#### GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

#### *Matawhero Church – Church Lane*

#### *St Andrew’s Church and Community Centre:*

#### *176 Cobden Street, Gisborne*

#### *1 October 2023 Pentecost 18*

#### St Francis of Assisi Day – Blessing of Animals

#### World Communion Sunday

#### Matawhero Historic Church

#### **Things We Can Learn From A Dog**

#### **Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.**

#### **When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by**

#### **and nuzzle them gently.**

#### **Eat with gusto and enthusiasm.**

#### **Be loyal.**

#### **When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.**

#### **No matter how often you’re scolded, don’t buy into the**

#### **guilt thing and pout – run right back and make friends.**

#### **If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.**

#### **When you are happy dance around**

#### **and wag your entire body.**

#### **Never pretend to be something you’re not.**

#### **Take naps and stretch before rising.**

#### **Let others know when they’ve invaded your territory.**

#### **When it’s in your best interests, practice obedience.**

#### **Never pass up the opportunity for a joy-ride.**

#### **Allow the experience of fresh air**

#### **and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.**

#### **Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.**

#### **Run, romp and play daily.**

#### **Thrive on attention.**

#### **On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.**

***We welcome all other visitors to our service this morning....***

***Please sign the Visitors’ Book at the back of the church.***

***In our worship we use inclusive language as much as possible. Sometimes, especially in the hymns, this is not possible. Feel free to insert the language with which you are most comfortable.***

***BOLDED WORDS are for congregational response.***

***Where there is an asterisk \* please stand.***

Prelude

Greeting and Announcements/Concerns of the Church

*(Offerings will be placed in the Offering bags as you come in)*

**Introit** HS 65

**I arise this day with God, and God will arise with me.**

**I arise this day with Christ, and Christ will arise with me.**

**I arise this day with the Spirit, and the Spirit will rise with me.**

**God and Christ and Holy Spirit be all through the day with me.**

**I will sing this day with God, and God will sing with me.**

**I will sing this day with Christ, and Christ will sing with me.**

**I will sing this day with the Spirit, and the Spirit will sing with me.**

**God and Christ and Holy Spirit sing all through the day with me.**

**Call to Worship:**

We gather here in the name of Jesus

**God, we ask that the Holy Spirit be with us**

We also ask that you bless us with your Peace and the sense of your presence

**Thank you for the companionship of the friends we have**

**brought today, and those who share our lives**

May we always thank and praise you for the beauty of the Earth and for the love we share.

\***Hymn**: All things bright and beautiful - a New Zealand versionCH4 137

***All things bright and beautiful,***

***all creatures great and small,***

***all things wise and wonderful –***

***the Lord God made them all.***

**The wonder of the mountains**

**The snow capped tips on high**

**The richness of the colours**

**In land and sea and sky**

*Refrain*

**The tui in the kowhai**

**The gulls up in the sky**

**The kiwi in its burrow**

**That has no wings to fly**

*Refrain*

**God made the waves that ripple**

**And crash upon the shore**

**The fish that swim the ocean**

**So thank God more and more.** *Refrain*

**Family time**

Reading: Luke 15: 4-7 *The Lost Sheep* Butterworth/ Inkpen

**Anthem**: *Creator God, we give you thanks* HS22

(A Hymn of Thanks for our Pets) Words and Music: Colin Gibson

**Reading**: Genesis 1:21-26

God saw everything was good and He blessed them

**Pray responsively the Prayer of St Francis**:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.Where there is hatred, let me bring love. **Where there is offence, let me bring pardon.**Where there is discord, let me bring union. **Where there is error, let me bring truth.**Where there is doubt, let me bring faith. **Where there is despair, let me bring hope.**Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.  
 **Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.**

O Master, let me not seek as much  
to be consoled as to console, **to be understood as to understand,  
 to be loved as to love,**for it is in giving that one receives,  
it is in self-forgetting that one finds**,  
 it is in pardoning that one is pardoned,  
 it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life**

**Reading:** *Do dogs go to heaven* from *Aotearoa Psalms* by Joy Cowley

**Reflection** on St Francis’

\***Hymn**: CH4 147 *Tune Lasst uns erfreuen*

**All things of earth and sea and sky,**

**with gladness lift your voices high,**

**join the singing, Alleluia!**

**Thou burning sun with golden beam**

**thou silver moon with softer gleam**

**join the singing, join the singing,**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Thou flowering earth who day by day**

**unfoldest blessings on our way,**

**join the singing, Alleluia!**

**The grains and fruits that in thee grow**

**let them God’s glory also show**

**join the singing, join the singing,**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**And all ye folk of tender heart**

**forgiving others, take your part**

**O sing ye, Alleluia!**

**Now let us our Creator bless**

**and worship God in humbleness**

**join the singing, join the singing,**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Offering**:

\*Prayer of thanks

**Holy Oneness, we cannot contain you in the smallness of words. Nor can we give you anything that isn’t already yours. Our offering is gratitude from overflowing hears and we thank you. We thank you. Amen**

**Communion Hymn: WB58 Now to your table spread**

1. **Now to your table spread we come, each one, in faith**

**that you alone provide the words of life and death:**

**In wine and bread, in promised food**

**we find your loving heart, O God.**

1. **Hands of the world stretch out, your mystery and touch,**

**in longing to believe a truth beyond our reach,**

**to sing in joy, to cry in grief,**

**to know your meaning for our life.**

1. **Here is our common wealth in sharing what is good**

**as though all human kind around one table stood,**

**this bread to break, this wine to taste –**

**one people in the name of Christ.**

**Communion Liturgy D p13**

**\*Hymn: O God, Your Creatures Fill the Earth**  ELLACOMBE CH4 367

**O God, your creatures fill the earth with wonder and delight,**

**And every living thing has worth and beauty in your sight.**

**So playful dolphins dance and swim; Your sheep bow down and graze.**

**Your songbirds share a morning hymn to offer you their praise.**

**You made the pets we welcome in - they’re wondrous blessings, too.**

**With paws and whiskers, wings and fins, they offer praise to you.**

**O Lord, you call us to embrace these creatures in our care.**

**May we show kindness, love and grace to all pets everywhere.**

**You made the creatures on each farm; You know the things they need.**

**May they grow healthy, safe from harm, and safe from human greed.**

**Just as a shepherd loves the sheep, You know their joy, their pain.**

**Lord, bless the animals we keep; May all farms be humane.**

**Your creatures live in every land; they fill the sky and sea.**

**O Lord, you give us your command; to love them tenderly.**

**We’re called to have dominion here; to care for them always.**

**By loving creatures you hold dear, we offer you our praise.**

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\***Blessing of animals**

Those who have brought animals, please name them and then we all say together:

**Blessed are you Lord God, maker of all living creatures**

**You called forth for the fish in the sea,**

**birds in the air and animals on the land.**

**You inspired Saint Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters.**

**We ask you to bless  all these pets. Amen**

*Please join us for a time of fellowship and friendship over a cup of tea or coffee.*

**Mindful Prayer topics:** Those unable to attend their Sunday Worship for whatever reason. GPP. The AGM & Parish Council; Ourselves.

“**In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us heavenly Father to trust your love, to serve your purpose and to praise your name, now and for ever. Amen”** (Bishop Allan Pyatt).

**Note:** The offering is now received at the door as we enter. If you miss noticing this, you may place a retiring offering in the offering boxes at the door as you leave.

**Please remember** donations for the Love basket when shopping. All offerings gratefully received.

As you will have read in the recent *Signpost* Val Hall and Pat Flockhart are offering Home Communion, and they need an Elder to be present. Any Elders willing to assist, please phone or email Val Hall.

For all Pastoral care needs please contact one of the committee members:

Jenny Lawton  868 4268; Ruth McLennan 021 02704867; Jan Gordon 0211836008 Annette Ormiston 0275535028 Barbara Larsen 863-9009

With blessings from the Pastoral Committee

Mindful Prayer contact Margaret Graham ph. 021 026 03990 or email [m.n.e.gra@xtra.co.nz](mailto:m.n.e.gra@xtra.co.nz)

**DIARY**

**SUNDAY 1 October**  **PENTECOST 18**  World Communion Sunday and Animal Blessing service (Mid School Spring Holidays)

**10.00 am Matawhero** communion celebrant Pat Flockhart

**St Andrew’s – No service**

3.00pm Sea of Faith

Monday 2 9.00am Walking Group

Tuesday 3 10.00am Open Door All welcome

**Wednesday 4 10.30a Worship Committee meeting**

**Thursday 5 3.30pm Parish council (postponed from 28 Sept)**

Friday 6 1.00pm Choir rehearsal

**SUNDAY 8 October**  **PENTECOST 19**  Celebration Guardian Angel service (School Spring Holidays End)

**10.00 am St Andrew’s** Family Works Guest speaker

**Matawhero – No service**

**Coming up:**

**Sunday 5 November** Celebration of Talents. Start thinking about what you can bring to display, or use as part of the service on that day.

**Weekend of 11 and 12 November:** Visit of Rose Luxford, incoming Moderator celebrating 150 years of Presbyterianism in Tairawhiti and commemorating the 155th anniversary of the Matawhero Tragedy.

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| Sunday | Reader | Door & Team | Morning Tea | Sound Visual |
| 1 October  Pentecost 18  Matawhero  Elders Barbara Larsen, Wendy Morris | **Matawhero**  communion  **St Andrew’s**  No service | **Matawhero people** |  | Matawhero service |
| 8 October  Pentecost 19  Family works | **Matawhero**  No service  **St Andrew’s**  Colleen Skuse | **Seton Clare**  Jenny Lawton  Cathy Porter | Danielle and Sophie Lapointe | S:Hans  V:Linda  C:Hans |

***Gisborne Presbyterian Parish***

***St Andrew’s Church and Matawhero Historic Church:***

***Office: 06 868 5513******Hours 10-12 Tuesday – Friday***

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