



Church on the Hill

Sunday 3 September 2017



Theme: Lament; Kia Kaha
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Michaela Ross
Readings: Psalm 69:1 - 4;30 - 32; John 11:32 - 36

Sentence:

Jesus wept.

- *John 11:35*

Prayer for the day:

Eternal and ever-living God, our beginning and our end, your Son Jesus suffered on this earth. You understand grief and sorrow and offer us compassion. You give us strength in the face of suffering and death. You give us permission, and even encouragement, to weep and to lament. Help us not to pretend all is well when it

clearly isn't. Help us to seek out opportunities to be honest with you and with others. As we do so, we know we'll find hope in you. You mourn alongside us, providing us with comfort and companionship through your Holy Spirit. Thank you that you understand and identify with us, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Building Community with other churches

We have a combined service with the other churches in Richmond Waimea coming up on Sunday 10 September at 7.00pm. We've been asked to contribute to supper and help with the serving. Who will help me please?

It's been some time since we had a combined service. It's very difficult to put something together that pleases everyone. The churches have worked very hard this time to make the service as broad as possible so that there is something for everyone.

I hope that will work but am reminded that our worship is not about us and our preferences. Rather it is about the Lord and supporting each other as we worship him. This is particularly true when we come together as churches with our huge variety of traditions and worship styles.

Can we view this as something that enriches us rather than something that divides us? For me it is far more important to come together regardless of whether or not I will 'enjoy' the service.

Unity between our local churches is dear to my heart. I believe the wider community sees the Gospel of Christ much more clearly when the churches work together, celebrating rather than lamenting difference.

Many of you will know I chaired the Richmond Waimea Ministers' Association – I think for about three years. Recently I have handed the Chair's role over to Pastor Ross Ferguson who leads the Richmond Community Church in Warring carpark. He is well respected in the community as a dentist, pastor, resident. Please pray for him in this role.

At our combined service our Mayor, Richard Kempthorne, will pray for all the pastors and churches. This is the first time we've done this and I'm very excited about it.

Also at the service, we will re-sign our statement of faith. This is a wonderful document; one we will get framed and hang on our church wall.

Here is the statement commitment:

We believe we are called to be one Church, made up of many church families to serve the One God,

Father, Son and Spirit. That the one Gospel of Jesus Christ, affirming Jesus is Redeemer and Lord, may be made known clearly and responsibly to our communities.

We therefore make the following commitment:

A. *To the Church at large*

1. We are committed to our unity in Christ as one Church made up of interdependent fellowships.
2. We believe that we are sharers in the common task of proclaiming Christ to a needy community.
3. We are committed to an openness to and appreciation for all who make up the Church – the body of Christ; therefore we shall never publicly criticize another's church or ministry within the Association.
4. Although each fellowship has its own distinctive values and expressions of our one faith in God (as expressed in the creeds) we will affirm and support each other in our common work for the Kingdom of God in this place.
5. We commit ourselves to search out God's strategies and pursue his plans for building his Church in our community and districts.

B. *To each other as pastors and leaders*

1. We are committed to growing in our relationships with each other and that this relationship will be characterized by trust, forgiveness and grace.
2. We are committed to servant leadership and to minister to each other with support and encouragement in the work of ministry and leadership.
3. We are committed to standing together as the spiritual leaders of this community against the principalities and powers of darkness that would seek to divide and destroy the work of God in this place.

C. *In our lives as pastors and leaders*

1. We will seek to grow in our intimacy with God and a life anchored in the Bible.
2. We will seek to grow in our worship and enjoyment of our Sovereign God.
3. We will seek to grow in Christ-likeness and dependency on the Holy Spirit.
4. We will learn to embrace the cross of Christ and its implications for our daily lives.
5. We will grow in our prayer and intercession, listening to the voice of God and actively stand

together in the spiritual responsibility for the region.

6. We will seek personal healing for life's hurts so that we are ministering out of our healing rather than out of our woundedness.

We therefore commit ourselves to the cause of God and his Kingdom in Richmond and Waimea.

What a powerful statement - quite unique around Aotearoa I understand.

Please support us by coming to the service and

kia kaha
forever strong

praying regularly for us all.

Life is hard, but kia kaha – the Lord is on our side!
Learning together in love,

Susan

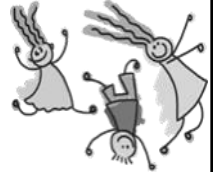
= KIDS' CHURCH CALENDAR =

Today Sunday 3 September Father's Day

Next Sunday 10 September TBA

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 - Oh Lord where to start! Be with those dispossessed, lost and afraid in Texas. We ask for decisive and helpful action from the authorities along with your comfort and the practical love from churches and others. Please help the UN with their deliberations over North Korean war-like manoeuvring. Help the leaders and people of this world to stand up for what is right and just and good. We also ask for protection for persecuted Christians and other minority groups. We pray too for South Asia where floods have killed hundreds in India, Nepal and Bangladesh, while millions have been forced from their homes and 18,000 schools shut down across the region.

Mission Partners - Thank you Lord for the Corin family and their continuing work in Central Asia. Enrich their microenterprise efforts and the growing links between them and local pastors. We pray for Rueben as he settles into opportunities in NZ.

Diocese - We give thanks for Synod at Mapua and ask that you help us as a Diocese to move forward together in mission; supporting each other generously and respectfully.

We remember Steve and Glenda Wockner and their team as they minister in the far-flung in the Buller Parish, covering Westport, Granity and Karamea. We pray for the upcoming Spirit-focused weekend and St John's 150th in November. We ask for wisdom for the DHB and community facing unpopular changes in the Westport-based hospital.

Local community - Thank you Lord for the favour Hope Community Church enjoys in our community and for the wise and generous leadership of Donald and May Irvine and their team. Pour out your blessing upon them. We also pray for The WAY as it develops in Florence St.

We continue to pray for businesses affected by the Queen St upgrade and ask that we will support and encourage them where we can. We pray for wisdom for overseers and engineers and safety for all the workers.

Our Parish - We thank you for Carol and her loyal team of volunteers ministering through Friends 'n Fun. Thanks for a great relationship with the Ministry of Ed and for their support for us. May the families continue to develop supportive relationships with each other as well as us and may Jesus always be central.

We ask for your healing power and grace for Yvonne, Albertha, Gwen, Pam, Chris, Lisa, Anne, Ellie, John Barnes, John Green and Rachel. We also pray for your blessing on the staff and residents of the rest homes and retirement villages in our area.

This Week...

Monday 4 September

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 5 September

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 6 September

10.00am Wednesday Service

10.00am Tea and Talk

Thursday 8 September

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W Wilkinson, J Lines)

7.00pm Fortnightly group (J Palmer)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (N Pritchard)

Sunday 10 September

9.00am Holy Communion

10.45am Praise on the Hill

7.00pm Minister's Assn combined service at Grace Church.

** Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

Coming up...

Friday 27 October

5.30pm Variety Show

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 10 September

Holy Communion

Sunday 24 September

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 10 September - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader:	9.00am	J McConachie	10.45am	F Summerfield
Reader:	9.00am	A Hodges, D Day	10.45am	M Tilley
Sidespeople:	9.00am	W Wilkinson	10.45am	M Tilley
Welcomer:	9.00am	B Page	10.45am	S Lyon
Chalice:	9.00am	G Thomas, W Wilkinson	10.45am	N/A
Tea:		M Mercer, S Paine		
Flowers:		M Reynolds	Creche:	M Martin

Theme for Next Sunday: Losing focus; Kia kaha

Readings for next Sunday: Jeremiah 29:10 -14; Matthew 26:34 - 40

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			

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Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm