

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

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

3 May 2020

Easter 4



Ministers: *All the people in Christ*

Minister: *Rev Jin Sook Kim*

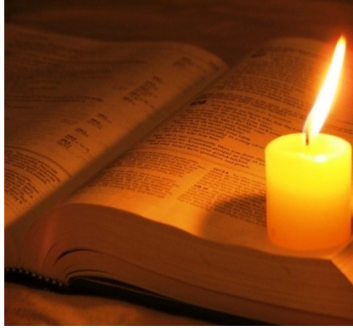
Reader: *Wendy Morris* **Prayers:** *Raewyn Hannah*

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 – Psalm 23 (© CH4 #14, verses 1-2)

**The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green: he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.**

**My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
even for his own name's sake.**

Call to worship

Welcome!

Thank you.

For some of you, it has been a good week
and for others difficulties abound.

We need peace and healing for our souls.

Rest. Open your hearts and lives to the Good Shepherd.

Lord, pour your balm of healing rest over our lives. AMEN.

We sing – Praise to the Lord, the almighty (© CH4 #124)

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation;
praise God, my soul, for in him are your health and salvation;
come all who hear,
into his presence draw near,
joining in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who in all things is wondrously reigning,
shields you from harm and is gently yet firmly sustaining.
Have you not seen
how your heart's wishes have been
granted by God's wise ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord, who with blessing and power will defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you;
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do:
God will for ever befriend you.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from God's people again:
gladly for ever adore him.**

Prayer of praise and confession

Words of Assurance

Story time – The King's story in Veronica decides to die
by Paulo Coelho

– *Question:* What made the king a good king?

We sing – You Lord are both lamb and Shepherd
(WORDS © CH4 #355, TUNE: PICARDY © CH4 # 263) verses 1-4

**You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd,
You, Lord, are both prince and slave,
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer
in the way you took and gave.
You, the everlasting instant;
you whom we both scorn and crave.**

**Clothed in light upon the mountain,
stripped of might upon the cross,
shining in eternal glory,
harrowing hell to save the lost,
you the everlasting instant;
you, who are our gift and cost.**

**You, who walk each day beside us,
sit in power at God's side,
You who preach a way that's narrow
have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant;
you who are our pilgrim guide.**

**Worthy is our earthly Jesus!
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and vict'ry.
Worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are our death and life.**

Readings (Wendy Morris)

First reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25 (NRSV)

¹⁹For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness;

by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

Gospel reading: John 10:1-10 (NRSV)

Jesus the Good Shepherd

10 “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief

comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

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

Sermon – What made Jesus the good Shepherd?

Anthem – Tama ngākau mārie
(“Son of Peace,” TUNE: New Zealand folk song)
© Festival singers – *Tell my people*

Tama ngākau mārie	Son of peace
Tama a te Atua	Son of God
Tēnei tonu mātou	here we are always.
Arohaina mai	Show us compassion.

Murua rā ngā hara	Wipe away our sins
Wetekina mai	and unshackle
Ēnei here kino	these evil ties
Wakararu nei.	that are so troublesome.

Prayers of Intercession (Raewyn Hannah)

Good Shepherd,

We praise you for the opportunity to come before you today. We are grateful for the technology that allows us to unite in worship before you,

even though we are separated physically from each other.

In the midst of the uncertainty surrounding us we give thanks for where
You have placed us in this world.

Forgive us when we lose sight of the fact that you are the Good
Shepherd and you are always in control. Like sheep, it is easy for us to
wander off and get lost and get into all sorts of trouble. Help us to live
in confidence knowing that you are still right here for us, the gate of the
sheepfold. Remind us to put our full trust in You and to listen for Your
voice and not just the voices newsfeeds that change day to day.

At level three we pray for all those going back to work and lift up to you
all those who have no work.

Good Shepherd, We ask for Your protection of your flock, especially
the front line medical professionals all over the world.

We also ask that you would bless the work of the medical researchers
who are working on the many aspects of the Covid challenge. May they
find your favour in discovering new drugs that will combat this virus.

We thank you that in spite of it all, there is love, there is singing, nature,
laughing, and mercy.

And we pray that we will come out on the other side of this better with a
new sense of what life is meant to be on this earth that is so special, this

place we call home.

Good Shepherd, Teach us to follow You and be faithful to the calling
You gave us to be 'shepherds in your name'.

Amen

Offering

We pray together

**Generous, life-giving God,
you sent Jesus that we might have life
and have it abundantly.**

**In response to this great gift,
we now offer ourselves and our resources.**

**May these gifts help us as a church to be your voice,
calling all people to abundant life
and to their true identities
as your beloved. Amen.**

We sing – I heard the voice of Jesu say (© CH4 # 540) verses 1-3

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast':
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;**

**I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink, and live’:
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘I am this dark world’s Light;
Look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright’:
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my Star, my Sun;
and in that light of life I’ll walk,
till travelling days are done.**

Sending

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



During the Lockdown, what helped you see life meaningful and precious the most? Share it with people in your bubbles. Please send them to Liz or Jin Sook to be shared with others.

Notices

*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

Please do not post cheques at this time as they cannot be banked until a later date. Thank you.