

Church on the Hill

Sunday 3 May 2015



Theme: The Spirit of Worship

Vicar: Susan Gill Preacher: Susan Gill

Readings: Genesis 4:1 – 13, Luke 21:1 - 4

Sentence:

God loves a cheerful giver.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7

Prayer for the day:

The Prayer of Humble Access -1662

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore,

gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.

Amen

Following Jesus, Building Community



Humble Worship

Thinking and praying about today's readings challenged me. I nearly named the sermon "Worship Wars" but decided that was too negative.

Differing worship styles can polarise us though. It's not just about traditional or more informal! Liturgy can seem stiff; for others it is comforting and life-giving. Some find singing brings them closer to the Lord; others hate singing and prefer to listen to music. (I'm not even touching on styles of music here!) Some want Communion every week while others would be very happy with monthly. Some love kinesthetic worship like flag-waving and dance; others it leaves cold.

I confess to feeling sad that we chose to have two services on Easter Sunday. It's is the first time, since I have been here, that we haven't celebrated Christ's resurrection together, as one church. It seemed we needed our two services so we could worship the way we prefer.

Whenever we have a combined service some who would normally be at worship don't come. That is true of a family service or other kinds of service too. All of that is ok; it is why we provide a range of services. And yet When do we lay down our own preferences for the good of

the 'other'?

I was very moved when some 9.00am folk, attended the 10:30am service when our youth band played. They came to support and encourage our young folk. It was a selfless act of worship and generosity towards the 'other' carried out in a spirit of humility.

Many of you will know Joan Martin who passed

away Monday morning. Joan was one of the most accepting people I know. She loved God with a passion. While Joan preferred the quieter, more contemplative, orderly services she was still able to embrace all kinds of worship. Joan was one of God's gracious servants who put others above herself. May 31 is Trinity Sunday. We will have one service at 10.00am that morning so we can celebrate together. Breakfast will precede it at 9.00am. (Helpers on the day are needed as well as folk to make muffins etc., at home beforehand. Please see me.) Please do come to worship the God whom we serve together. As individuals we should worship God, in a way that nourishes our soul and equips us for daily life and service. And yet, as God's family we mustn't become inflexible so that our way is the only way. Participating in the 'other's way of worshipping occasionally can bring us new understanding along with a much greater unity.

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.

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.

Shared Lunch: Join us for soup and a roll on Sunday 10 May, next Sunday after the 10.30am service. This is an opportunity to be together. Lunch donations will go to the building fund.

Where's the Warden? - Well the time has arrived to depart to Rotorua to help look after our two youngest grandbabies with Matt our son-in-law while our daughter Joanna upskill her nursing procedures. If you wish to contact me for any reason my e-mail address is in the church phone directory or phone landline 07 348-7744. We will be returning at the end of July.

Beverley Payne - Peoples Warden



Together we can make it happen!

Funds at End Of February 2015

Total giving \$ 606,561.49
Total interest \$ 116,982.28
Gross total \$ 723,543.77

Expenditure to date \$ 59,814.69
Net cash in Bank \$ 663,729.08

Thank you for your support!



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.

Prayers for the Week

The World: We continue to pray for peace and reconciliation in Syria, Northern Iraq, Northern Nigeria, Southern Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen. We Pray for Nepal and the surrounding countries trying to cope with the aftermath of the earthquake, may aid reach the scattered poor communities as well as the towns. We pray also for the general election in the UK on Thursday, that God's choice of leaders may be elected.

Mission Partners: We pray for godly wisdom and insight for Allan and Christine in Asia in their myriad of interactions, especially with the international students, many of whom have deep needs; bring new leaders who have a focus on preparing the graduating students to return to their home countries equipped to serve You.

Diocese: We pray for Kaikoura parish and Kevin Topp and his team, encourage them as they seek to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ to their town, bless their community programmes and encourage a greater working together of churches in Kaikoura.

Local Churches: We pray for the Lutheran church at Hope and Upper Moutere, with Pastor Chris Janetzki, bless their youth workers, give guidance at their upcoming AGM and may their churches be a beacon of hope to their communities.

Our Parish: We thank You for all the preparation that has gone into the planning for our new building, overrule in all the fundraising and final plans, that all may be done in Your way and for Your glory We pray for the new Children's Ministry Co-ordinator that You will call the person of Your choosing for this key position that our children may be wisely discipled as they follow You.

Those in need within our own church family: We remember George and Bev, Carole Burke, Noel, Lisa and Fiona (St Albans), Ellie, Freda, Linda, Geddes, Bill and others known to us, and those in the rest homes and hospitals in our parish. We also remember the family and friends of Joan Martin as they grieve but we also give thanks for her life.

This Week...

Monday 4 May

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

Tuesday 5 May

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

11.30am Lunch on the Hill

Wednesday 6 May

7.30am Prayer

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

Thursday 7 May

12.00pm Weekly Study group (WWilkinson, J Lines)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Friday 8 May

7.00pm Youth

Sunday 10 May

9.00am Holy Communion* 10.30am Holy Communion*

Building Fundraiser - Shared lunch

after 10.30am Service.

*Morning Tea between services in the Hall

Coming up...

Friday 10 July

7.30pm Christ's College Cambridge Choir

Saturday 18 July

9.00am Book Fair

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 10 May Holy Communion Sunday 24 May 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 10 May Thank you for serving us all!

Leader:9.00am J South10.30am M Did-DellSidespeople:9.00am W Wilkinson10.30am S LyonWelcomer:9.00am B Page10.30am E Kimberley

Tea: S Paine, M Mercer

Chalice: 9.00am G Thomas, W Wilkinson 10.30am N/A Flowers: A Heslop Brass: M Gibson

Readings for Next Sunday: Genesis 6:1 – 8, Luke 13:31 – 35 **Theme for Next Sunday:** Responsive God – Open Minded People

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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