

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 26th September 2021 Pentecost 17

Preacher: Anne Shave

We welcome all who are able to join with us today for Worship.

As we are at Alert Level 2, we have to do some things differently:

- ❖ **Freewill Offerings:** please place your Offerings in the bag next to the name badges. At this time 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).
- ❖ **Name Badges:** at present we ask you not to use your name badges, as it is just something else to be cleaned!
- ❖ All Hymn words, and the Bible Readings, are printed in the Bulletin – please do not use the books in the pews.
- ❖ There will be **no morning tea**

Order of Worship

Please stand as the Bible is processed in.

Lighting of the fellowship candle

Inclusive God, we gather together.

Welcoming God, we come to you.

Valuing God, we see our worth in you.

Challenging God, open our ears to your words,

open our minds to explore your ways,

open our hearts to receive all that you offer.

Loving God, we come to you.

Amen.

Notices

Prayers of praise and confession

Hymn: Hail, thou once despised Jesus [WOV 295]

(Please remain seated.)

Hail, thou once despised Jesus,
hail, thou Galilean King!
Thou didst suffer to release us;
thou didst free salvation bring.
Hail, thou universal Saviour,
bearer of our sin and shame,
by thy merits we find favour;
life is given through thy name.

Psalm 124 [Helen Wells]

Time with children: Children are invited to come forward and choose an instrument to shake or bang during the song – Psalm 124 by Jason Silver – shown on screen. You might like to join in the chorus.

Chorus: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth
(x2)

Our help
is in the name
of the Lord,
who made
heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

Introduction to the first Bible reading – The book of Esther

Bible reading: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10 and 9:20-22 [Alan Simson]

And so the king and Haman went to eat with Esther for a second time. Over the wine the king asked her again, "Now, Queen Esther, what do you want? Tell me and you shall have it. I'll even give you half the empire."

Queen Esther answered, "If it please Your Majesty to grant my humble request, my wish is that I may live and that my people may live. My people and I have been sold for slaughter. If it were nothing more serious than being sold into slavery, I would have kept quiet and not bothered you about it; but we are about to be destroyed—exterminated!"

Then King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, "Who dares to do such a thing? Where is this man?"

Esther answered, "Our enemy, our persecutor, is this evil man Haman!"

Then one of them, who was named Harbonah, said, "Haman even went so far as to build a gallows at his house so that he could hang Mordecai, who saved Your Majesty's life. And it's seventy-five feet tall!"

"Hang Haman on it!" the king commanded.

So Haman was hanged on the gallows that he had built for Mordecai. Then the king's anger cooled down.

Mordecai had these events written down and sent letters to all the Jews, near and far, throughout the Persian Empire, telling them to observe the fourteenth and fifteenth days of Adar as holidays every year. These were the days on which the Jews had rid themselves of their enemies; this was a month that had been turned from a time of grief and despair into a time of joy and happiness. They were told to observe these days with feasts and parties, giving gifts of food to one another and to the poor.

Introduction to the second Bible reading – "The disciple John" reflects on the experience of listening to Jesus [*Clare Shave*]

Gospel reading: Mark 9:38-50

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw a man who was driving out demons in your name, and we told him to stop, because he doesn't belong to our group."

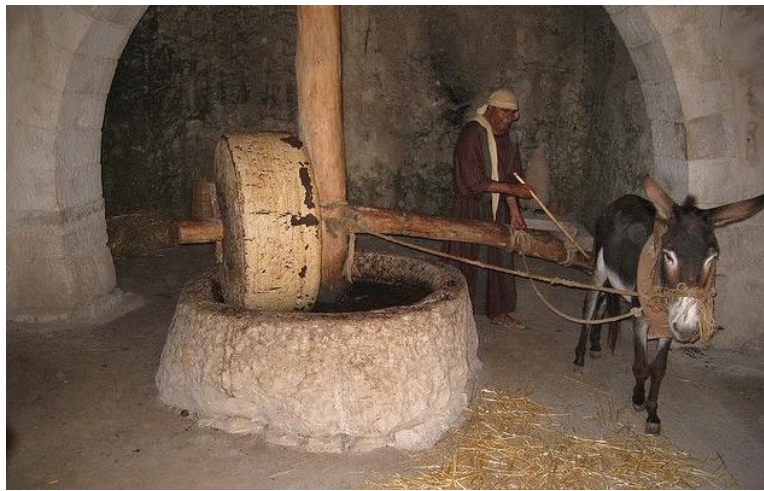
"Do not try to stop him," Jesus told them, "because no one who performs a miracle in my name will be able soon afterward to say evil things about me. For whoever is not against us is for us. I assure you that anyone who gives you a drink of water because you belong to me will certainly receive a reward.

"If anyone should cause one of these little ones to lose faith in me, it would be better for that person to have a large millstone tied around the neck and be thrown into the sea. So if your hand makes you lose your faith, cut it off! It is better for you to enter life without a hand than to keep both hands and go off to hell, to the fire that never goes out. And if your foot makes you lose your faith, cut it off! It is better for you to enter life without a foot than to keep both feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye makes you lose your faith, take it out! It is better for you to enter the Kingdom of God with only one eye than to keep both eyes and be thrown into hell. There 'the worms that eat them never die, and the fire that burns them is never put out.'

"Everyone will be purified by fire as a sacrifice is purified by salt.

"Salt is good; but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again?"

"Have the salt of friendship among yourselves, and live in peace with one another."



Sermon: Freedom

Hymn: Lord of creation, to you be all praise [WOV 557]

Lord of creation, to you be all praise!
Most mighty your working, most wondrous your ways!
Your glory and might are beyond us to tell,
and yet in the heart of the humble you dwell.

Lord of all power, I give you my will,
in joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.
Your bondage is freedom, your service is song;
and held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.

Lord of all being, I give you my all;
if I e'er disown you, I stumble and fall;
but, led in your service your word to obey,
I'll walk in your freedom to the end of the way.

Prayers for others [Helen Matthews]

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:*

***God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer
and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Please remain standing as we sing:

Now unto him, who is able to keep,
able to keep you from falling,
and present you faultless
before the presence of his glory,
with exceeding joy.

To the only wise God, our Saviour,
be glory and majesty,
dominion and power,
both now and forever, Amen.

The Dismissal:

Haere i runga i te rangimārie i runga i te aroha me te ngākau
hihiko ki te mahi ki te Ariki.

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Āmine. Ka haere mātou i runga i te ingoa o te Karaiti.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

*Please remain standing as the Bible is processed out.
Thank you for sharing in worship this morning.*

Music for Worship, Sunday 26 September 2021

Prelude: *From Variations on the Eroica theme, Op. 34. Ludwig van Beethoven.*

‘I was glad when they said to me,’ Let us go up to the house of the Lord.’

Psalm 122:1.

These variations capture the joy and playfulness that can go with worship and holiness. Slowing the tempi of some can make them conducive to worship.

Processional: *From March in D, ‘Jubilant, almost jaunty.’ David N Johnson. 1922-1987.*

An American organist and composer, of over 300 pieces, he wrote many trumpet tunes and marches. After years at St Olaf College in Minneapolis, Syracuse University, he was at Arizona State University for almost twenty years.

Offertory: *A Stray Thought. Reverie for the piano. Eugene Legardè.*

Postlude: *Trumpet Processional in G. David German. b. 1954.*

We have enjoyed his *Festive Trumpet Tune* on several occasions in recent years.

He has dedicated this newer – 2015 - to his daughter.

He has been organist at a Presbyterian Church in Nashville, and is now in Charlotte, North Carolina.



Parish Annual General Meeting will be held on **Sunday 3rd October**

Rosters for next Sunday: As we had planned that there should be no service here on 3rd October (instead going to the St Andrew's College Chapel for World Communion) no one has been rostered on for any duties on that date.

Now that we *are* having a service here, we will need people for Door Duty, Morning Tea, Bible Reading & Candle Lighting. If you can help with one or more of these, please let Gail know.

Nomination of New Elders: The nomination of the following people as Elders will be voted on at the AGM next Sunday. We are looking at holding their ordination on Sunday 17th October

- Kathleen Anderson
- Joyce Lockhart
- Jay Lee
- Janice Lee

Hamish's Induction as Moderator: There are only limited places for people to attend this event, and these have now been allocated. If you would like to watch a live stream of the Induction, which is at 7pm on Wednesday 29th September, please use this link:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=XWXYHUMF3hk&list=PL9DQWkB3lc9ZxhQw9YhPgYh11BkH0smwC&ab_channel=PresbyterianChurchofAotearoaNewZealand



The next coffee morning will be held on **Wednesday 6th October** at 10.30am at **Mosaic Cafe at Barrington Mall**. Everyone welcome

Overview of the book of Esther: If you would like to learn more about this interesting book of the Bible, check out the short video *Overview Esther* (9 minutes). It is a great pictorial overview of the book with an entertaining commentary.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JydNSlufRIs>

Women's retreat day: Advance notice of this day for women from our congregation to be held on **Saturday 27th November** at the former Greenpark Primary School, near Lincoln. Using a small book called "Encountering God," by Christchurch-based Salvation Army Major Barbara Sampson, we are planning a tranquil day which shall include time for conversation, individual reflection, and a good chunk of quiet time in the early afternoon. If this interests you, please note this date in your diaries now. More details to follow.

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	This week: 26 September	Next week: 3 October
Door Duty	Chris & Maree Johnstone, Barbara White	<i>Volunteers needed for all of these, please.</i>
Morning Tea & Coffee	<i>None this week due to Level 2</i>	
Bible Reading		
Candle Lighting		
Food Trolley	Geoff Walls	
Money Counting (Monday)	David Troughton	



PLANTARAMA

Saturday 16th October 2021

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 (021815492 or 3327978)

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 clip-boards available today for you to indicate how you are able to help.