



# Church on the Hill

Sunday 13 August 2017



**Theme:** When the Church Hurts People  
**Vicar:** Susan Gill  
**Preacher:** Micah Did-Dell  
**Readings:** Luke 19:1-10, Matthew 5: 46-48

**Sentence:**

If you love those who love you, what reward will you get?

- *Matthew 5:46*

**Prayer for the day:**

Jesus said "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Father God we are sorry for the times we, as a church, have not lived up to Jesus' words. There are times when we have added to peoples' burdens rather than

lightening them. We want to be a safe church for everyone but we know that we are human and that our hopes are bigger than our reality. Help us to persevere with Following Jesus; building community, in the strength of your Holy Spirit. Help us to discard romantic ideals and work through the tough times. Bring healing and joy to us we pray, in the name of the one, who is the true community builder. **Amen**

*Following Jesus, Building Community*

# Reflections...



## Learning to Breathe

Recently the Lord has been reminding me of how our breath and the Spirit are intertwined. In the original Biblical languages the word for both is the same – *ruach* in the First (Old) Testament and *pneuma* in the New Testament. In fact *pneuma* can also be translated as wind or puff of wind. (Here are the translations used in the New American Standard Bible, followed by the number of times each translation is found in the New Testament: breath 3, Spirit 239, spirit 103, spirits 32, spiritual 1, wind 1, winds 1.)

Often we / I feel very unspiritual. Sometimes I wonder who on earth I think I am to be leading you dear people. I guess we all feel unworthy at times. When we feel this way, the temptation is to try harder; to do more and strive to be better.

Getting busier doesn't work though. For me that just leads to greater feelings of inadequacy and guilt. We can never pray enough, work hard enough, be nice enough. We are simply not enough... on our own at least.

I'm finding the opposite doing more actually helps .... Taking a few moments throughout the day to simply breathe – to breathe in the Spirit. Feeling my own breath attuned to the indwelling Spirit of God brings my focus back where it should be – on Jesus!

I recently read an article called 'Learning to breathe'. (It was in one of the CMS Intermission magazines.) The article was about finding God everywhere – whether busy or quiet – knowing the Lord's companionship. Another book I am currently reading is called *An altar in the world*. It's about the same thing. Do you think God is trying to tell me something?

I'm learning, very, very slowly, tiny bit by tiny bit, that the Lord is as close to me as my own breath.

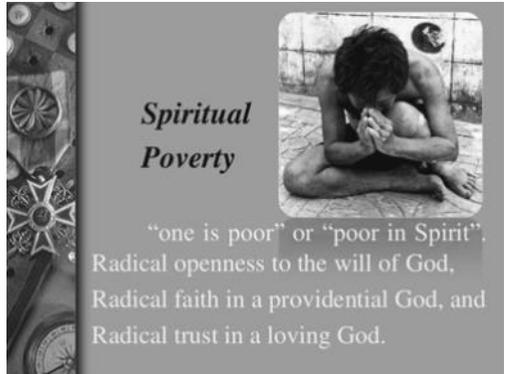
There is a push today for us all to be self - confident. In many respects this is good and

healthy and yet is it the Biblical way? In poverty of spirit we find God. My poverty is awkward; it doesn't feel comfortable. But in my poverty I find the breath of God.

Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. - *Matthew 5:3*

The Message puts it like this:

You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.



On a similar subject, one of the things the office volunteers often do in the morning is pray. They pray for me and our church and for all of us. I love this. I know that many of you pray too and this is so good. I love that our office is a place of prayer. It is as important to pray in our office as it is in our church!

The office is the window for many in our community. It's wonderful to know that the volunteers are there to welcome, to help and to pray for those who come in – regardless of their needs. David, Glynis, Evelin and the team are not solely administrators. They are ministers of the gospel!

Please pray for them too, that we may all be filled with the breath/Spirit of God.

Learning together in love,

*Susan*

**Ticking the Boxes seminar** – Seminar 7. Enliven – Positive Aging Services (presented by Trish Armstrong). 12.00pm, Wednesday, 16 August 2017 at St Stephens Church, Tahunanui. If you need transport to go there, please contact Evelin Epoi. Thanks.

**Café Connection** – 10:30AM, Thursday, 31 August 2017, Venue: The Wooden Spoon Café, Queen Street, Richmond. Come a long for a friendly chat. Pay your own coffee/tea.

**Afternoon AAW Group** - Our next meeting will be held in the Lounge on Wednesday, 23 August at 1.30pm. Our guest speaker will be Barb Lash who will give us an insight into her life history. This will be followed by Afternoon Tea. There will be a Sales Table and the box for any items for the Holy Trinity Food Bank. Any new members are most welcome to attend. Enquiries to Jean McConachie 544 6921.

**Evening AAW Group** - Meet in the church hall lounge at 7.30pm Thursday 24 August. Our speaker will be Karen Howieson from The Ark. She will be bringing a student, and one of The Ark's dogs, and will also have a Powerpoint presentation of the work done at The Ark. It should be a most interesting evening, one you may not wish to miss. There will be a sales table, and all are welcome to join us. For information contact Val Ph.544 5007 and Anne 544 7992

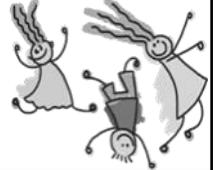
## = KIDS' CHURCH CALENDAR =

**Today Sunday 13 August**      The Early Church

**Next Sunday 20 August**      The Early Church

The toy box and baby change facilities are available anytime at the rear of the Church.

Prayers and offers of help are appreciated. Catherine 022 647 9810



## Prayers for the Week

**God's World** - Sovereign God, we pray for wisdom and moderation for world leaders especially for Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un. We pray for our own government and political parties and their leaders in this dramatic run up to the election. It seems like a vain hope Lord but never-the-less, you are a God of miracles, so we ask you to help people to be respectful to each other whatever else comes out of the woodwork.

**Mission Partners** - Thank you for the relaxed week N and R and family enjoyed before going to Bangladesh. Thank you for all the help they have had with practical details including getting R kitted out in a Salwaar Kameez. Be with them as they move into their apartment and with the children as they begin school today. (The school week runs from Sunday to Thursday.) We pray for continued good health as they become accustomed to using purified water and cleaning their fruit and vegetables with iodine! Loving God help them to settle quickly and make good friends as they also begin language lessons soon.

**Diocese** - We pray for the Awatere Parish giving thanks for Dawn Daunauda and her ecumenical team leaders. Give them wisdom as they consider selling one building and building another. May they make wise decisions and enjoy a process that builds unity and enhances your mission in that place. Bless Dawn as she prepares and delivers a series on relationships and the people as they think and pray and work together.

**Local community** - We remember the Presbyterian Church and Jon and Viv Parkes. Please lead and guide them as they explore options for new premises. This is a difficult time for them all Lord as they try to figure out what mission looks like in this new way of being just one church rather than three separate entities.

Father we thank you for the way the school families have accepted the closure of the church carpark and that most of them have found good alternatives. Thank you also for the way in which we have been able to work so positively with Principal Tim Brenton and the Board of Trustees. We pray for sensible ideas to come forward to deal with the increasing traffic issues in our area.

**Our Parish** - Lord we are grateful for home groups where we can safely process our Sunday worship and the stuff that happens through our weeks. Thank you for the friendship and growth we find this way. We pray for all the groups and their leaders. We also pray for those not yet part of a small group. If it is time to join one, then give them a nudge towards that please.

We ask for special blessings for Yvonne, Albertha, Gwen, Pam, Chris, Lisa, Anne, Ellie, John Barnes and Rachel. May your peace, healing and comfort surround them, and grant them the abiding sense of your presence with them. We also pray for your blessing on the staff and residents of the rest homes and retirement villages in our area, especially those in Wensley House adapting to new management.

## This Week...

### Monday 14 August

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

### Tuesday 15 August

10.00am Fortnightly group (M. Silke)  
10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B. Page)  
11.30am Lunch on the Hill  
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)

### Wednesday 16 August

10.00am Wednesday Service  
10.00am Tea and Talk  
12.00pm Ticking the Boxes Seminar

### Thursday 17 August

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W. Wilkinson, J. Lines)  
7.00pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)  
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

### Sunday 20 August

9.00am Morning Worship  
10.45am Holy Communion

\* *Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

## Coming up...

### Thursday 31 August

10:30am Café Connection  
  
6.00pm Shared Meal  
7.00pm *The True Cost* Documentary Movie

**St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am**

**Sunday 13 August**  
**Sunday 27 August**

Morning Prayer  
Holy Communion

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

### Roster for 20 August - *Thank you for serving us all!*

<b>Leader:</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	S Gill	<b>10.45am</b>	S Gill
<b>Reader:</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	A Burrough, K South	<b>10.45am</b>	M Did-Dell
<b>Sidespeople:</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	K South	<b>10.45am</b>	J Green
<b>Welcomer:</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	B Page	<b>10.45am</b>	TBA
<b>Chalice:</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	N/A	<b>10.45am</b>	J/A Green, N Pritchard, L/T Summerfield
<b>Tea:</b>	A Burrough, V Matthews			
<b>Flowers:</b>	A Heslop			
			<b>Crèche:</b>	TBA

**Theme for Next Sunday:** To be advised  
**Readings for next Sunday:** To be advised

### Parish Contacts

Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	Children's Ministry	Catherine Barak	022 6479810
Priest Assistant	Jean Palmer	544 4275	Friends 'n Fun	Carol Sardella	544 9237
Senior's Ministry	Yvonne Smyth	544 8844	Parish Administrator	David Cowdrey	544 8844
Youth Leader	Antonio Sardella	027 3525598			

### Holy Trinity Church

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**Website**

www.holytrinityrichmond.org.nz

### Office Hours

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