



Church on the Hill

Sunday 12 April 2015



Theme: Loneliness
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: John Palmer
Readings: Genesis 2:18-25 Ecclesiastes 4:1-3, 9-16

Sentence: As soon as Jesus heard the news, he went off by himself in a boat to a remote area to be alone. But the crowds saw where he was headed and followed by land from many villages.
- Matthew 14:13

Prayer for the day:

Blessed Trinity, in you we see the friendship of three persons. We thank you that we are created in your image. We are designed for relationships – healthy relationships with our self, with others and with you. Some of us find ourselves in lonely places. We pray for

all those who experience loneliness for whatever reason. Please be with them and bring them hope. And show us how we can be more caring and considerate than we are. We pray this in the name of the One who stretched out his arms on the cross, in love for all humanity. **Amen.**

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



The gift of time

So I am required to have some time off next week. Vestry have forced me to take the whole week – I'd have taken a couple of days! (I am allowed to come to church but not lead any part of the service.) They were very insistent that I take care of myself. They love me – cool eh!

This has caused me to reflect a bit. Vestry members were insistent; I was resistant. Why is that? Why are we (Why am I) not good at caring for ourselves? Is it because we secretly get our sense of self-worth from doing rather than from being? Is it because we don't think we are worth it? Is it because we need to keep earning brownie-points, love even?

What happens when we are no longer able to do as much? Is someone with a physical or mental disability worth less than a capable, energetic, gifted go-getter? What do we have to give when we feel like we have nothing to give? And where does God fit into all this?

I am a wounded, disabled person incapable of loving anyone, including myself, unconditionally. You will know that about me far better than I do. Do you know it about yourself?

One of the gifts of aging is time – time and hopefully a greater sense of self-awareness. Those two gifts enable us to come to a stronger place of self-acceptance. As we learn to accept ourselves, including the bits we'd rather weren't there, we become more open to the love of God.

God's love is unconditional. (We spoke about this a couple of Sundays ago). God never says "Clean up this bit and I'll love you." or "Get rid of that and I'll present myself with you."

How much time do you have to be with God? This Easter season we celebrate Christ's resurrection. Like the disciples we might well be confused at this point – Easter Day is over. Now what? What does the Living Christ have for us? Where will he show himself to us? Where will he call us to action? When does he call us to wait and be living receptacles of his love and simply accept the gifts he brings?

Perhaps when we have nothing to give, our inability enables others to give? I'll be pondering these things, and more, over the next week or so.

Learning together in love,

Susan

Budget Service - Waimea Anglican Budgeting Advice Service is now available. Ph. 544 8901 or 022 020 5565 to get it touch with an advisor or talk to Anne Askin if you would like to know more about this service.

Urgent Request - To the parishioners who use the envelope system for giving please check that they have the correct number. Number 52 is missing. If that number is inadvertently used by the wrong person, their donation may be attributed to someone else. Contact Sue Paine Ph.544 0395

Offering Envelopes - The envelopes for giving for 2015 -16 are now available to pick up at the back of the church. They are in alphabetical order. The envelopes are a new style – all donations go in the one envelope. Please indicate on the outside where the donation is to go. - Sue Paine.

Church open for Prayer - Join in on Monday from 9.00am to 2.00pm to pray for our personal needs, our parish, our community and the world. All welcome. Feel free to come and go.

Church Office Hours - Church office hours are now 1.00pm - 5.30pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The office is closed on Wednesday.



Children's Programme

The toy box and baby change facilities are available anytime at the rear of the Church. Children are welcome to attend one of the following during the 10.30 sermon time:

- Kids' Church under 5's in the crèche.
- Kids' Church primary school age in the church hall and younger youth (Yr 7 to Yr 11) in Youth Room in the hall.

The Lantern



Together
we can
*make it
happen!*

Prayers for the Week

The World: Lord we grieve over the suffering throughout this world, we think particularly of the troubled lands of Syria, Northern Iraq, Northern Nigeria, Southern Sudan and Yemen. We pray for peace to reign in these lands, for aid to reach those who have lost homes and livelihoods. Give great wisdom to Christian leaders who are seeking to minister to their scattered and suffering people in these areas. We pray for the nation of Kenya as it grieves for those killed at Garissa University by Moslem extremists.

Mission Partners: We remember Murray and Féy Cotter, thanking God for the Foundations Course that Féy facilitated; may those new missionaries who attended be able to put into practice what they learned and may God help them to adapt to their new contexts that they may quickly become effective agents of the gospel.

Diocese: We pray for Victory parish in Nelson with Greg Holmes, his wife, Jacqui and their team, thanking You for the new people, children and families who've come into their church family; we pray for energy and protection for Karen as she prepares to start Under Five Jive next term and for Oasis Kids Care, a new ministry, that God would send children next term who need their care.

Local Churches: Pray for Annesbrook Church and their leadership under Brent and Viv Liebezeit and their team; give them wisdom and vision to guide the churches in their movement; pray that Annesbrook continues to reach beyond its walls and impacts the community of Nelson with the love of Jesus.

Our Parish: we thank You for Lunch on the Hill and pray Your blessing on all who serve and those who come, may they receive both physical and spiritual nourishment. We pray for the new children and families worker that You will call the person of Your choosing for this key position that our children may be wisely disciplined as they follow You.

Those in need within our own church family: We remember George and Bev, Carole Burke, Noel, Lisa, Fiona, Ellie, Freda, Linda, Geddes, Bill, Ana and others known to us, and those in the rest homes and hospitals in our parish.

This Week...

Monday 13 April

- 7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)
- 7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 14 April

- 10.30am Fortnightly group (J. Payne)
- 10.00am Weekly group (M. Silke)

Wednesday 15 April

- 7.30am Prayer
- 10.00am Fortnightly women's group (N. Thomas)
- 10.00am Wednesday Service

Thursday 16 April

- 12.00pm Weekly Study group (WWilkinson, J Lines)
- 7.30pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)
- 7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Sunday 19 April

- 9.00am Morning Worship*
- 10.30am Holy Communion*
- 4.00pm Messy Church

**Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

Coming up...

Tuesday 21 April

- 11.30am Lunch on the Hill

For more information about services or groups contact the office Ph 544 8844.

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 12 April Holy Communion

Sunday 26 April Morning Service

If you wish to give financial support to Holy Trinity Church, our bank account number is: 03 0751 0146369 001 Westpac Richmond

Roster for 19 April *Thank you for serving us all!*

Leader: 9.00am J Palmer

10.30am A Sardella

Sidespeople: 9.00am K South

10.30am J Green

Welcomer: 9.00am B Page

10.30am J South

Tea: A Burrough, V Matthews

Chalice: 9.00am N/A

10.30am J/A Green, N Pritchard
L/T Summerfield

Flowers: R Armstrong

Brass: M Gibson

Readings for Next Sunday: Genesis 3:1-13, John 16:5-15

Theme for Next Sunday: Being or Doing

Parish Contacts

Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	Children's Ministry	TBC
Priest Assistant	Jean Palmer	544 4275	Friends 'n Fun	Carol Sardella 544 9237
Senior's Ministry	Kay Peterson	544 8844	Parish Administrator	David Cowdrey 544 8844
Youth Pastor	Micah Did-dell	544 6495		

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Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday
1.00pm - 5.30pm