

**GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH  
WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S GISBORNE**

*Matawhero Church – Church Lane  
St Andrew's Church and Community Centre:  
176 Cobden Street, Gisborne*

*19 April 2020*

*Easter 2*



**Ministers:** *All the people in Christ*  
**Minister:** *Rev Jin Sook Kim* **Prayers:** *Jill Wallis*  
**Reader:** *Pat Flockhart*  
**Director of Music:** *Catherine Macdonald*

*We gather together as the people of God*

**Welcome & Notices**

*We take a few moments of silence to prepare ourselves to worship God*

*Now close your eyes. Imagine that you see the Bible and Candle,  
representing the Light of Christ among us is being carried into the  
Church during the singing of the Introit.*

***Introit – Joyful, Joyful, we adore you***

© TUNE: Hymn to Joy CH4 #173 © WORDS: PCC #410, verses 1-2

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,  
Op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!

All Your works with joy surround You,  
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,  
Stars and angels sing around You,  
Centre of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain  
Praising You eternally!

## **Call to worship**

My heart is glad!

**My soul rejoices, and my body rests secure!**

For you do not abandon me.

**You give me counsel.**

You are at my right hand.

**You show me the path of life.**

Your presence is sheer joy.

**You are my God; apart from you, I have no good.**

**Blessed is your name!**

*We sing – Thine be the glory* (© CH4 #419 verses 1-3)

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes, where thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.**

*Refrain*

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;  
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.**

*Refrain*

*Prayer of praise and confession*

*Words of Assurance*

Do not fear, dear friends. Jesus is among us, offering us new life and hope. Nothing can prevent God's love for us. Rejoice, for you have been made new in Christ. Amen.

*Story time - The Great divorce by C. S. Lewis*

*– Question: Where do you find peace in this story?*

**We sing – Make me a channel of your peace (© CH4 #528, verses 1-4)**

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, only light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy**

**Oh, master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all men that we receive;  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life**

## ***Readings – Pat Flockhart***

### **First reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9 (NRSV)**

#### **A Living Hope**

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church  
**Thanks be to God**

***Gospel reading: John 20:19-31 (NRSV)***

**Jesus Appears to the Disciples**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

**Jesus and Thomas**

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

## **The Purpose of This Book**

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
**Praise to Christ the Word**

## **Sermon – Are you in peace?**

### **Prayers of Intercession (Jill Wallis)**

Dear God as we gather in our homes to make our supplications we ask that you hear us and grant us grace and wisdom. May we become like the first followers after Easter and feel the presence of the Lord and hear his words of peace.

We are living in strange times. Give us strength to last the distance so that all of us can come out of our isolation ready to restart our journey. Although we cannot physically meet with others, make us aware of their needs and support and give us the wisdom to know how to care for them.

We pray for those who are in need. We especially bring to you the family of Gordon Hair and ask that you will comfort Betty; the family and all who knew Gordon. May he be at peace now. For our sick and those who feel overwhelmed, we ask that they will feel your love through your Spirit and the love shown by your people. We bring to you those who are known to us who are in stressful situations; in silence we pray for them.

For those who are on the frontlines of this pandemic, especially our health care workers, may God protect them and keep them in good health. For those entrusted with leadership in New Zealand and around the world may they continue to work for peace and justice, casting aside selfish desires.

For us gathered in our homes listening to this service, may we know the peace of the Lord that banishes all fear. We pray that those who lead and guide us in our Church family and that they be inspired by those who have lived the faith throughout the centuries.

We celebrate and remember the peace that Jesus gave us. Through him we live with the certainty of the future; the ultimate peace. No matter where we are in our relationship with Jesus today, the good news is that he meets us in that place. In his time and in his way, graciously draws us near to his heart so we might know his love and grace. The one who gave his life for us so that we might be forgiven and seeks a genuine honest relationship with us. He wants, not just a religious ritual but an intimate friendship. So no matter where we are on the road to faith, let the risen Christ walk with us.

May the peace that passes all understanding guard your hearts and minds.  
Amen

## **Offering**

*We pray together*

**May we give out of the love  
that we have for Jesus Christ,  
so that others may share  
in our imperishable and unfading inheritance  
of hope, life and peace.**



**We sing – Let there be peace on earth, Verses 1-4**  
(TUNE: Let there be peace on earth © Jill Jackson & Sy Miller)

**Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let there be peace on earth  
The peace that was meant to be**

**With God as our Father  
Brothers all are we  
Let me walk with my brother  
In perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow**

**To take each moment  
And live each moment  
In peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me**

### ***Sending***

In great mercy, God has given us a new birth  
into a living hope,  
for it is the risen Christ  
who stands in our midst and says,  
“Peace be with you!”  
**We go forth to walk the path of new life  
and living hope.  
And may the peace of the risen Christ be with us!**

***Benediction (Together)***

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
Be with us all now and forever.**

***Sing: AMEN x 3 CH4 #819***

***Korero this week – please choose one or both!***



1. Take at least one event which you wish to let it go in peace. In spirit, you present a flower to the person/event and say – “Go in peace.”
2. Write a letter/card to those to whom you wish to say sorry. If you don’t feel like writing, pray for their wellbeing and happiness.  
Go in peace!

## *Notices*

### ***Bereavement - Gordon Hair***

Gordon died on 8 April 2020 at Beetham Healthcare and was buried the following day.

Gordon had been a member of the Presbyterian Church for many years, serving on the Board of Managers at Matawhero and after the coming together of the parishes was a member of the Finance Property and Works Committee for GPP.

Gordon and Betty were stalwarts of Matawhero, Gordon overseeing the maintenance of the buildings and with Betty managed the grounds and gardens. Gordon's involvement in the Church was done quietly but his commitment and strength was also seen in his faith, he will be sadly missed and we hold Betty and their family, Peter, Angela and David and their respective families in our prayers

\*Next week is a celebration Sunday. Those who wish to share something to celebrate with us – the church, please write or record them, and email them to Liz or Jin Sook. We will share your stories during the service. Any story is welcome.

\*\*You might like to share some of this worship and reflection with someone who hasn't got email. If you would like to keep up your freewill offering during this time, the church bank account is:

**GPP: 03 0638 0462917 00**

Thank you.

