

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

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Sunday 17th September 2023
Pentecost 16

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.

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

A request to 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 *Robin McKee*

Call to worship

Welcome to worship where any differences that divide us do not matter for a time.

Here we are welcomed by God, and belong to Christ.

Welcome to worship where our judgments against one another dissolve in the truth of God's love.

Here we are welcomed by God and we belong to Christ.

We sing 349: O come, let us sing to the Lord

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

Uphold us with your presence, gracious God. See through what divides us and protect us from being overwhelmed by tides of worry, fear and misunderstanding.

We are your people, united in our praise of you, eager to forgive each other and to live in peace so that your love flows freely to a world in need.

Loving God we confess that we are challenged and confused by the idea of forgiveness.

How much is required of us? Teach us your ways of forgiveness, loving God.

Teach us to forgive ourselves when our thinking is too small or narrow, or cramped by fear or self interest.

We are accountable to you: remind us how vast is your mercy, how deep is your love.

Teach us to forgive each other when we impose our judgments on one another, failing to take into account the bigger picture, the hidden pain, our own misunderstanding and mistakes.

Teach us to choose forgiveness, time and time again. For the harm we have done, for the good we have failed to do, teach us your ways of forgiveness, loving God.

Words of assurance

God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abundant in steadfast love.
God welcomes us. God is able to renew us and restore us, time and time again. Thanks be to God. Amen

Notices

We pass the peace of Christ to each other.

Time with the children

We sing Give thanks for life (Tune WOV 384 “Sine Nomine”)

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: Judy Newbury)

Romans 14: 1-12 (p.202 NT): Paul writes to the Romans telling them that love respects the differences of opinion that believers have.

Matthew 18:21-35 (p.26 NT): In response to Peter’s question about forgiveness, Jesus tells the parable of the unforgiving servant.

Theme: Forgiving as we have been forgiven!

We sing Help us accept each other (Tune WOV 277 "Ellacombe")

1. Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, God, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.
2. Teach us, O God, your lessons as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them or as they may become.
3. Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
To practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.
4. Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit, Lord, free us, make us one!

Words: Fred Kaan

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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

God's love is not a debt we must repay, but a free gift of grace.

Bless these gifts, dear God, as our offering of thanks for the great gift of your love, that together with all our efforts we might witness to your love through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray together, Our Father in heaven...

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

We sing: Christ be our light

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to You
Make us Your own, Your holy people
Light for the world to see

*Refrain: Christ, be our light, shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness
Christ, be our light, shine in Your church
Gathered today*

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope, many despair
Your word alone has pow'r to save us
Make us Your living voice

Refrain

3. Longing for food, many are hungry
Longing for wa-ter many still thirst
Make us your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed

Refrain

4. Longing for shel-ter, many are homeless
Longing for warmth, many are cold
Make us Your buil-ding, sheltering others
Walls made of living stone

Refrain

5. Many the gifts, many the people
Many the hearts that yearn to belong
Let us be ser-vants to one another
Making Your kingdom come

Refrain

Bernadette Ferrell

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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.

Rosters: The new rosters for the period 24 September to 7 January have now been prepared. In most cases, you should have received an email with your roster details, but a few printed copies are available today, and you are welcome to ask Gail for a printed copy if you need one.

“In the Footsteps of St Paul” (2014): Due to popular demand (after a small group watched “In the Footsteps of St Peter”) we will be screening this two-part documentary on two consecutive Mondays, **18th and 25th September, at 7:30pm in the Kowhai Lounge.** In this documentary, David Suchet sets off in search of one of the great figures of the Bible, St. Paul the apostle. Controversial in his own time, Paul remains so today, a remarkable man of contrasts, a persecutor of Christians who experienced a miraculous conversion and an all-consuming drive to spread the faith.

World Vision and Work with Children

Thank you to all who contributed to the “white bowl” collection last week. We raised \$93.60 towards World Vision and our work with children.

Te Waiora House Christian Retreat Centre

for Time Out – Restoration – Growth

Te Waiora House offers affordable accommodation in a beautiful and extensive rural setting. Just outside Hororata, offering four twin and one double ensuite bedrooms, a large lounge with log burner, and dining room, suitable for meeting, along with a chapel that can seat up to thirty.

Guests are welcome to visit for a day, or for longer. Catered and uncatered options available.

Gift vouchers available.

Donations enable the work of Te Waiora Christian Retreat House to continue.

Our aim is to be a place of peace and refuge for those who need to recharge their batteries, emotionally, physically, or spiritually.

Contact 027 406 0503 or (03) 318 0789. Email: tewaiorahouse@xtra.co.nz

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.

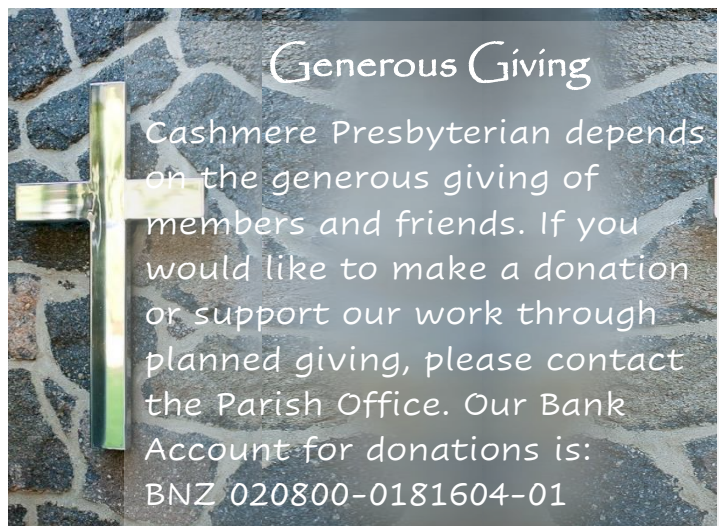


Monday 18 September	7.30pm	“In the footsteps of St Paul”
Tuesday 19 September	9.00am	Craft Group in Kowhai Lounge
	11.00am	Forum
Thursday 21 September	10.00am	Pre-School Music
Sunday 24 September	10.00am	Morning Worship

Church Rosters	This week: 17th September	Next week: 24th September
Door Duty	Peter & Tric Nelson, Ann Jennings	Kaen Glithero, Helen Wells, Elizabeth Taggart
Morning Tea & Coffee	Judith & Tony Waters	Jill McAra, Margaret Ford
Bible Reading	Judy Newbury	Karen Glithero
Candle Lighting	Robin McKee	Kathleen Anderson
Food Trolley	Ann Jennings	Margaret Ford
Money Counting	Annette McAdam	Rouie Swan

Leading Worship over the next few weeks:

24 September	Anne Shave
1 October	David Coster
8 October	Hamish Galloway
15 October	Hamish Galloway



PLANTARAMA

**Cashmere Presbyterian
Church**
corner Dyers Pass Road &
Macmillan Ave



SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER
9AM TO 12 NOON

It is only a few weeks now until our major fundraiser for the year, and we need your help!

Now that the weather is warming up it's time to divide, plant seeds, pot up cuttings, pot up anything that has self-seeded in your garden. The important thing is that plants are well rooted ready for sale. Don't be scared to pick up anything people have put out on the roadside—their excess is our gain!

If you are unsure of what we require don't hesitate to phone Tric Nelson (021 815492 or 332 7978)

If you don't have green thumbs, though, you can still participate. We will need helpers, both on the day itself to man stalls and clear away afterwards, and during the week ahead to help set out the hall. There are sign-up lists going around, or speak to Tric to offer your assistance.

Publicity:

- There are printed posters available - please take some to put up in your local area.
- The event is listed on our Facebook page – please like and share it.
- Spread the words to family, friends and neighbours!