***GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH***

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

***176 Cobden Street, Gisborne***

***Matawhero Church – Church Lane***

***19th May 2024*** ***Easter 7***

A wheat field with a sign

Description automatically generated

**Greeting**

**Call to Worship**

The earth is the Lord’s, for he made it:

**Come, let us adore him.**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

**Come, let us adore him.**

The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

**Come, let us adore him.**

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

**Prayer of Approach**

**Song** **‘Praise my Soul the King of Heaven’ Hendry Francis Lyte**

**Tune Praise My Soul CH4 160**

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;   
to his feet your tribute bring.   
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,   
evermore his praises sing.   
Alleluia, alleluia!   
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour   
to his people in distress.   
Praise him, still the same as ever,   
slow to chide, and swift to bless.   
Alleluia, alleluia!   
Glorious in his faithfulness!

Fatherlike he tends and spares us;   
well our feeble frame he knows.   
In his hand he gently bears us,   
rescues us from all our foes.   
Alleluia, alleluia!   
Widely yet his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him;   
you behold him face to face.   
Sun and moon, bow down before him,   
dwellers all in time and space.   
Alleluia, alleluia!   
Praise with us the God of grace!

**Prayer confession: (based on 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 – written by Moira Laidlaw)**

The word of the cross is the wisdom of God to those who are saved.

Merciful God, we confess our bewilderment

over the presence of any wisdom at all

in such an dreadful act as the crucifixion of Jesus,

your Son, our Lord.

Each year as we hear the story again, we wonder—

why did it have to happen?    
It seems as though evil triumphed in this wretched deed.

Yet, when we know the outcome of the crucifixion,

we realise that it was an act of powerful and sacrificial love,

and that in the end, good did triumph over evil, life defeated death.    
And so, forgive us, O God,

when we become so influenced by the wisdom of the world

that we demand signs and seek intellectual certainty

as proof of your existence .    
Forgive us when we get caught up in the quest

for achievement and power,

forgetting that Jesus' power was made perfect in weakness.

Forgive our reluctance, O God,

to proclaim with our lips and our lives

that the crucified Christ is Lord of our lives

and help us to empty ourselves of all that hinders

such proclamation of our faith.

***Silent reflection on these words***

**H**ave mercy on us, O God,

and strengthen us to do your will.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

**Assurance of forgiveness**

**We listen:** **Love Like This, Lauren Daigle**

**(I have inserted the song into the powerpoint)**

When I am a wasteland   
You are the water   
When I am the winter   
You are the fire that burns

When I am a long night   
You are the sunrise   
When I am a desert   
You are the river that turns   
To find me

What have I done to deserve love like this?   
What have I done to deserve love like this?

Your voice like a whisper   
Breaking the silence   
You say there's a treasure   
You'll look 'til You find it   
You search to find me

What have I done to deserve love like this?   
What have I done to deserve love like this?   
I cannot earn what You so freely give   
What have I done to deserve love like this?

Hallelujah   
Hallelujah   
Hallelujah   
Hallelujah

What have I done to deserve love like this?   
What have I done to deserve love like this?   
I cannot earn what You so freely give   
What have I done to deserve love like this?

**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**

**Family Time**

**(Slides used for the family time)**





**Scripture Readings:**

**Matthew 24:1-8**

Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. 2“Do you see all these things?” he asked. “Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.”

3As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”

4Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you. 5For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. 6You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. 7Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8All these are the beginning of birth pains.

**Matthew 9:35 – 38**

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

**Reflection: The harvest is ready in the age of anger**

**(Slides used during sermon)**

**Song: I Danced in The Morning, Sydney Bertram Carter**

**Tune Lord of the Dance CH4 404**

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,

and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,

and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.

At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Refrain:*

       Dance, then, wherever you may be;

       I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

       And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,

       and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,

but they would not dance, and they would not follow me;

I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;

they came with me and the Dance went on.

*Refrain:* Dance, then, wherever you may be ...

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame,

the holy people said it was a shame;

they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;

and they left me there on a cross to die.

*Refrain:* Dance, then, wherever you may be ...

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;

it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;

they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,

but I am the Dance and I still go on.

*Refrain:* Dance, then, wherever you may be ...

They cut me down and I leapt up high,

I am the life, that'll never, never die;

I'll live in you if you'll live in me;

I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

*Refrain:* Dance, then, wherever you may be ...

**Presentation of our tithes and offerings**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise…**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.

With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us—Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Prayers of the People**

**Song: Guide me, O my great Redeemer, Malcolm Archer**

**Tune CWM Rhondda**

Guide me, O my great Redeemer,   
pilgrim through this barren land;   
I am weak, but you are mighty;   
hold me with your powerful hand.   
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,   
feed me now and evermore,   
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,   
where the healing waters flow.   
Let the fire and cloudy pillar   
lead me all my journey through.   
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,   
ever be my strength and shield,   
ever be my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,   
bid my anxious fears subside.   
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,   
land me safe on Canaan's side.   
Songs of praises, songs of praises   
I will ever sing to you,   
I will ever sing to you.

**Benediction**

*Please stay for a time of fellowship and friendship over a cup of tea or coffee*

**Ministers: All the people Service Leader: Rev. Stuart Simpson**

**Reader: Jan Ewart**

**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:** May 19th & 26th 2024 World Peace and current conflicts. GPP and decisions for our future. Faith & Fellowship. Those struggling with mental health issues “What does our God require of us but to do justly, love mercy and humbly walk with God” ( HS146 - William L.Wallace – based on Mich 6:8)

.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 19** **PENTECOST Rev Stuart Simpson**

**10.00am St. Andrew’scombined Service**

**Matawhero – no service**

Monday 209.00am Walking Group

Tuesday 21 10.00am Open Door **All welcome**

Wednesday 229.45am mainly music

Thursday 23 2.30 Leighton House service tbc

**2.30 Parish Council**

Friday 24 1.00pm Choir rehearsal

**Saturday 25 8.00-11.30am Car Boot Sale**

**SUNDAY 26** **TRINITY SUNDAY Wellspring group**

**10.00am St. Andrew’scombined Service**

**Matawhero – no service**

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| Sunday | Reader | Door & Team | Morning Tea | Sound Visual |
| 19 May Pentecost  Rev Stuart Simpson | **Matawhero**  No service  **St Andrew’s**  Jan Ewart | **Don McConnochie**  Jean Hillyard, Dianne Burrows | Lynne Griffiths  Val Hall | S: Hans  V:Linda  C: Don |
| 26 May Trinity  Wellspring Group | **Matawhero**  No service  **St Andrew’s**  Wellspring members | **Seton Clare**  Marilyn Matthews  Sarah McC | Dianne Burrows  Trish Kwak | 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***

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