



Church on the Hill

Sunday 5 August 2018



Theme: Reckless God
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Lucy Summerfield
Readings: Psalm 51:1 – 12, Mark 3: 7-11 & 20-23

Sentence:

“You are the Son of God.”

- Mark 3:11

Prayer for the day:

Before we spoke a word you were singing over us. Before we took a breath you breathed your life in us. When we ran away patient, relentless, enduring love chased and found us. We can't earn it, and don't deserve it. Still you give yourself away in overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love.

There's no shadow you won't light up, mountain you won't climb, or wall you won't break down, to set us free to be loved and to give of your reckless love in return to you and to others you call us to. Thank you Gracious, Loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Dreams

Recently I dreamed that I was walking along when a huge, dirty looking, polar bear rushed out at me. I got such a fright that I fell on my back on the pavement. And the polar bear crouched down to jump on top of me. He landed with a thump – paws outside of my body. And then the bear laughed and he had no teeth. He became my friend and we continued on the walk together.

Do you ever have seemingly random dreams?

Dreams often have a very powerful message to give us, if we pay attention to them. Dreams can be a glimpse into the way our subconscious is processing life events or concerns. They can reveal keys to fears or hopes that we have suppressed. I've come to view my dreams as friends.

And God does speak through our dreams too. Our subconscious is fertile ground for God to move in bypassing, as it does, the thinking part of our brains – the part that sometimes dismisses God's work and words as illogical.

There are numerous examples in the Bible of God speaking through dreams. Probably Joseph is the most well-known but there are many more.

When we dream, we are invited to pay attention to that dream and to take it to prayer. There are many ways to work with dreams in order to understand the underlying message. A simple method that works for me is to:

- Write down what happened in the dream. Describe as much as possible of what is seen and experienced.

- Think about the feelings experienced
- Consider what title I might give the dream
- Pray about what the dream elements may or may not mean. Caution is advised here as the symbolism in dreams is particular to each individual.
- Ponder if there is an invitation in the dream – an invitation from God to something more. That something more may be a greater understanding of oneself or it may be the possibility of stepping out into something one has been holding back from.

Other options include drawing the dream. That can be helpful for visual people. Some folk think that every character represents an aspect of the dreamer's character. I'm not convinced that is always the case but it can be helpful to consider.

Occasionally a dream will predict the future though that is so common.

It is always good to check out the dream in the light of what we know from the Bible and with a trusted friend or spiritual advisor. This is especially true if we are think the dream is inviting us to some kind of dramatic action or decision.

And sometimes of course dreams occur simply because we had a spicy curry for dinner or watched something stirring on tv.

Back to my polar bear. It's probably not hard to figure out that our circumstances are changing and I may see some dangers in that. Perhaps the dangers are friends in disguise.

Whether the Lord speaks directly in the dream or whether it comes from our I them as a gift from God – one that is well worth unwrapping.

Learning together in love,

Susan

Church open for Prayer - The Church is open for prayer each Monday (except public holidays) from 9.00am - 2.00pm. All welcome.

St Albans 150 Years Celebration - Celebrations are on the last weekend of November. If you are interested in helping with or attending the celebrations please contact the office.

Preserves - Thank you for your continued support for our missions partners through buying the preserves. Thanks to some generous donations of fruit there is lemon and lemon and ginger marmalade at the back of the church. If you have any feedback, or special requests do have a word with me. I am happy to make up packs of preserves for gifts! Shiona Frengley

Honey - Building Fundraiser. 500gm \$7.50/1kg \$15.00 /2kg \$25. Contact Anne Askin Ph.542 3284.

Blankets Wanted - Nelson Red Cross assist with providing basics for refugee families arriving in Nelson. They have a shortage of blankets at the moment. The next intake of refugees arrives on 20 August, so if anyone can help out please bring blankets into the Anglican Centre or better still, drop off to the Red Cross Centre 59 Parkers Road.

Church Flower Roster - This is an opportunity to join our team of flower arrangers. If you think you would like to put your creativity to practical use now is the time to step out. There are only 3 Sundays when you would do the flowers between now and the end of the year. Talk to Brenda Page if you would like to know more. Ph. 544 5872.



WARNING **Burn Hazard**

Under seat heaters are on during services.
Please do not touch - *they are hot!*

Prayers for the Week

Loving, creative God, we give you thanks for this beautiful country where you have called us to live and we ask you to inspire each one of us to care for both our environment and those who share it with us, in the way you intended us to do. May we be your hands and feet in this place at this time. And we thank you for all those around the world caring for their neighbours and their environment, for those who risk their lives to rescue civilians in war torn countries, for those fighting wild fires and for those coping with floods. We pray for their safety and for the safety and support of those they rescue.

We thank you for those who dedicate their lives to spreading your message of love and forgiveness throughout the world. In particular we thank you for the work of the Cotters in Albania. May the seeds they have planted bear much fruit. Please give them safe travels home and lead and support them as they settle back. We thank you too, for providing accommodation for the N & R and family. Please protect them as they as they respond to your call to them. Today we specially pray for Diane Bailey and her ministry with children in the Philippines, for Jonathan and Tess Hicks and their family in the Solomon Islands, and for peace and stability during elections in Cambodia where Anthony and Anne McCormick are serving.

We give you special thanks for Susan and the work she has done in this community. In particular we thank you for the connections she has made that enable us to work together to build your kingdom on earth. Today we pray specially for our brothers and sisters in the Lutheran church. In our diocese, we give thanks for Bishop Richard's successful surgery and ask your blessing on both him and Hillary and those supporting them as they spend time on his rehabilitation. We pray for the people of Atawhi-Hira, for Jeff Cotton, their vicar, Jo his wife and all those who work and worship in the parish.

In this parish we give you thanks for the rich variety of skills and insights of those who serve as priests. We pray that each one will experience joy in their ministry. And we give you thanks for all those who contribute to our well-being by leading groups or providing and serving food. Please bless them in all that they do.

We pray for those in special need, for Margaret Silke, Debbie and Dave, Lucelle and those known to us. May each one know your loving support and care. We thank you for providing so generously for us as we age and we pray that you will continue to care for the residents and staff of the rest homes in this community. We pray too for Murray and Bev Savage in Christchurch, as they are challenged by health problems. May they be enfolded in love and support.

We thank you, Lord, that we can bring our prayers and concerns to you and know that you will respond. We thank you for the life and example of Jesus and we thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit, always present with us. **Amen**

This Week...

Monday 6 August

9.00am Church open for Prayer
1.00pm Weekly group (K Peterson)

Tuesday 7 August

10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B Page)
10.00am Fortnightly Bible Study Group (E Erskine)
11.30am Lunch on the Hill (Salvation Army Hall)
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S Frengley)

Wednesday 8 August

10.00am Wednesday Service

Thursday 9 August

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W Wilkinson, J Lines)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (J Palmer)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N Pritchard)

Sunday 12 August

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Praise on the Hill

Coming up...

Tuesday 14 August

7.00pm Walking the Camino de Santiago

Sunday 19 August

10.00am Combined Communion

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 12 August Holy Communion

Sunday 26 August Morning Prayer

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

Roster for 12 August - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader:	9.00am	I Price	10.30am	S Gill
Reader:	9.00am	D Day, D Brown	10.30am	E Stanger, M Tilley
Sidesperson	9.00am	K South	10.30am	M Ross, D Stanger
Welcomer:	9.00am	S Frengley	10.30am	M Martin
Chalice:	9.00am	G Thomas, S Frengley	10.30am	N/A
Tea:	E Laing, S Clover			
Flowers:	D Martin			Crèche: TBA

Theme for Next Sunday: Enact the new
Readings for Next Sunday: Exodus 21:18 - 25, Matthew 5:38 - 42

Parish Contacts

Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	People's Warden	Dave Pritchard	544 5314
Priest Assistant	Jean Palmer	544 4275	Vicar's Warden	Karl Summerfield	03 970 2438
Senior's Ministry	Yvonne Smyth	542 3957	Friends 'n Fun	Carol Sardella	544 9237
Youth Leader	Joshua Allan-Johns	027 711 6800	Administrator	David Cowdrey	027 499 8684

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Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
10.00am - 5.30pm
Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm