 NT): Jesus heals a man who was blind from birth, thus provoking a controversy about sin and sinners.

Prayer before the Sermon

Sermon: Compassion v's legalism

Hymn 537: May the mind of Christ

Our freewill offering to support the mission and Church of Jesus Christ will be received.

As God gives to us, so let us give to God and to all those who wait for the love of God in so many ways.

Offertory Prayer

Giver of all things,

as people alive to your goodness,

we offer these gifts and the giftedness of this community

to the service of human kindness through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray

Our Father... Sung Hymn No 676)

Our closing prayers

Hymn 16: The Lord's my shepherd

Tune CH4 16 Brother James' Air

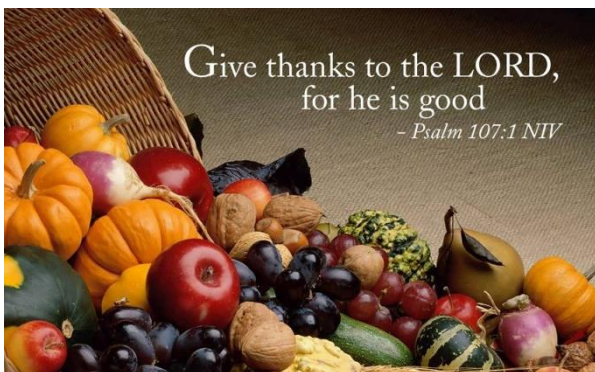
Benediction

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.*



Healing Service, with Communion, will be held today at 11.30am. In every act of worship, the Church celebrates the grace of God who desires wholeness of body, mind and spirit for all people. At a service of healing, we focus on that aspect of God's character. We bring to God our own frailty and brokenness - felt not just in physical illness, but in guilt, anxiety and all the burdens which weigh us down. We also bring our concerns for others and for the world. Above all, we come to the God who knows our needs before we ask, and whose love revealed in Jesus Christ is stronger than suffering and death. All are welcome to attend this service.



Harvest Thanksgiving Service

This will be held next **Sunday, 26th March**, and we will give thanks for the gifts of God's creation. You are invited to bring food gifts, which will be displayed at the front of the church during the service and then sent to the City Mission to help them in their work of supporting those in the city who are struggling.

World Vision and Work with Children

Thank you to all who contributed to the "white bowl" collection last week. We raised \$131.20 towards World Vision and our work with children.

Moderator's Appeal for Te Maungarongo

The National Marae in Ohope is in need of urgent earthworks to retain a slope to its side. Hamish, as Moderator, has launched an appeal to the church nationally to support this cause. We gave information about this appeal last week, and more details are available at www.presbyterian.org.nz/moderators-christmas-appeal-for-ohope-marae.

As a parish we wish to support this appeal, and so are collecting donations to pass on for this work. There are envelopes available today, or you can donate directly to our bank account (using reference: Ohope Marae).

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.



Tuesday 21 March	9.00am	Craft Group in Kowhai Lounge
	11.00am	Forum
	7.30pm	Lent Bible Study
Thursday 23 March	10.00am	Pre-School Music
Sunday 26 March	10.00am	Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Church Rosters	This week: 19th March	Next week: 26th March
Door Duty	Kathleen Anderson, Cath Dale, Jill McAra	Tony Waters, Jill Fenton, Elisabeth Cooch
Morning Tea & Coffee	Noelene Kent, Lyn Cordner	Elizabeth & Don Cho
Bible Reading	Gordon & Jean Dewar	Annette McAdam
Candle Lighting	Elizabeth Taggart	Shirley Wilson
Food Trolley	Peter & Tric Nelson	Ann Jennings
Money Counting (Monday)	Rouie Swan	

Leading Worship over the next few weeks:

19 March	David Coster
26 March	David Coster
2 April	Hamish Galloway
9 April	Hamish Galloway

