***GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH***

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

***176 Cobden Street, Gisborne***

***Matawhero Church – Church Lane***

***21st April 2024 Easter 4***

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***No life of faith can be lived privately. There must be overflow into the lives of others.***

***Eugene Peterson***

***Haere mai. We gather together as Te Atua’s whanau, to delight in Te Ariki (the Lord), to learn of the ways of Ihu Karaiti (Jesus Christ), to each receive blessing, grace, peace through the presence of Wairua Tapu (the Holy Spirit) and to take strength from one another.***

***He manuhiri katoa kei konei (All are welcome here)***

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

***Please sign the Visitors’ Book and make yourself known to the Hosts who stand 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.***

**Greeting**

**Entry of Bible, and Introit**  Jesus, stand among us

**Jesus, stand among us   
in your risen power;  
let this time of worship  
be a hallowed hour.**

**Breathe the Holy Spirit  
into every heart;  
bid the fears and sorrows  
from each soul depart.**

words: W. Pennefather  CH3 248

**Call to Worship**

People of God, even if all we have is destroyed,

**God’s love for us will not be shaken.**

**We have God’s promise.**

Even if everything familiar is taken from us,

**God’s covenant of peace will not be removed.**

**We have God’s promise.**

Through the love of Christ Jesus, God has claimed us

and set us upon a solid rock.

**We will stand firm in Christ,**

**assured of Christ’s Spirit to sustain and strengthen us.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Prayer of Approach**

**Song Before the world began one Word was there CH4 317**

**tune Londonderry Air CH4 729**

**Before the world began one Word was there;**

**grounded in God he was, rooted in care;**

**by him all things were made, in him was love displayed,**

**through him God spoke and said ‘I am for you’.**

**Life found in him its source, death found its end;**

**light found in him its course, darkness its friend;**

**for neither death nor doubt nor darkness can put out**

**the glow of God, the shout ’I a-a-am for you’.**

**The Word was in the world which from him came;**

**unrecognised he was, unknown by name;**

**one with all humankind, with the unloved aligned,**

**convincing sight and mind ‘I am for you’.**

**All who received the Word by God were blessed;**

**sisters and brothers they of earth’s fond guest.**

**So did the Word of Grace proclaim in time and space**

**and with a human face, ‘I a-a-am for you’.**

**Prayer Seeking Soul Peace**

**Assurance of Restoration**

**Passing of the Peace.**

Ka noho te rangimarie o te Karaiti ki a koutou. The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you**

*(Feel free to move around. , “The peace of Christ be with you”.)*

**Announcements, News, Information**

**Song: Every day I will offer you… AA 36**

**Every day I will offer you, loving God, my heart and mind,**

**every way I discover you in the work your hand has signed;**

**help me see I’m your image, and you have dreamed what I might be,**

**every day in your Spirit, I’ll find the love and energy!**

**Every day I will look to Christ, and give thanks for wine and bread**

**through the pain and the emptiness where your world cries to be fed;**

**help me see I can work for change, and wherever I might be,**

**every day in your Spirit, I’ll find the love and energy!**

**Every day I will take your word, answer your compassion’s claim,**

**celebrate every sign of hope, every deed done in your name;**

**help me see you are always there, and your light can shine through me,**

**every day in your Spirit, I’ll find the love and energy!**

*Colin Gibson / Shirley Murray*

**Scripture Reading: Isaiah 56: 1-8 NRSV** Updated Edition

**56**Thus says the Lord:  
    Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come  
    and my deliverance be revealed.

**2**Happy is the mortal who does this,  
    the one who holds it fast,  
who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it,  
    and refrains from doing any evil.

**3**Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say,  
    “The Lord will surely separate me from his people,”  
and do not let the eunuch say,  
    “I am just a dry tree.”  
**4**For thus says the Lord:  
To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,  
    who choose the things that please me  
    and hold fast my covenant,  
**5**I will give, in my house and within my walls,  
    a monument and a name  
    better than sons and daughters;  
I will give them an everlasting name  
    that shall not be cut off.

**6**And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,  
    to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,  
    and to be his servants,  
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it  
    and hold fast my covenant—  
**7**these I will bring to my holy mountain  
    and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
    will be accepted on my altar,  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
    for all peoples.  
**8**Thus says the Lord God,  
    who gathers the outcasts of Israel:  
I will gather others to them  
    besides those already gathered.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2056%3A1-8&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-18762a)]

**Acts 8: 26-40**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W64jSb7r9kI**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W64jSb7r9kI)

**Family Time**

**Scripture Reading: Luke 4: 14-21** NRSV Updated Edition

**14**Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. **15**He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

**16**When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, **17**and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

**18**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
    because he has anointed me  
        to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
    and recovery of sight to the blind,  
        to set free those who are oppressed,  
**19**to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

**20**And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. **21**Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

**Song Come to us, beloved Stranger PCC262 Abbots Leigh CH4 615**

**Come to us, beloved Stranger,**

**as you came that Easter day.**

**Walk with us to our Emmaus,**

**for we need you still today.**

**Come to us when we are broken,**

**when our dearest hopes are lost,  
speak to us the prophets’ message**

**you fulfilled upon the cross.**

**Stay with us and give us blessing,**

**that our hopes again may rise.  
Offer us your broken body;**

**open our unseeing eyes.**

**Come to us, God’s love embodied;**

**touch our hearts with burning flame.**

**Risen Christ, once dead, now living,**

**come to us through joy, through pain.**

**We would never fail to see you**

**as you walk with us each day.**

**As a friend and not a stranger**

**you would join us on our way.**

**Help us trust that through your mercy**

**we can doubt and fear transcend,**

**and to others be a blessing.**

**Keep us faithful till life’s end!**

**Reflection Who are We?**

**Song Reflection. Who am I video**

**Presentation of our tithes and offerings**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise God, all creatures high and low;**

**give thanks to God in love made known:**

**Creator, Word and Spirit, One**.

**Prayer of Dedication (together)**

Light of the World,

your Easter gift to us far outweighs anything we could give back.

We bring the best we have to offer.

Accept these gifts as an expression of our willingness

to be your light and salt in the everyday world.  Amen.

**Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer**

**Song Come, Celebrate the Gift of Life HS 17**

**Tune Ye banks and braes CH4 718**

**Come celebrate the gift of life:**

**Creation’s journey from the star**

**Whose first great flaring forth of light**

**Responded to God’s word of power.**

**Enable us, O God, to see**

**Your living word is in us still;**

**This vibrant possibility**

**Within our human lives fulfil.**

**Come celebrate the gift of love,**

**Potential in each human soul,**

**Revealed by Jesus as he strove**

**To heal our world and make us whole.**

**Enable us, O God, to choose**

**Beyond the inborn needs of self;**

**In loving , be prepared to lose**

**Our boundaries, and find new life.**

**Come celebrate the gift of power:**

**The flow of God within each soul,**

**Which calls us in this present hour**

**To see creation as a whole.**

**Enable us, O God, to know**

**Your life is present in all things;**

**And may our lives, within that flow,**

**Reflect the joy creation sings.**

**Commissioning**

**Sung Blessing**

**May the Christ who walks on wounded feet**

**walk with you on the road.**

**May the Christ who serves with wounded hands**

**stretch out your hands to serve.**

**May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart**

**open your hearts to love.**

**May you see the face of Christ**

**in everyone you meet,**

**and may everyone you meet**

**see the face of Christ in you.**

**Ministers*: All the people***

**Worship Leader** *Rev Shirley Barker-Kirby*  **Organist:**  *Paul Pollock*

**Liturgist:** *Ruth McLennan*

*Please join us for a time of fellowship and friendship and a cup of tea or coffee in the lounge of the Community Centre next door*

**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.

**Mindful Prayer topics:** April 21st & 28th 2024 Remembering our ANZAC's and those suffering in current conflicts. World Peace. Those recovering from major surgery. Peace to those who are troubled or face the loss of a loved one. “May you see the face of Christ in every one you meet, and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you”. (From a Celtic Prayer)

.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)

Christian Blind Mission accepts used stamps. Send directly to them or Val Hall. (Leprosy Mission no longer accepts stamps)

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

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

**DIARY**

**SUNDAY 21 EASTER 4 Rev Shirley Barker-Kirby**

**10.00am St Andrew’s Autumn School Hols (2)**

**Matawhero - No service**

Monday 229.00am Walking Group

Tuesday 23 10.00am Open Door **All welcome**

**12.00noon Worship Committee**

Thursday 25 **ANZAC Day**

2.30pm Leighton House Service tbc

**2.30pm Parish Council**

Friday 26 1.00pm Choir Practice

Saturday 27 8-11.30am Car Boot Sale

**SUNDAY 28 EASTER 5 ANZAC Autumn School Hols (3)**

**10.00am St Andrew’s**

**Matawhero - No service**

**Coming up:** Saturday 18 May 10am-3pm Leadership Workshop at St Andrew’s

Led by Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, Presbytery Central

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| Sunday | Reader | Door & Team | Morning Tea | Sound Visual |
| 21 April Easter 4  Rev Shirley Barker-Kirby | **Matawhero**  No service  **St Andrew’s**  Ruth McLennan | **Pat Flockhart** Sarah McC  Cathy Porter | Paulina Melief  Dianne Burrows | S: Hans  V: Don  C: Don |
| 28 April Easter 5  ANZAC  Continuity Pat Flockhart | **Matawhero**  No service  **St Andrew’s**  Bob Bos | **Seton Clare** Marilyn Matthews  Alvin Hall | Lapointe Family | S: Hans  V: Don  C: Hans |

***Gisborne Presbyterian Parish***

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

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

***176 Cobden Street 4010 Bank A/c number 03-0638-0462917-000***

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