**The Third Sunday of Easter.**

**nearest to Anzac Day.**

**St Andrews, Gisborne---**

**23rd., April 2023.** *10-00 am*

Our Service today will include our annual Gisborne St Andrew’s **ANZAC** Service.

After recalling those who gave their lives in service, we sing our **National Anthem**.

The **silence** may be observed -- either sitting or standing --- *as you wish,*

The silence will end with the **Reveille** Bugle Call

**\*\*\*Welcome and Greeting ( Duty Elder )**

**\*\*\*Invitation to Worship**:

*L : Let us pray, ... God of mercy and grace,*

*We look no longer for Jesus among the dead, for He is alive.*

*He is the Lord of Life, and dwells with us; within this community;*

*helping us to transform and grow, both in hearts and minds*

*and to be true followers of Him, and be modern disciples.*

**AMEN.**

**\*\*\*1-PRAISE: CH-4:** CH-4 **161** [ St. Anne ] Our God, our help…

**O God, our help in ages past,**

**our hope for years to come,**

**our shelter from the stormy blast,**

**and our eternal home!**

**Before the hills in order stood,**

**or earth received her frame,**

**from everlasting thou art God,**

**to endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in thy sight**

**are like an evening gone;**

**short as the watch that ends the night**

**before the rising sun.**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream,**

**bears all its sons away;**

**they fly forgotten, as a dream**

**dies at the opening day.**

**O God, our help in ages past,**

**our hope for years to come,**

**be thou our guard while troubles last,**

**and our eternal home.**

**\*\*\*Prayer of Approach, Confession, and Assurance.**

***L :*** *The Lord Jesus was once like one of us, moving about amongst the crowds.*

*He obeyed the same laws of time and space; flesh and blood like ourselves.*

*Now we celebrate how He was called to His Father's side,*

*as our Risen Lord and Master; the first of God's chosen children..*

*SO . now … . In His presence, let us worship Him in Prayer AND Songs ... ...*

***L*** *: Let us pray, Almighty and most merciful Father; ... ...*

*God of all goodness and mercy; provider of grace and forgiveness;*

*You are worthy of a greater praise and love than we can ever give.*

**All : We can only sense Your unseen hand at work, and never actually see it!**

**We keep on searching to find You coming into our lives;**

**and find You have always been there whilst we looked elsewhere.**

**Sometimes this 'not knowing' can unsettle all our comfortableness.**

*L : Still; -- we feel that You draw us continually into Your presence,*

*and we sense You strongest, in the midst of community and others*

*You always know our need of Your reassuring healing touch,*

*so let us be silent before You.*

**All : Almighty God, often, we are so busy doing every day things;**

**that we leave so little time just be still**

**-- and to share important things with You.**

**We can be too generous and protective of the ones who are dear to us;**

**in trying to be kind, we stifle other rich possibilities You offer.**

**We talk about trivial issues unaware of the hurting all around us.**

**Lord ! Act as a mirror. Show us what we are really like.**

**Help us to begin to be Your family again sharing our lives more lovingly,**

*L : The dying Word spoken by Jesus was "Father! Forgive them!"*

*In the name of Jesus Christ, I remind you that we are forgiven*.

# All : In the name of Jesus Christ, we proclaim that we are forgiven.

# Thanks be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**\*\*\*2-PRAISE:** Ch-4 **514** [St Gertrude] Onward Christian soldiers ..

**Onward! Christian soldiers,**

**marching as to war,**

**with the cross of Jesus**

**going on before.**

**Christ, the royal Master**

**leads against the foe;**

**forward into battle,**

**see! his banners go:**

*Refrain*

*Onward!* *Christian soldiers,*

*marching as to war,*

*with the cross of Jesus*

*going on before.*

**Crowns and thrones may perish,**

**kingdoms rise and wane,**

**but the Church of Jesus**

**constant will remain;**

**gates of hell can never**

**‘gainst that Church prevail;**

**we have Christ’s own promise,**

**and that cannot fail:** *Refrain*

**Onward, then, you people,**

**join our happy throng;**

**blend with ours your voices**

**in the triumph song:**

**‘Glory, laud and honour**

**unto Christ the King!’**

**This, through countless ages,**

**we with angels sing:** *Refrain*

**R-READING (1) Psalm 133**. (adapted for today’s circumstances**)**

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*L : What would it be like if there were no more wars?*

*If brothers and sisters could live in harmony?*

*If women and children everywhere were safe from any violence*

*If families could learn to accept each other’s differences?*

**All : It would be peaceful and safe for everyone.**

**Peace would spread like a glue that seems to stick to everywhere.**

**We could sow wheat and rice, not cluster bombs and mines.**

*L : Peace would cover the whole land like an early morning dew;*

*like the dew which forms silently and evenly on all open ground,*

*nourishing secretly, yet promoting new growth and food for all.*

**All : The Lord has offered to bless his people with life-giving forgiveness,**

**if only they would speak *“Shalom”*, and really mean it.**

**Lord: make the Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ to be a reality,**

**-present within each one of us. Today, and evermore, AMEN.**

**\*\*\*Responsive Prayers of Thanksgiving.** (Led by Elder )

*L : Lord: Remember! Remember!*

**R : We remember, and we give thanks for all these things.**

**\*\*\*3- PRAISE: Ch-4 704 I vow to Thee… [ Thaxted ]**

**I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,**

**entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love ;**

**the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test**

**that lays upon the altar, the dearest and the best ;**

**the love that never falters, the love that pays the price,**

**the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.**

**And there’s another country, I’ve heard of long ago,**

**most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know ;**

**we may not count her armies, we may not see her King :**

**her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering ;**

**and soul by soul, and silently her shining bounds increase,**

**and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.**

**R- READING (2) Gospel of John, Ch. 20 : vs. 19- 31**

**>>>Sharing in Interpretation.**  Revd Dr Clive Yates

“‘Believing’ or ‘ Seeing ’… “ **Tha**t is the question !.”

**R-The Reading of the Named Ones.**

The Names of those from this Parish

who lost their lives in Two World Wars

followed by

any recent additions to our

***Parish Roll of Honour Booklet,***

**R- After the Reading of the Names**

*Reader : We remember all their service and their sacrifice*

***All : We Honour their Supreme Sacrifice and term of Service..***

**>>> NATIONAL ANTHEM: WOV- 677** [ v.1 & 2. ] God of Nations, …

**The two minute silence**

***Bugle call here Peter Cowley MP-4 Reveille***

*\*\*\****4-PRAISE : HS-61 Honour the Dead**

1. **Honour the dead, our country’s fighting brave**

**honour our children left in foreign grave,**

**where poppies grow and sorrow seeds her flowers,**

**honour the crosses marked forever ours.**

1. **Weep for the places ravaged with our blood,**

**weep for the young bones buried in our mud,**

**weep for the power of violence and greed,**

**weep for the deals done in the name of need.**

1. **Honour the brave who conscience was their call,**

**answered no bugle, went against the wall,**

**suffered in prisons of contempt and shame**

**branded as cowards, in our country’s name.**

1. **Weep for the waste of all that might have been,**

**weep for the cost that war has made obscene,**

**weep for the homes that ache with human pain,**

**weep that we ever sanction war again.**

1. **Honour the dream for which our nation bled,**

**held now in trust to justify the dead,**

**honour their vision on this solemn day:**

**peace known in freedom, peace the only way.**

***Words: Shirley Murray Music: Colin Gibson***

**\*\*\*Offertory and Dedication:** The offering is now received at the door as we enter. If you missed noticing this, you may place a retiring offering into the offering boxes at the door as you leave. Our dedication covers all our acts of giving:

*L : O Lord our God; You have inspired others to serve You:*

*Accept, now lord, all of our giftings of support and donations;*

*All our ministries of song and music;*

*All our Administration and acts of personal service,*

*Our outreach through hospitality and caring for others …. …*

**All : Use these, and use us; for the growth of Your Kingdom**

**to reach and touch the hearts of others;**

**to continue to learn lessons from You;**

**and to live alongside one another.**

**All in the Name of Jesus, our Master and Teacher, AMEN.**

**\*\*\*FINAL PRAISE: CH-4 740 [ Sine Nomine ]** For all the saints,

**For all the saints, who from their labours rest;**

**who thee by faith before the world confessed,**

**thy name, O Jesus, be for ever blest.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**O blest communion, fellowship divine!**

**We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;**

**Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,**

**Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,**

**And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**But, lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day;**

**The saints triumphant rise in bright array;**

**The King of Glory passes on his way.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,**

**Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,**

**Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\*\*\* Our Post-Easter Blessing :: (** As we leave, we bless each other ..).

*L : As the Risen Christ stepped forth from Death to Life*

*May He lead us and guide us through Life and Death.*

**All : You gave Your life, and You will give me life:**

**You gave us love, and You bring us peace;**

**You gave all You had, and You have enriched us.**

**May we each go separately to serve in Christ's community,**

**but living together as servants in Christ's name.**

**AMEN AMEN AMEN..**