

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: drcoaster@xtra.co.nz

Church Office:

2 Macmillan Avenue, Cashmere,
Christchurch

Phone 332 7129

Email: cashmere.church@xtra.co.nz

Sunday 21st May 2023

Ascension Sunday

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
Please stand as the Bible is processed in*

Fellowship Candle (*Elizabeth Taggart*)

Call to worship *Based on Psalm 68*

We sing to God

and praise God's name.

When we see white billowing clouds,

we think of God's splendour and glory,

but God is not too great to care for the lonely and desolate

and stand up for those who are alone.

God rules from a holy place,

but makes a home for the lonely.

God sets people free

and sustains them.

God causes abundant showers to fall,

and revives us when we are tired.

God is among us and blesses us

and so we praise God's name.

We sing hymn 163: Crown him with many crowns (*Women v3; Men v 4*)

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.

Opening Prayers

Loving God, today, in joy and expectancy, as well as awe and hesitancy, we come seeking to follow you. Through triumph and through suffering, we seek to be your disciples and to reflect you in the world.

Be present with us in this our commitment and hope.

O Jesus Christ, it is sometimes very tempting to simply keep our heads bowed in prayer, telling ourselves that this sort of devotion is what you ask of us. We know that it is never wasted, but we recognize that you are always calling us outward into the struggles of life.

Silent Reflection

Be gracious to us, Jesus Christ.

Walk with us as we journey on through this life, we pray.

O Christ, if we ever feel that you are far away from us, ascended into a distant heaven which we will never reach from here, that we are alone as we try to work out who you would want us to be in this world.

Silent Reflection

Be gracious to us, Jesus Christ.

Walk with us as we journey on through this life, we pray.

Words of Assurance

Jesus Christ is with us always, through the gift of the loving Holy Spirit. He has walked our world and knows what we face each day.

Grace upon grace is ours. Thanks be to God. Amen

Choir: They crucified my Lord and nailed him to a tree

Notices

We pass the peace of Christ to each other.

Time with the children

We sing: He is Lord, he is Lord

1. He is Lord, he is Lord;
he is risen from the dead, and he is Lord;
every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.
2. He is love, he is love;
he has shown us by his cross that he is love;
all his people sing with one voice of joy
that Jesus Christ is love.
3. He is life, he is life;
he has died to set us free and he is life;
and he calls us all to live evermore
for Jesus Christ is life.
4. He is King, he is King;
he will draw all nations to him, he is King;
and the time shall be when the world shall sing
that Jesus Christ is King.

Introduction to the Reading (*Bible Reader: Ann Jennings*)

Acts 1:6-14 (p.149 NT): Jesus makes clear what is and what is not the disciples' role. It is not for them to know the Father's schedule for bringing the kingdom into its fullness. It is for them to be Jesus' witness throughout the world, under the power of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 24: 44-53 (p.117 NT): Before ascending to heaven, Jesus commissions his disciples to be his witnesses.

The Children lead us in singing Hosanna!

Prayer before the Sermon

Sermon: Ascension Sunday

We sing hymn 261: Were you there when they crucified my Lord

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

For all the gifts we have been given, we give thanks: the gift of your love, the gift of Jesus, the gift of life everlasting.

We acknowledge our mission to serve and so we bring what we can that others may know your love, too through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray, Our Father... (sung 676 in WOV)

Solo: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (*Mithila Chacko*)

Come, Thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise His name! I'm fixed upon it!
Name of God's redeeming love.

Hitherto Thy love has blest me;
Thou has brought me to this place;
And I know Thy hand will bring me
Safely home by Thy good grace.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He to rescue me from danger,
Bought me with His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it.
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, o take and seal it;
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Our closing prayers

We sing hymn 141: O for a thousand tongue to sing *(tune Lyngham)*

Benediction

Threefold Amen

We sing: Let there be peace on earth

1. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we;
let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
2. Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now,
with every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me

Words & Music: SY Miller & Jill Jackson
Reproduced with permission under CCLI license #382179

*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.*



World Vision and Work with Children

Thank you to all who contributed to the “white bowl” collection last week. We raised \$81.40 towards World Vision and our work with children.

Bible study – A Search for Peace: Would you like to come along to a small discussion group for five weeks? Explore interesting questions, get to know other parishioners better, chase away the winter blues. We shall be meeting on **Thursday evenings, 7:30-9pm**, in Kathleen Anderson’s home, beginning on Thursday 25th May. The series, led by Anne Shave, is written by John Birch (whose materials we have used before). All welcome, even if you cannot make it to every session. Please speak to Anne if you have any questions.

- 25th May – *The human search for peace*
[1st June – No study]
- 8th June – *The human destruction of peace*
- 15th June – *God, peace, and the Old Testament*
- 22nd June – *God, peace, and the New Testament*
- 29th June – *Peace in the lives of believers*

Healing Service will be held today at 11:30am next Sunday. You are warmly invited to attend, whether you wish to pray for others or to receive prayer and anointing with oil. The service takes approximately half an hour and includes communion.

Soup Lunch – Sunday 11th June

Join us on this date for a fundraising Soup Lunch. Lynley Fraer-Wright’s family are visiting Vanuatu and will take on our behalf a gift for the Onesu High School’s 70th Anniversary.

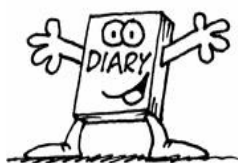
Families Food Drive for the City Mission

Thank you to all of those who bring items to place in the Food Trolley for the City Mission each week. In addition, you may be interested in the **Family2Family foodbank appeal** at New World supermarkets. New World shoppers can fill brown paper bags with food items badly needed at the City Mission to look after families who will be struggling. Or you can buy a pre-filled \$20 bag in-store or online, and your local New World will deliver them to the Foodbank. Thank you for supporting this and directly supporting other Christchurch families through this kind donation.

Friends of the Christchurch Town Hall Organ Trust - Organ Concert

Monday 5th June (King's Birthday public holiday), Town Hall Auditorium, 2pm annual organ curator's FREE concert '**Sound the Trumpet**' Martin Setchell (organ) with guest artist Tom Eves, CSO principal trumpet. Admission FREE. (Koha appreciated). Book direct online at <https://organconcert2023.eventbrite.co.nz> or visit nzorgan.com.

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 23 May	9.00am	Craft Group in Kowhai Lounge
	11.00am	Forum
Thursday 25 May	10.00am	Pre-School Music
Sunday 28 May	10.00am	Morning Worship

Church Rosters	This week: 21st May	Next week: 28th May
Door Duty	Warren Campbell, Alana Hampton, Margaret Ford	Peter & Tric Nelson, Jill Fenton
Morning Tea & Coffee	Kathleen Anderson, Cecile Pierce	David & Jane Kim
Bible Reading	Ann Jennings	Karen Glithero
Candle Lighting	Elizabeth Taggart	Kathleen Anderson
Food Trolley	Peter & Tric Nelson	Margaret Ford
Money Counting (<i>Monday</i>)	Kathleen Anderson	Annette McAdam

Leading Worship over the next few weeks:

28 May	Anne Shave
4 June	David Coster
11 June	Hamish Galloway
18 June	David Coster



Fire Evacuation Procedures

Evacuation procedure for when Church is in use for Worship Services:

Should the automatic fire alarm sound:

- Minister to take overall control of the situation and act as Warden (using Warden armband) and liaise with the Fire Service.
- Minister and organist to direct evacuation from front of church. Minister then proceeds to bus shelter to receive reports from others.
- First two named people on door duty list for that week to direct evacuation from rear of church – one through main door, one through foyer.
- Other(s) on door duty use handheld fire fighting equipment, if safe to do so, and to then go outside to direct people to the designated place of safety
- Property Convenor (if present) to call 111 from a safe phone, otherwise Minister to delegate this responsibility to an appropriate person.
- Ensure all buildings are empty. This duty to be carried out by a responsible person delegated by the Minister at the time of the incident.

Evacuation Routes:

Church:

1. **exit via choir room** at left front of church (door between organ & piano) to the deck outside, proceed round rear of Church or Church House to Cashmere Green
2. **exit via vestry/flower room** at right front of church (door before pulpit). Proceed across road to Cashmere Green.
3. **exit via main Church entrance** towards rear of church. Proceed across road to Cashmere Green.
4. **exit via door at rear of church into the foyer** of the office/lounge area, then through main foyer door and across road to Cashmere Green.

Rata Lounge:

1. **exit by main entrance**, through foyer, out through main foyer door and across road to Cashmere Green.
2. **exit by side door** (opposite main door, under “lean-to” area) to rear lawns. Proceed round rear of Church House to Cashmere Green

Church House:

1. **exit through front door**, across the road to Cashmere Green.
2. **Exit through stair hallway to side door**, then across the road to Cashmere Green.
3. **From upstairs**, through Fire Exit from upstairs bedroom. Proceed to Cashmere Green.