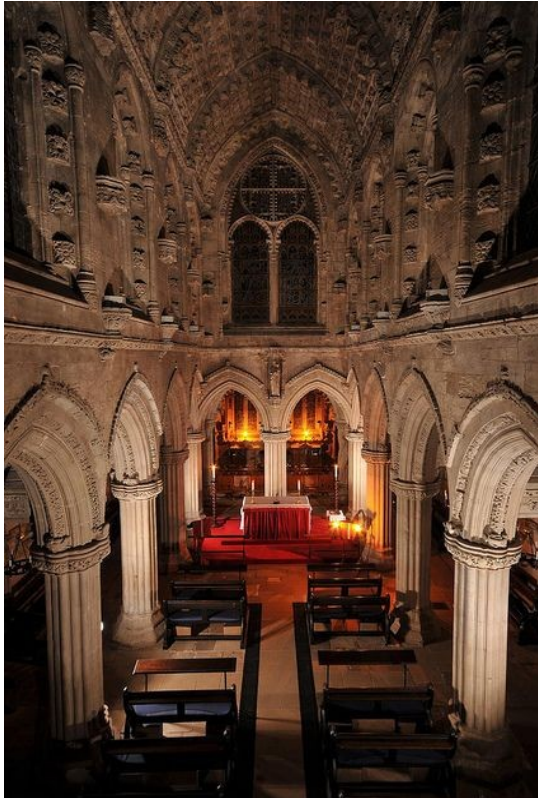


**GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH  
WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S GISBORNE**

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

*17 May 2020*

*Easter 6*



**Ministers:** *All the people in Christ*

**Minister:** *Rev Jin Sook Kim*

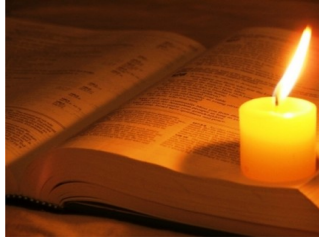
**Reader:** *Marilyn Matthews* **Recording:** *Peter Cowley*

**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 – Be still and know*** © CH4 #755

**Be still and know that I am God    x 3**  
**I am the Lord who saves and heals x 3**  
**In you, Lord God, I put my trust.    x 3**

**Call to worship**

Come into God's house!  
Come and hear what God has done!  
**God has made the world  
and breathed the breath of life into us!**  
But God hasn't stopped there. There's more!  
God is still on the scene, upholding all our life,  
surrounding us in power and love.  
**We live, move, and have our very being in God!**  
Let the sound of God's praise be heard!  
**Praise God! Praise God! Praise God!**

*We sing* – Come down, O Love divine (© CH4 #489) verses 1-4

Come down, O Love Divine,  
seek out this soul of mine,  
and visit it with your own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;  
and let your glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity  
my outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become my inner clothing;  
true lowliness of heart,  
which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
we cannot guess its grace,  
till we become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

*Prayer of praise and confession*

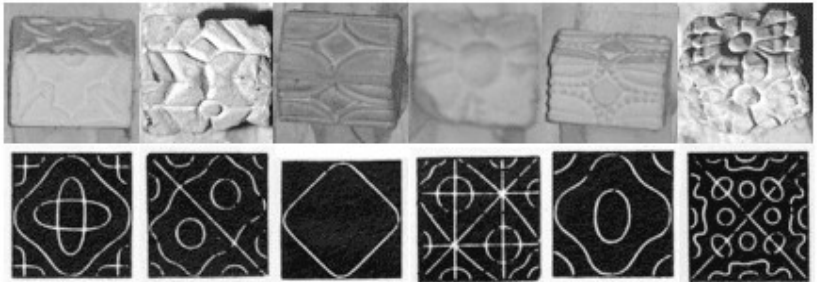
*Words of Assurance*

## ***Passing the peace of Christ***

Because Jesus Christ is in us, and we in him, his peace is a powerful gift that we may share with others. Pass the blessing of this peace to your brothers and sisters in Christ and to all the children of God.

## ***Story time – One note per child in the household of God***

(The pictures will help you understand the story 🕯️)



– ***Question:*** What is ‘love (*agape*)’ in this story?

***We sing – Love is your way***

(Hope is Our Song, #95 Music © Per Harling, Words © Shirley Erena Murray) v,1-4

**Love is your way,  
love is your nature,  
blessing each creature,  
lighting each day;  
grace is your sign,  
gift of forgiveness,  
chalice that changes  
water to wine**

*Refrain*

***God, in your grace,  
God in your mercy,  
turn us to you  
to transform the world,  
turn us to you  
to transform the world!***

**Pathways we choose,  
Undeserved freedom,  
earth as our kingdom,  
still we abuse;  
much we have done,  
gross human error,  
misuse of power  
darkens the sun**

*Refrain*

**Terror and tears,  
wounds without healing,  
hearts without feeling  
mirror our fears:  
life without trust,  
greed and high prices,  
conflict and crisis  
grind us to dust**

*Refrain*

**Let us stand still,  
look at each other,  
sister and brother  
thwarting your will:  
teach us good care,  
grace to see pardon,  
reclaim your garden,  
riches to share**

*Refrain*

### ***Readings (Marilyn Matthews)***

First reading: Acts 17:22-31 2:2-10 (NRSV)

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

<sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,

<sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.

<sup>28</sup>For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup>Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has

fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

*Gospel reading: John 14:15-21 (NRSV)*

### **The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

<sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

*Sermon – To love Jesus*

**Anthem – Lord of All Love AA #91© Colin Gibson (1-4)**

**Lord of all love, all life, and death,  
giver of time and place and breath,  
hear us as now we bring our loss  
into the presence of your cross.  
Sing us the songs we cannot sing,  
pardon the praise we cannot bring,  
speak all the words we cannot say,  
pray for us, Lord, we humbly pray.**

**That darkest mystery is here,  
sorrow and pity, anger, fear;  
conquer once more, dear Lord, death's sting,  
faith trust and consolation bring.**

**Though precious dust return to dust,  
in your good purpose will we trust,  
content to place within your care  
*she* whom we love and grieve for here.**

**Prayers of Intercession (Raewyn Hannah)**

Dear Lord,

This morning we pray that we would walk in love for one another like never before - Help us love others as abundantly as You have loved us. Merciful Lord, we stand before You in our human weakness. We confess that we have been caught up in the pride and presumption that drives our worldly society. Free us from the arrogance that afflicts our age, for now we stand confounded by conditions beyond our control or understanding.

Help us as a church to see things differently as Jesus taught us. With each new day, may we find new ways to love each other more. Lord, grow us during this time to be men and women who love like You.



Fill us with Your patience and kindness. Teach us to love in ways that celebrate truth and hold on to hope. Open our eyes so that we can see that sometimes in the waves of change we can find our true direction. Help us to stay plugged into your grace and wisdom to tune everything else out.

Dear Lord,

We pray for the health of our communities throughout the world, the earth, our vulnerable, our essentials, our neighbours. Let us fully mirror

Your love dearly so that we are able to care for those who may feel abandoned, alone or hopeless. Grant us the vision of a world healed by love rooted in the ultimate love that is You.

Dear Lord,

Enlighten the minds of the men and women of medical science who are working so hard to find a solution to this viral infection. Guide them in their research and help them discover what You provide, in creation, sure ways of control, protection, inoculation and healing. Strengthen them in their tiring work.

Dear Lord,

Grant wisdom and guide the leaders called to serve our nation. May they respond to the challenges of this time with sound judgement.

In the week to come Dear Lord,

May we face whatever comes with compassion and grace

May we remember that what connects us is far stronger than what divides us.

May our hearts and minds be strong, and may all of us remember that no matter what, We determine how we will move through this world, together...

Let it be with kindness.

Let it be with love

Let us love one another.

Amen

## Offering

### *We pray together*

**Giver of all gifts,  
we are grateful for your every blessing  
and for your presence through all of life—  
in our joys and fears,  
and in our hopes and dreads.**

**We pray for those who do not know  
the consolation of your presence in their lives,  
asking that you reveal yourself to them  
through the gifts we have given  
and through the lives we live.**

**Reveal yourself, O God,  
that all your children  
may find their true home in you. Amen.**

***We sing – A New Commandment (WOV #571)***

***\*We sing it twice\****

**© Roy Crabtree, TUNE: NEW COMMANDMENT**

**A new commandment I give unto you  
that you love one another as I have loved you,  
that you love one another as I have loved you.  
By this shall people know that you are my disciples  
if you have love one for another.  
By this shall people know that you are my disciples  
if you have love one for another.**

*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*



**Dunedin Symphony Orchestra**

1. As soon as we finish the service, from 11:30 am till 12:00, we'll have korero via zoom. Please click the link then you will be directed to the zoom meeting. Allow the camera and the sound to be on in your computer. We will do zoom korero each Sunday till we meet at church.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5671981115?pwd=eHZHVkhZTUl4K21CT1IHRkxkRCtWZz09>

**Password: 939382**

2. Explore the theme 'To love Jesus' more together with the story today. Share your thoughts with people in your bubbles. If appropriate, 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.