



Church on the Hill

Sunday 2 December 2018



Theme: What in God's name are we waiting for: Oh Righteousness?
Priest in Charge: Ian Smith
Preacher: Ian Smith
Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16, Luke 21:25-37

Sentence:

To you Lord I lift up my soul; my God I have put my trust in you; you are God my Saviour; for you have I waited all the day long.
- Psalm 25:1,4

Prayer for the day:

God of hope,
when Christ your Son appears
may he not find us asleep or idle,
but active in his service and ready. **Amen.**

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



A very warm welcome to our services of Worship today!

Today is the first Sunday of Advent marking the beginning of the 2019 Liturgical Year, which this year we will be working its way through Luke's Gospel.

Advent is derived from the Latin *adventus*, simply meaning 'coming' and is the translation of the Greek word *parousia*, commonly used to refer to the Second Coming of Christ. When this happens, of course, has been a hotly contended debate for many centuries.

I personally find the idea of 'coming' best describing the coming of Jesus to each of us

awakening within us the existing image of God that is found in the whole of creation. God's DNA or fingerprints are everywhere visible to those whose eyes have been affected by Christ's coming!

It seems to me then, a matter of choice. We either spend advent 'waiting' for this awakening within us and have a year being led by God's still small voice into ways of justice and righteousness or we might be led into 2019 with clamouring voices demanding we obey their consumerist whim and finding at the end of it that we are still alone... fragile... and afraid...

I hope you enjoy our journey together!

Arohanui

Ian

Christmas Giving - Over the Christmas evening services and on Christmas Day we have had a tradition over the years to donate money given at these services to charity. Following Micah Did-Dell's talk in November about the House of Bread Church in Bethlehem and their generous gift of olive wood communion cups, Vestry felt it was appropriate to support the House of Bread Church with these special offerings over Christmas, when our thoughts are already on Bethlehem.

Rosters - A big thank you to everyone who has served us in the past year. Please could you check the lists at the back of the church and indicate by a tick or a cross whether or not you wish to continue serving February - July 2019. If you are not sure at the moment just put a question mark. Thank you. Jean Palmer

Lessons and Carols - Sunday 16 December 7.00pm in the Church.

Carol singing around the parish - We hope to do this again this year on Tuesday 18 December from 6.30pm - 8.30pm. If you know of anyone who would like a visit from us could you please let Jan South know Ph 544 8413. If you would like to be part of the singing group put the date in your calendar. More details later.

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

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

Church Property - Please check with Anne Askin if you want to remove or place anything in the Church. Phone 542 3284

Time Capsule - Any photos or items to go in the Time capsule can be left at the office.

Convergence Family Camp - 15-17 February 2019 at Bethany Park, Kaiteriteri Beach. The theme is *Information* with speaker Spanky Moore. Register - Online: www.stbarnabas.co.nz/convergence-camp or Mail: PO Box 2514 Stoke Nelson 7041. Brochures at back of church.

Library news - We are grateful for the donation of a copy of Gary Clover's book on culture change and Maori conversion during the Wesleyan Hokianga Mission. Our collection of more modern books is growing and you are sure to find something of interest on our shelves. Don't forget the collection of DVDs. You are welcome to borrow those as well.

Prayers for the Week

World – We pray for Yemen where an estimated 8 million people are on the brink of famine and civilian deaths have increased dramatically in recent months. Bless the efforts of all who seek to bring peace, especially for success for the UN initiative for peace talks in Stockholm next month.

We pray also for the thousands of migrants massing on the US/Mexico border. Help governments to get to grips with this growing problem and to react with both justice and compassion.

We also think of the damaging forest fires in Queensland and pray that these may quickly be brought under control. Help the authorities know when they should evacuate people and bless all those efforts to bring help to those who have left their homes.

Missions – We pray for Dawn Daunauda as this Sunday will be her last Sunday in Vanuatu. We pray for her future that you will help her to hear your voice and direct her steps. Bless her debrief with NZCMS and the Presbyterian Global Missions Coordinator in Christchurch later this month. For the college at Talua, we pray that there will be a great NZ personality to take over the Diploma English role for 2019.

Diocese – We pray for the Tahunanui Parish with Nathaniel and Simone Petterson and Brad and Claudia Wood and their team. We thank you for the ordination service on Thursday for Brad Wood and pray that you will equip him as he steps up to be the Assistant Priest at Tahunanui. Bless the Petterson family as they travel to the North Island for a sabbatical. Provide a new youth worker for this church. Help this church to see their vision of 10% of the community in church and 100% of the community owning church by 2025 more than realised.

Local area – Today we pray for the work of Richmond Church of Christ with Steve & Lynn Rollo and their team. Help the leaders to lead a growing church. We thank you for new members. We pray for their 20/20 vision of 20 new families by 2020 that you will be faithful in answering their prayers. We pray for their Christmas outreaches that those who are contacted may come to see in the babe of Bethlehem their Lord and Saviour.

Parish – We continue to pray that the person of your choice will hear your clear call to be the next vicar of this church. Guide Bishop Richard and the nominators as they seek your will for the future of the leadership of this church and for the diocese as a whole as it seeks a new bishop. We thank you for Yvonne and all the work she has done as Seniors' Worker. Help the church to put in place adequate pastoral care for our seniors after she leaves. Raise up someone to take Yvonne's place in this important area of our parish's work.

We thank you for all those involved with Lunch on the Hill and pray your blessing on them for their special Christmas lunch on Tuesday.

We thank you for progress on the new building and ask your blessing on further funding applications that have been submitted to reduce our financial shortfall.

For those we know who are suffering at this time, may they know your peace, comfort and healing. We pray particularly for those who mourn the loss of close family. All these prayers we ask in the name of Jesus, our Redeemer and Lord. **Amen.**

This Week...

Monday 3 December

9.00am Church open for Prayer
9.30am Friends 'n Fun

Tuesday 4 December

10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B Page)
10.00am Fortnightly Bible Study Group (E Erskine)
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S Frengley)

Wednesday 5 December

10.00am Reflective Service
11.30am Christmas Lunch on the Hill @
Salvation Army Hall

Thursday 6 December

9.30am Friends 'n Fun
12.00pm Weekly Study group (W Wilkinson, J Lines)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (J Palmer)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N Pritchard)

Sunday 9 December

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Christingle / Praise on the Hill

Coming up...

Sunday 16 December

7.00pm Lessons and Carols

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 9 December Holy Communion

Sunday 23 December 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 9 December - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader:	9.00am	J South	10.30am	J Palmer
Reader:	9.00am	D Day, D Brown	10.30am	E Stanger, M Tilley
Sidesperson	9.00am	K South	10.30am	M Tilley, D Stanger
Welcomer:	9.00am	J McConachie	10.30am	M Martin
Chalice:	9.00am	G Thomas, B Lash	10.30am	N/A
Tea:	E Laing, S Clover			
Flowers:	A Matthews			Crèche TBA

Theme for Next Sunday: Prepare the Way

Readings for Next Sunday: Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 3:1-6

Parish Contacts

Priest in Charge	Ian Smith	021 0274 3043	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

Holy Trinity Church

27 Dorset Street
PO Box 3013
Richmond

Phone / Fax 03 544 8844

Email church.onhill@xtra.co.nz

Website

www.holytrinityrichmond.org.nz

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm