

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 31st October 2021

**Pentecost 23
& a celebration of
All Saints' Day
(1st November)**

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

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

During the current Covid19 alert level, please **wear a mask during the service**, but do not put on your **Name Badge** (just something else to clean!). **Freewill Offerings** should be placed in the bag next to the name badges as we will not be passing the offering bag around during the service. Or you may wish to donate by direct credit to our bank account (details at end of Bulletin).

All Hymn words, and the Bible Readings, are printed in the Bulletin – please do not use the books in the pews.

In many churches, All Saints' Day (1st November) celebrates all people of faith, recalling how, in New Testament usage, the word saints refer to Christians collectively, as well as those people of special significance who have been set apart by the church or canonized. It is the recognition of the common bond of Christians, both living and dead, and the common bond of the church here on earth and the church triumphant in heaven.

Revelation paints a picture of God's victory in Jesus Christ, that place, that time when "the dwelling of God will be with humanity," when God at last will have had God's way with the world. That's what Christians talk of heaven is about – God's victory in Jesus Christ when God's loving purposes will at last be accomplished forever and ever.

Order of Worship

Please stand as the Bible is processed in.

Fellowship Candle (*Rosemary Troughton*)

Call to Worship

What is the way of faith?

To follow our hearts with hope in God.

If there is one truth,

Let it be love.

We gather as people of the way, ready to glimpse the realm of God; eager to journey together into a world where love reigns and our hearts are free of fear.

Show us the way this day, loving God, as we offer our lives in worship of you.

We sing: Now we come our heavenly father (Tune TiS 462)

1. Now we come, our heavenly Father,
one in glad community,
needing still your guiding mercies,
stronger faith, more fervent plea
all your blessing
now confessing,
we would praise you trustingly.
2. Through the years your Spirit guided
those who blazed the path we tread,
in the glow of faith they laboured,
by the Bread of Life were fed;
while their yearning
hearts were learning
more of Christ, their living head.

3. Proudly high they held his gospel,
far surpassing human creeds,
striving for his church united
in the things for which he pleads:
torn no longer,
but made stronger,
one church meeting all our needs.

4. Lift we, then, their torch with gladness,
pledging all to this high aim:
your lost world reclaimed from darkness,
yielded to your sovereign claim;
visions firing,
hearts inspiring,
march we onward in your name!

Clifford George Taylor (1915-94)
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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 Invocation

Creator of the mountain and the valley, keeper of the forest and the desert, companion along the smooth path and the rocky road, guide toward the light and comfort in the shadows:

We come before you and one another, with all of our beauty and with all of our needs, all of our certainties and all of our anxieties, our deepest regrets and our highest hopes. We come longing to be changed and transformed into the image of Jesus.

Is there anger in your hearts?

We lay down our anger before God and one another.

Are there worries in your hearts?

We lay down our worries before God and one another.

Is there regret in your hearts?

We lay down our regrets before God and one another.

Is there envy in your hearts?

We lay down our envy before God and one another.

Is there sadness in your hearts?

We lay down our sadness before God and one another.

As we create room in our hearts for love, may our lives be wholly transformed.

Spirit, take us as we are into your holy love.

Words of Assurance

Even in the deep and shadowed places we are not alone. In the hard times we are nurtured, renewed, and made whole.

God is with us in this journey. The Holy Spirit rejoices with us along the way. For all the extraordinary and subtle ways that love prevails, thanks be to God! Amen

Notices

Passing the Peace: *We offer each other an acknowledgement as a sign that all are welcome and accepted by God.*

With the children we recognize All Saints Day through the lighting of a candle in memory of those whom we have loved and lost. As we come forward, we will sing

We sing: Give thanks for life (Tune CH4 736)

1. Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,
yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise
Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. Give thanks for those who made their life a light
caught from the Christ-flame, bursting through the night,
who touched the truth, who burned for what is right,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. And for our own, our living and our dead,
thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
a love not changed by time or death or dread,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain
lying in darkness does its life retain,
in resurrection to grow green again.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Words: Shirley Murray

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Introduction to the Reading (*Reader: Jill McAra*)

Ruth 1: 1-18: The widow Naomi's two sons die, and she bids her daughter-in-law Ruth to go back to her people. But Ruth refuses, vowing to stay with Naomi, saying, "Your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

John 11: 32-44: Jesus' friend Lazarus dies and is placed in the tomb. His sisters are grief stricken; so also is his friend Jesus.

Prayer before the Sermon

Sermon: Seed or Stone

We sing: Brother, sister let me serve you

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you
let me be as Christ to you,
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travellers on the road,
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear,
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you,
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love, and agony.
6. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you,
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

Words: Richard Gillard

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Offering: *Our freewill offering to support the mission and Church of Jesus Christ, and donations for the City Mission foodbank, will be dedicated. If it is comfortable for you to do so, please stand to join in the prayer of dedication.*

Dedication of Offering

Loving God, here we give ourselves to you of our physical resources as well as body, mind and spirit. Bless all that we give and do through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray; Our Father... (sung)

Our Father in heaven,
holy be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Do not put us to the test,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the pow'r and the glory
are yours now and for ever.
Amen, amen, amen, amen,
amen, amen, amen, amen.

Prayers for the world and ourselves

We sing: Your hand, O God, has guided

1. Your hand, O God, has guided
your flock from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written
full clear on every page.
Our fathers owned your goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness,
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.
2. Your heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they bade them rise, and hasten
to share the great Kings' feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.
3. Through many a day of darkness,
through many a scene of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely
to guard the nation's life.
Their gospel of redemption,
sin pardoned, man restored,
was all in this enfolded,
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.
4. Your mercy will not fail us,
nor leave your work undone;
with your right hand to help us,
the victory shall be won;
and then, by men and angels,
your name shall be adored,
and this shall be our anthem,
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

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.*

Music for Worship – All Saints Day

Prelude:

Themes and Fugue, Eroica Variations. Beethoven

Using a theme from the base, and the theme from the symphony, Beethoven expresses an exuberant joy, and on beauty, in way that captures some of our feelings as we come to worship together.

Pastorale. J.S. Bach

Bach evokes a sense of the rural, of sheep meanderings, of tranquillity, such as we experience as we trust in the Good Shepherd.

Processional:

Je Louer L'Éternel. Calude Fraysse

Praise (Love, Serve), I will praise you, Lord, with all of my heart.

O God, I will tell you the wonder of your ways, and glorify your name.

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all of my heart.

In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia.

Postlude: *Fugue in G Major, the Gigue Fugue. J.S. Bach*

One of the musical Saints, who has made a great contribution to worship has been Johann Sebastian Bach. Here he shows traces of indebtedness to yet another, Buxtehude. Refreshed by worship, we go out with joy to serve and praise our Lord!



Offering Envelopes for the next six months are available today at the back of the church. If you need more (or less) envelopes, please let Gail know.

Cashmere Connection: We are aiming to have the next edition of the Cashmere Connection available by 19th November. Please have any items for inclusion to the office by Monday 15th November.



Our next Coffee Morning will be on **Wednesday 10th November**, 10.30am, at the food court area in The Colombo. All welcome.

Women's retreat Saturday 27th November 9am-4pm: This retreat will be held at the former Greenpark Primary School near Lincoln. The day will include time for conversation, individual reflection and personal prayer. A resource book and lunch will be provided. For catering purposes, we will need to know nearer the time if you intend to come. Please speak to Anne Shave if you have any questions at this point.

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: we are in need of some people to cover Door Duty on the next two Sundays, as those rostered are not now available. Can you help on 7th or 14th November? Please let Gail know if you can.

Church Rosters	This week: 31st October	Next week: 7th November
Door Duty	Warren & Andrea Campbell, Elisabeth Cooch	Ian Gray
Morning Tea & Coffee	Murray & Patricia Heath	Annette McAdam & Barbara Palmer
Bible Reading	Jill McAra	Janice Lee
Candle Lighting	Rosemary Troughton	Elisabeth Cooch
Food Trolley	Helen Matthews	Ian Shaw
Money Counting (Monday)	Gabrielle Bolt	Bruce McAlister

Leading Worship over the next few weeks:

7 th November	David Coster
14 th November	Martin Stewart
21 st November	David Coster
28 th November	Anne Shave



Generous Giving

Cashmere Presbyterian depends on the generous giving of members and friends. If you would like to make a donation or support our work through planned giving, please contact the Parish Office. Our Bank Account for donations is:

BNZ 020800-0181604-01

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Cashmere Presbyterian Church
2 MacMillan Avenue, Cashmere, Christchurch

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