####  **GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH**

**WELCOME TO ST ANDREW’S GISBORNE**

***Matawhero Church – Church Lane***

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

***176 Cobden Street, Gisborne***

***6 July 2025 Pentecost 4***

***Welcome to the Very Rev Ray Coster speaking about***

***Christian Blind Mission, and his wife, Judy.***

***We welcome all 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. A toilet is located in the foyer.***

***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 \* you are invited to stand.***

**Welcome, News and Notices**

**Call to Worship** Psalm 63: 1-4

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;

 **I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you,**

**in a dry and parched land where there is no water.**

I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

 **Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.**

**I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name, I will lift up my hands.**

**\*Hymn/Song** How sweet the name of Jesus sounds (WOV 158 or CH4 461)

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds
  In a believer’s ear!
It soothes his sorrow, heals his wounds,
  And drives away his fear,

2. It makes the wounded spirit whole,
  And calms the troubled breast;
’Tis manna to the hungry soul,
  And to the weary rest,

3. Dear Name! the Rock on which we build;
  Our shield and hiding-place;
Our never-failing treasury, filled
  With boundless stores of grace,

4. Jesus, our Saviour, Shepherd, Friend,
  Our Prophet, Priest, and King;
Our Lord, our Life, our Way, our End,
  Accept the praise we bring,

5. Weak is the effort of our heart,
  And cold our warmest thought;
But when we see Thee as Thou art,
  We’ll praise Thee as we ought,.

**Opening Prayer**

Eternal God, in prayer, let our first thought be of you;

**let our first impulse be to worship you;**

let our first word be your Name;

**let our first action be to kneel in prayer.**

For your perfect wisdom and perfect goodness;

**For the love you have for all people;**

For the love you have for us;

**For the great and mysterious opportunity of life;**

For your Spirit, who dwells in our heart;

**We praise and worship you, O Lord.**

Holy Father, long ago many of us dedicated our life to you. It saddens us that we still fall into sinful ways and thoughts, and are so slow to obey you and walk in your perfect holiness. We can be so attached to the pleasures of sense, and negligent of things spiritual.

 **So prompt to gratify our body, but so slow to nourish our soul.**

So greedy for present delight, so indifferent to lasting blessedness.

**So fond of idleness,**

So soon at play, so late at prayer.

 **So brisk in the service of self, so slack in the service of others.**

So eager to get, so reluctant to give.

**So lofty in profession, so low in practice.**

So full of good intentions, so backward to fulfil them.

**So severe with neighbours, so indulgent with self.**

So eager to find fault, so resentful at being found fault with.

**So weak in adversity, so self-satisfied in prosperity.**

So helpless when separated from you, and yet so often trying to walk alone.

Today in worship, let Christ be formed in us and let us learn from Jesus’ humility in heart, gentleness in attitude, modesty in speech, helpfulness in action and promptness in doing your will.

**In his name we pray. Amen**

**Scripture Reading**

**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 58: 6-9a**

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?
Is it not to share your food with the hungry
    and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe them,
    and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
    and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness will go before you,
    and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.
Then you will call, and the Lord will answer;
    you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.

 The Gospel: **Matthew 11: 1-6, 28-30**

After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee.

When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”

Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

**Reflection** *Christian Blind Mission*

**\*Hymn/Song** In Christ alone

**In Christ alone my hope is found,**

**He is my light, my strength, my song;**

**this corner stone, this solid ground,**

**firm through the fiercest drought and storm.**

**What heights of love, what depths of peace,**

**when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.**

**My comforter, my all in all,**

**here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**2 In Christ alone, who took on flesh,**

**fullness of God in helpless Babe!**

**This gift of love and righteousness,**

**scorned by the ones He came to save.**

**’Till on the cross as Jesus died,**

**the love of God was satisfied.**

**For every sin on Him was laid;**

**here in the death of Christ I live.**

3 **There in the ground His body lay,**

**Light of the world by darkness slain;**

**then, bursting forth in glorious day,**

**up from the grave He rose again!**

**And as He stands in victory,**

**sin’s curse has lost its grip on me;**

**for I am His and He is mine,**

**bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**\*Offering and Dedication**

Loving God, accept the gifts we bring to honour you.

 **The gift of our hearts, our minds, and our souls.**

 **We pray that they will be of service to you,**

**That they will be used wisely in our world to show Christ’s love. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Approach to communion**

**\*Communion Hymn:** Let us talents and tongues employ WB37 WOV 658

**Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

*Refrein:* **Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again.
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one,
at his table he set the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express.***Refrein:* **Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!***Refrein:*

**Words by: Fred Kaan, 1975 Music by: Adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975**

**Word of Institution**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

**Holy Communion**

*By David Adams*

**Minister:** The Lord Jesus Christ, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread.

**Seton:** Be gentle when you touch bread
Let it not lie, uncared for,
Unwanted.

So often bread is taken for granted.
There is such beauty in bread---
Beauty of patient toil.

Wind and rain caressed it,

Christ often blessed it.

Be gentle when you touch bread.

**Minister:** He took bread and gave you thanks.

**Val:** Bread is a lovely thing to eat,

God bless the barley and the wheat.
A lovely thing to breathe is air,

God bless the sunshine everywhere.
The world is a lovely place to know,
God bless the folk that come and go.
Alive is a lovely thing to be,

Giver of life we say Bless Thee.

**Minister:** He took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave

it to his disciples, saying Take, eat, this is my body which

 is given for you

**Seton:** On the holy cross I see

Jesus' hands nailed fast for me.
On the holy cross I see

Jesus' feet nailed fast for me.
Loving Jesus let me be

Still and quiet, close to thee,
Learning all thy love for me
Giving all my love to thee!

**Minister:** He took bread and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

***The Bread is Broken***

**Val:** Do this, meet together,

break the bread, remember me.

Remember me at the feeding of the five thousand --
You do not have to perish in the wilderness --
Come to me, and I will refresh you,

I will renew you; I will restore you.

Come to me, I am the bread of life,

The bread that comes down from heaven.
Remember me.

**Seton:** Remember me,

I am known in the breaking,
In the breaking of the day

and in the breaking of the bread.
Two people on the road to Emmaus,
Plans shattered, lives confused,

Hearts broken, knew me in the breaking.
I am there in your breaking also,

And in the breaking of the bread.

**Val:** There are times

when the dough is soggy and unattractive.
Like life, at times.

It has lost its sheen, the gold of the grain,
the pure whiteness of the flour.

It looks --- and it is --- flat, it looks dead.
But secret things are happening,

The exciting moment is to be experienced,
The bread is rising,

The bread is rising ... I have seen the Lord.
I have seen the Lord!

***ALL Christ has died:***

***Christ is risen:***

***Christ will come again. Alleluia.***

**Minister:** In the same way, after supper

he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying,

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many ...

**Seton:** The cup is full of blood-red wine

Made from the crushing and bruising of the grapes.
By the loss of life,

By the cutting down and the pressing,
The Spirit is set free;

Allowed to ferment, the Spirit is at work.

**Val:** Remember me.

Remember me, my crushing, my bruising,
My three-day fermenting,

My rising ...

This is the wine that makes glad the hearts of all.

***ALL: Christ has died:***

***Christ is risen:***

***Christ will come again. Alleluia.***

**Minister:** Do this in remembrance of me.

**Seton:** Remember me.

Drink this in remembrance, all of you.
Be filled with my Spirit,

Let my life fill yours,

Inebriate you,

Give you courage,

Fill you with joy.

**Val:** Forgive ---

As I have forgiven you,
Forgive others.

I accept you as you are ---

Learn to accept others as they are.
'Love ever gives,

Forgives, outlives

And ever stands with open hands
And while it lives it gives

For this is love's prerogative

To give and give and give'.

**Minister:** Do this in remembrance of me.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,

inspire us with your love,

and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Communion**

**Prayer**

**\*Hymn** In the Cross of Christ I glory CH4 397

1. **In the cross of Christ I glory,
  Tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
  Gathers round its head sublime.**
2. **When the woes of life o’ertake me,
  Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me,
  Lo! It glows with peace and joy.**
3. **When the sun of bliss is beaming
  Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
  Adds more luster to the day.**
4. **Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
  By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
  Joys that through all time abide.**

**Benediction**

**Ministers*:*** *All the people in Christ* **Leader*:*** *Very Rev Ray Coster*

**Readers:** *Seton Clare,* *Val Hall*

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

**DIARY for this week in July**

**SUNDAY 6** **PENTECOST 4** Winter School Holidays (2)

**10.00am St Andrew’s combined Communion**

 **Service Very Rev Ray Coster of CBM**

**Matawhero *–* no service**

Tuesday 8 10.00am Open Door

1.30pm Kiri Te Kanawa Rest Home service tbc

Friday 11 1.00pm Choir rehearsal tbc

Saturday 12 8-11.30am Car Boot Sale

**SUNDAY 13** **PENTECOST 5 Celebration Sunday**

Winter School Holidays End

**10.00am St. Andrew’s**

 **Matawhero – no service**

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

Jenny Lawton 868 4268; Ruth McLennan 021 02704867; Jan Gordon 0211836008; Lynnor Cooke 06 214 3945; Barbara Larsen 863-9009

**Mindful Prayer topics:** **June 29th & July 6th 2025** The world in turmoil. “From above, below, inside and outside, may peace bind us together”. (From a Maori Karakia). GPP; pray for guidance with decisions ahead. Those struggling with health and its side issues. Ian and Pat Flockhart.

Mindful Prayer contact Margaret Graham ph. 021 026 03990 or email m.n.e.gra@xtra.co.nz

**Commission contact**: Commission Convenor *Rob McIntosh,* **email***rob.mcintosh02@gmail.com***, or****Phone** *0274411392 to arrange a time to talk further*

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.

*Matawhero Gardening happens from time to time. If you would like to help, please contact Paulina Melief 867 0605*

*St Andrew’s Gardening: Volunteers very welcome from 9am – 10am on the second Monday**of each month*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday | Reader | Door & Team | Morning Tea | Sound Visual |
| 12 JanuaryEpiphany 1Sr Cynthia Kearney | **Matawhero**No service**St Andrew’s** Alvin Hall  | **Seton Clare**Dianne Burrows | Lyn Griffiths | S&V: DonC:Don |
| **Sunday 6th July****Very Rev Ray Coster****For CBM** | M: No serviceSt A’s: Seton Clare | **Don****McConnochie**Chrissie Parker | Paulina Melief | S&V: AlanC: Don |
| **Sunday 13th July** | M: No serviceSt A’s: Sally Spence | **Pat Flockhart**Dianne Burrows | Dianne Burrows | S&V: HansC: Hans |

**Communion Elders 6th July: Celebrant Very Rev Coster: Elders: Seton Clare; Val Hall** Jenny Lawton Cathy Porter.

***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***

standrewsgisb@xtra.co.nz[www.standrewsgis.org.nz](http://www.standrewsgis.org.nz)