

Mission Statement

Cashmere Presbyterian Church will make the life and teachings of Jesus Christ known and will share in God's loving purposes of truth, justice, peace and wholeness for all people and the world.

Sunday 1st March 2020

First Sunday in Lent

Preacher: Geoff King ~ Theme: Into temptation?

A very warm welcome to you all, and a very special welcome to all who are visiting today; we value your presence and look forward to getting to know you.

You are invited to stay for Morning Tea, which will be served in the Lounge after the service.

*"Jesus turning away from temptations of bread, worldly kingdom, and pinnacle of the Jerusalem temple."
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Order of Worship

(Congregational responses are in bold italics)

WELCOME AND FELLOWSHIP CANDLE [based on Psalm 32]

Kia ora tatou!

Kia ora!

Welcome to worship at Cashmere Presbyterian Church.

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, and 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.

We come to God as a place of refuge:

Enabling us to face our problems, restoring in us the strength we need.

We worship God as our source of meaning:

Helping us find purpose in the midst of life's turmoil,

Assuring us that we are worthwhile and loved.

We begin this time of worship by gathering around a candle:

May its flame in our midst remind us of the light of God's love

The peace of God's presence

And the warmth of God's welcome in Christ offered freely to all.

HYMN 77: For the beauty of the earth (verses 1–4)

PRAYER OF APPROACH

In this city, which has seen such change and turmoil,
In our lives, which are so often impacted by forces beyond our control
It can be hard to pause and give thanks for the beauty that surrounds us.
And so we make time to do just that now.

We admit we are often

too preoccupied with our own concerns to see beauty;

We confess a tendency to experience life as liability rather than as gift.

In the midst of our busy lives we are grateful for times of repentance.

It is good to be reminded that people like us can turn things around,

And we pause to consider that now.

***We admit that we can be resistant to change,
even when changes are needed;***

We acknowledge also our ongoing struggle

To deal with changes that we have not chosen ourselves.

God of love, source of all life, may we sow this Lenten season

Seeds of hope and renewal amidst the stresses and strains of our world;

This Lent and Easter,

may we sense the beauty of your presence around us, within us;

May we know the joy that comes from being surrounded by your love.

May we see that love at work in people's lives and shining on their faces

As, following Jesus' example, we seek to live as we pray:

Our Father... (Feel free to pray in your own language)

ASSURANCE OF LOVE AND WELCOME

The life and teaching of Jesus tell us that we are loved, forgiven,
Made welcome in God's all-embracing spirit.

***We show our gratitude by giving and receiving forgiveness,
by loving and being loved,***

And by welcoming others warmly in Jesus' name.

KIDS' BOX AND STORY TIME

HYMN: Our Life has its seasons (Alleluia Aotearoa 113)

1. Our life has its seasons, and God has the reasons,
why spring follows winter, and new leaves grow,
for there's a connection with our resurrection
that flowers will bud after frost and snow,
*so there's never a time to stop believing,
there's never a time for hope to die,
there's never a time to stop loving,
these three things go on.*

2. There's a time to be planting, a time to be plucking,
a time to be laughing, a time to weep,
a time to be building, a time to be breaking,
a time to be waking, a time to sleep,
but there's never a time.....
3. There's a time to be hurting, a time to be healing,
a time to be saving, a time to spend,
a time to be grieving, a time to be dancing,
a time for beginning, a time to end,
but there's never a time.....

Words: Shirley Murray

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READINGS (Reader: David Troughton)

Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7 (p.5 OT)

Matthew 4: 1-11 (p.6 NT)

SERMON AND MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

HYMN: Community of Christ (Tune: *Leoni, WOV 7*)

1. Community of Christ, who make the cross your own
Live out your creed and risk your life for God alone:
The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong,
Whose children are of every race, and every song.
2. Community of Christ! Look past the Church's door
And see the refugee, the hungry and the poor:
Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street
Take towel and water, that you wash your neighbour's feet.
3. Community of Christ through whom the Word must sound
Cry out for justice and for peace the whole world round:
Disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy,
Turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.
4. When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done,
The climate of the world be peace and Christ its sun;
Our currency be love, and kindness our law,
Our food and faith be shared as one forevermore.

Words: Shirley Murray

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PRAYER FOR OTHERS AND OURSELVES

OFFERING AND DEDICATION, NOTICES

Our God, as we travel once more towards Easter,

May all that we have and are bear witness

To the enduring values of Jesus' way of life. Amen

HYMN: Christ be my vision

(Tune Slane (1) WOV 455)

1. Christ be my vision, the joy of my heart,
Christ my companion, may we never part.
Christ my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, his presence my light.
2. Christ be my wisdom, my only true Word,
Christ ever with me, I with you, Lord,
Christ my beloved, I his dear child,
Christ in me dwelling, and I reconciled.
3. Christ be my strength to stand for the right,
Christ be my dignity, and my delight,
Christ my safe shelter, Christ my strong tower,
Lead me now onward, O source of my power.
4. Riches I seek not, nor vain human praise,
Christ my inheritance, now and always;
Christ and Christ only, first in my heart;
From him, my treasure, may I never part.
5. Christ of our future, after victory won,
Bring us to union with God Three in One.
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, and ruler of all.

Words: Norman Brookes

Adapted from: Be Thou My Vision

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CALL TO SERVICE AND BLESSING

Called to choose wisely whenever we face temptation

We go, inspired by Jesus' vision of God.

Kia tau ki a tatou katoa te atawhai o to tatou Ariki,

o Ihu Karaiti, me te aroha o te Atua,

Me te whiwhinga tahitanga ki te Wairua tapu,

Ake, ake ake amine.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God

And the community of the Holy Spirit be with us all

(Sung AMEN.)

POSTLUDE

Following the postlude, please join us in the lounge
for a cup of tea or coffee and conversation.



Points to ponder

The season of Lent begins with stories about a universal human experience: temptation. At some point in our lives, all of us have choices to make about our beliefs and our behaviours; all of us will be "tempted" to think and act in a variety of ways. Today's readings from **Genesis 2** and **Matthew 4** make the point that our choices - how we respond to life's temptations - have consequences both positive and negative for ourselves and the people we love.

- What temptations/choices/decisions are you facing at the moment?
- What have you learned about facing temptations/making decisions along the way?
- What part do you think a person's faith should play in his or her decision-making?
- What do you make of the story of Jesus' temptation?
- Does the fact that Jesus responds to temptation by quoting from his scriptures and refusing to be seduced by the allure of power mean that his followers must respond in a similar way?

In a world filled with need and injustice, the greatest temptation can sometimes be to say and do nothing. The following prayer adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit* offers a Lenten challenge to people of faith

While we keep silence, those who need bread are left hungry.

While we keep silence, those who need a sign are left alone.

While we keep silence, those who need help shout into the distance.

While we keep silence, those who need comfort receive no comforting word.

We confess those times when we have not spoken up for the hungry,

When we have waited for divine intervention

rather than reaching out with our own hands.

We confess those times when we have quietly gone along with the crowd,

Rather than answering God's call to bring justice to the world.

We confess those times when we've stood back rather than cross the gulf

between ourselves and others;

When we've ignored the cries of suffering for the sake of a quiet life.

We repent of the way of disinterest;

We turn from the path of apathetic silence.

We turn towards the living example of Jesus

to inspire and inform everything that we do.



Cashmere Connection

The latest edition has now been printed. Please pick up your copies for delivery from the back of the church today.

If you are not currently on the list to make deliveries and are willing to do so in the future, please let Gail know.

Alpine Presbytery Gathering:

27—29 March at St David's Union Church Ashburton

Presbytery Gatherings are open to anyone. More details are in the Presbytery Newsletter which is on the notice board, or speak to Gail or visit the website:

alpinepresbytery.org/events/

The Rocks Along Our Way: A Lenten Day Retreat to Kura Tawhiti/Castle Hill

Saturday, 7 March. Departing Christchurch 9.20am. Arriving back 5.00pm. We still have a few spare seats in the van.

Cost: \$15pp.

Registrations close Tuesday 3rd March.

For further details ring or text 0223228645, or email nbu.tidemark@xtra.co.nz

Organised by Te Ara Hou - partnership of eastern churches - New Brighton Union, St Georges-Iona & Port Hills Uniting.

Church Rosters	This week – 1st March	Next week – 8th March
Door Duty	Andrea & Warren Campbell	Tony Waters, Kathleen Anderson, Karen Shao
Offerings counting	Andrea & Warren Campbell	Tony Waters, Colin Reid
Morning Tea & Coffee	Patricia & Murray Heath	Graham Cook, Jill McAra
Bible Reading	David Troughton	Ann Jennings
Candle Lighting	Cecile Pierce	Robin McKee
Food Trolley	Helen Matthews	Ian Shaw

Upcoming Services

8 March	Morning Worship	Barbara Sampson
15 March	Morning Worship	Anne Shave
	11.30am Healing Service	Anne Shave
22 March	Morning Worship	Hugh Perry
29 March	Morning Worship	Anne Shave