

CASHMERE | PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



“The Stone Church on the Hill”

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**Mission Statement**

To worship God, follow Christ,  
transforming the world in the  
power of the Spirit

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[www.cashmerechurch.org.nz](http://www.cashmerechurch.org.nz)

**Minister**

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**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**

*Theme: God's Promises*

*Preacher: Anne Shave*

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.

**Order of Worship**

*Please stand as the Bible is processed in.*

*Congregational responses are in  
bold italics.*

**Lighting of the fellowship candle**

*(Elisabeth Cooch)*

**Welcome and call to worship**

**Hymn 383(i):** Stand up & bless the Lord

**Prayers of praise and confession, concluding with the Lord's Prayer**  
(Alan Simson)

***Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.***

**Notices and passing of the peace**

**Hymn 473:** Author of Faith (vs 1-4) (*Tune: Wareham WOV 52*)

*Time with children – the children are invited to come to the front.*

**Bible readings:**

Genesis 17:1-7 and 15-16 (*Elisabeth Cooch*)

*Introduction to the first New Testament reading*

Romans 4:13-25 (*Judith Newbury*)

<sup>13</sup> Clearly, God's promise to give the whole earth to Abraham and his descendants was based not on his obedience to God's law, but on a right relationship with God that comes by faith. <sup>14</sup> If God's promise is only for those who obey the law, then faith is not necessary and the promise is pointless. <sup>15</sup> For the law always brings punishment on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!)

<sup>16</sup> So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe. <sup>17</sup> That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, "I have made you the father of many nations."

This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing. <sup>18</sup> Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how

many descendants you will have!”<sup>19</sup> And Abraham’s faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah’s womb.<sup>20</sup> Abraham never wavered in believing God’s promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God.<sup>21</sup> He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises.<sup>22</sup> And because of Abraham’s faith, God counted him as righteous.

<sup>23</sup> And when God counted him as righteous, it wasn’t just for Abraham’s benefit. It was recorded <sup>24</sup> for our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.<sup>25</sup> He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.

– *New Living Translation*

### **Song: Father God, I give all thanks and praise to Thee**

Father God, I give all thanks and praise to Thee  
Father God, my hands I humbly raise to Thee  
for Thy mighty pow'r and love amazes me, amazes me  
and I stand in awe and worship, Father God.

Mark 8:31-38 (*Judith Newbury*)

**Sermon:** Faith in God’s promises



**Offering:** Our freewill offering to support the mission and Church of Jesus Christ will be received. Mithila Chacko will sing “Meet me Lord,” by Darren Gammie.

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.***

**Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession**

## Hymn: Standing on the Promises of God

Standing on the promises of Christ, my King,  
Through eternal ages let his praises ring;  
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,  
Standing on the promises of God.

*Standing, standing,  
Standing on the promises of God, my Saviour;  
Standing, standing,  
I'm standing on the promises of God.*

Standing on the promises that cannot fail.  
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,  
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,  
Standing on the promises of God.

*[Refrain]*

Standing on the promises of Christ, the Lord,  
Bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,  
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,  
Standing on the promises of God.

*[Refrain]*

Standing on the promises I shall not fall,  
List'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call,  
Resting in my Saviour as my all in all,  
Standing on the promises of God.

*[Refrain]*

### Concluding prayer:

***Father, give to us and all your people  
in times of anxiety, serenity;  
in times of hardship, courage;  
in times of uncertainty, patience;  
and at all times a quiet trust in your wisdom and love,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

### 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.***

*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.*

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***At home:*** Perhaps you might like to ponder and pray about the words of this affirmation of faith, which can be found in some Methodist hymnals.

**Modern Affirmation**

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

Amen.

***Professor Edwin Lewis (1881 – 1959)***  
*Methodist Theologian and Professor of Theology  
at Drew University in New Jersey*

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## Music for Worship, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Preludes: *Israeli -type songs.* I will sing; Jehovah-Jireh, my provider;  
Psalm 89, I have made a covenant with my people; Celebration Song.  
*Aus der Tiefe, June Nixon. (Organist at St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, 1973-2013)*

Forty days and forty nights Thou wast fasting in the wild;  
Forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.

Processional: *Russian music Alexis Lvov. Words, Ernest N. Merrington, of Knox College, Dunedin.*

God of eternity, Lord of the ages,  
Father and Spirit and Saviour of men.  
Thine is the glory of time's numbered pages,  
Thine is the power to revive us again.

Offertory: *Meet me Lord. Darren Gammie, of Blenheim. Sung by Mithila Pothen.*

Meet me, Lord, in this quiet place in the quiet of my soul.  
Restore to me the songs of gladness and the songs of your love.  
Meet me, Lord, in this place of quiet and speak to me your word,  
Speak to me your words of comfort and your words of love.  
Great are you Lord, and greatly to be praised.  
Worship and adore your holy name.

Postlude: *Postlude on Leoni. (from an Israeli hymn, Yigdal). Pamela Decker, Arizona University.*

1. The God of Abraham praise who reigns enthroned above;  
the ancient of eternal days and God of love!  
The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed  
we bow before his holy name for ever blessed.

6. Triumphant hosts on high give thanks eternally  
and 'Holy, holy, holy' cry, 'great Trinity!'  
Hail Abraham's God and ours! one mighty hymn we raise,  
all power and majesty be yours, and endless praise!

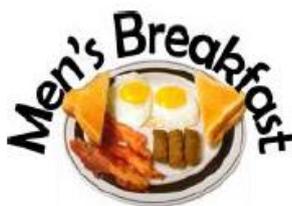


**Pastoral Care & Hospital Visiting:** As we do not always hear when someone is sick or has gone into hospital, we may miss out on visiting them, so please tell Hamish, or Gail in the office, if you know of anyone in this situation.

**Pathways:** If you would like to participate in the upcoming Pathways programme – exploring life transitions, spiritual growth, and gifts and areas of service – there are still some spaces. This course involves an initial one-to-one conversation about these themes with either Hamish or Anne, a day together with others in a group, and a follow-up conversation. We will be meeting at church from 9am until 3pm on Monday 8th March. Lunch is provided.

**Retreat morning Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March:** Perhaps you might think about coming along to a quiet morning of prayer and reflection on the Saturday prior to Easter? It will involve a time of guided prayer using Scripture, and lots of time for individual prayer and reflection. It will follow a similar pattern to the morning retreat we had last year. Speak to Anne Shave if you would like further information.

**Darfield Exhibition:** If any of you are driving west through Darfield - stop there at the Selwyn Gallery for their exhibition *A Place in Time*, featuring photography by Jonathan Cullen, lino cut prints by Jo Ernsten and **watercolour paintings by Don McAra**. The exhibition runs from 27 February until Thursday, 25 March.



**St Augustine's Men's Breakfast**

**Saturday 6 March 8am**

**Speaker: Martin Meehan on "Am I my brother's keeper?"**

This is a lead-in to regular, joint-fellowship meals between men at St Augustine's and at Cashmere Presbyterian.

Come & be fed, both physically and spiritually! For catering purposes, and further enquiries, contact Chris Kissling at [chris.kissling@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chris.kissling@hotmail.co.uk)

**Alpine Presbytery Gathering: 19-21 March, at St David's in Ashburton.**

Full details of the programme will be available on the Presbytery website soon, and the registration form is there also: [alpinepresbytery.org/?page\\_id=1599](http://alpinepresbytery.org/?page_id=1599)

**CCS Disability Action – Caregivers needed:** You can make a difference in one child's life. If you're interested in welcoming a child into your family, either on a short or long term basis, contact CCS Disability Action to find out more about Shared Care or Foster Care. Phone 0800 227 900 or visit [ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz](http://ccsdisabilityaction.org.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.

<b>Church Rosters</b>	<b>This week – 28 February</b>	<b>Next week – 7 March</b>
<b>Door Duty</b>	David & Jane Kim, Cath Dale	Janet Aldridge, Jill McAra, Margaret Ford
<b>Morning Tea &amp; Coffee</b>	Peter and Tric Nelson	Judith & Tony Waters
<b>Bible Reading</b>	Judy Newbury	Elisabeth Cooch
<b>Candle Lighting</b>	Elisabeth Cooch	Robin McKee
<b>Food Trolley</b>	Elisabeth Cooch	Ian Shaw
<b>Money Counting (Monday)</b>	Janet Aldridge	Gabrielle Bolt



*Covid-19: we encourage you to scan the QR code for the government's tracing app. Sign in sheets are also available in the main foyer if you prefer to use those.*



**Sign-in. Stop the virus.**