

HOON HAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to today's service, Resurrection Sunday, 12 April 2020

Happy Easter, and Good Morning!

While I am sure most of you have been restrained in enjoying some chocolate or hot cross buns this weekend, I also expect, by the time you settle into today's service, my two boys will have little left to show of this morning's Easter Egg Hunt.

At Tenebrae and Good Friday, we reflected on Jesus' arrest, and journey to the Cross. We mourned with the disciples at Jesus' Crucifixion and considered the sacrifice that was made at Calvary that awful day.

Today however, as Cat Stevens sung in '[Morning has Broken](#)', we now "praise with elation, praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day." Just three days later, there was fulfillment of the promise and confirmation of Jesus' identity as the Son of God; and today, 1,987 years later, we remember and celebrate the sacrifice that just 72 hours earlier was a terrible loss.

One last thing: we are a nation that has a history of adapting well to change, we've embraced #stayhomeforit and our communities have united with #bearhunts and #nzegghunts. I also want to commend you all for embracing the new format of our services. I do hope you are enjoying these digital versions; we've done a lot of experimenting and had a lot of fun putting them together for you.

Blessings and Love, *Shilo x.*



Ted E Bear and friends celebrating Palm Sunday

TO PONDER

"There is perhaps not a phrase in the Bible so full of secret truth as is "The blood of Jesus." It is the secret of His incarnation, when Jesus took on flesh and blood; the secret of His obedience unto death, when He gave His life at the cross of Calvary; the secret of His love that went beyond all understanding when He bought us with His blood."

Corrie ten Boom (1892-1983)

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God and Heavenly Father,

On this joyous Resurrection Day, we offer our thanks and praise; creator of heaven and Earth, creator and lover of all humanity.


We thank you for creating our world and that we, your people are your great pleasure. Thank you for the new life we can know in Jesus Christ Your Son.

We celebrate today the glorious hope that the resurrection of your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, our saviour, has made possible this day so long ago; and we want to worship and serve him as we wait patiently for his coming again.

Help us to know and understand the hope of Easter Sunday in our lives and world at this time of global uncertainty and suffering. May we now set aside the distractions and affairs of our world to give you our thanks and praise for all you have done.

This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it!

Amen

Hymn: 'Crown Him with many crowns' 

A flowing and slightly contemporary version of this favourite hymn with lyrics and stunning nature visuals – enjoy!

A Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving

Psalm 136

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
His love endures forever.
Let Israel say: 'His love endures for ever'.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he has become my salvation.
Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the
righteous


The Lord's right hand has done mighty things!
The Lord's right hand is lifted high;
The Lord's right hand has done mighty things
I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has chastened me sorely,
but he has not given me over to death.
Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the
LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.
I am thankful you have answered me
and become my salvation.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the head of the corner.
This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.


Amen


Hymn: 'And can it be?' 


*The familiar Wesleyan hymn given the treatment here –
join the high praise!*




Scripture Readings

Isaiah 25:6-9 

John 20:1-10 

1 Corinthians 15:35-58 

Hymn: 'Jesus Christ is risen today' 

*No added lyrics but a stirring high church version of the
Easter hymn.*



Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

We serve a risen Saviour yet live as if in chains.
Forgive us, Lord that we can be hesitant to live the
resurrection life.
Forgive us that we fail to show through word and
action the truth that you loved us into your kingdom
through the glorious mystery of the Cross.
Forgive us that there is still fear in our lives
preventing us from living confidently in light of the
resurrection.
Draw us close. Open our eyes to the glory of the
risen Christ, our hearts to the wonder of the Cross
and our hands to the service of your kingdom where
you have placed us.
That your name might be glorified through our lives.

Amen

God of resurrection
of life and death
rebirth

Renew our hearts and minds

God of promise
of all beginnings
and all endings

Renew our hearts and minds


God of hope
of new growth
and harvest


Renew our hearts and minds

We pray the Lord's Prayer:


Our Father in heaven
Hallowed be Your Name
Your Kingdom come
Your Will be done
On earth as in Heaven.
Give us today our daily bread
Forgive us our sins as we forgive
Those who sin against us
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil
For thine is the Kingdom, the Power
and the Glory are Yours
Now and forever.

Amen

 **Message:** 'Death is swallowed up in victory!'
- an Easter Sunday reflection

 Teaching Notes

Time of Quiet

Hymn: 'Because He Lives' 

*We know this one well but here's a lovely version with
Easter graphics.*

Benediction (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa
Te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki, a Ihu Karaiti
Me te aroha o te Atua
Me te whiwhingatahitanga
Ki te wairua tapu
Ake, ake, ake.
Amine

And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all.

Amen



Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Because of his great mercy he gave us new life by raising Jesus Christ from death. This fills us with a living hope.

1 Peter: 1:3

CHURCH NOTICES

All services and other activities and gatherings on our site are cancelled until further notice. Please keep yourself informed by checking the church website and Facebook. New notices will be posted there regularly.

Continue to share celebrations and milestones (an email to the church office). These will then be mentioned in the following week's notices.

Please maintain regular giving during this time. If you need help with banking contact the Church Office by email.

Moderator's Online Devotions each Sunday: Right Rev Fakaofu Kaio is currently leading weekly devotions each Sunday during the period that public worship is suspended. The devotion will be available on the [Moderator's Facebook page](#) by 9am each Sunday. The devotions will last for approximately 20 mins.

Steady As You Go Exercises: Age Concern Canterbury has published some [exercises](#) to try at home, these are gentle exercises but please take care when practicing them.



PASTOR'S REFLECTION

My Logos Hour group met (by video conference) earlier this week and the passage we were discussing was Ecclesiastes 3, 'A Time for Everything'. Verses 1 to 8 are among the best-known of all Scripture texts and even became a hit in 1965 with Pete Seeger's song [Turn, Turn, Turn!](#) sung by the Byrds. Interestingly, America was in grip of the Cold War, civil rights reforms and the conflict in Vietnam was beginning to escalate into all-out war. Since Ecclesiastes is traditionally ascribed to King Solomon in the 10th century BC, the Byrds' 1965 recording holds the distinction in the U.S. of being the number 1 hit with the oldest lyrics. The song certainly has an attractive, flowing melody, nice guitar work and clear harmonies, but I wonder if its popularity was also due to the profound wisdom of the text itself which resonated with people in a society under pressure.

Some background. Solomon was in his later years and he is here taking stock of a long and very significant life. He had asked for and received a gift of wisdom (1 Kings 3:1-15) and as the third king of united Israel, David's son and heir, he was known far and wide as a diplomat, trader, collector and patron of the arts. However, he sealed many agreements by marrying foreign women, and he allowed his wives to compromise his loyalty to God (Nehemiah 13:26). Unfortunately, he didn't learn the lesson of repentance until late in life. In Ecclesiastes 3 Solomon acknowledges that the seasons and times of our lives are ultimately subject to God's order. He has a big theology and perspective on life that sees the work of God in all circumstances and situations. A well-ordered and happy life can only be found with a proper understanding of the nature and character of God. Moreover, each one of us made in God's image will be restless until we know and worship God (v. 11). At Logos we agreed that Solomon is not so much angry as he was reflective. He still sees contradictions and injustice (v.16) but knows also of divine reckoning and judgement (v.17).

We had a good discussion including when for example, might be a 'time to hate' and what to hate (injustice, evil, and sin). And social distancing has certainly helped us understand there is a time not to embrace (v.5). Solomon truly 'had it all' in terms of material goods, pleasure, power and prestige, but he counted it all 'meaningless' and 'a chasing the wind'. The lesson from his incredible life is to know God's provision, timing and live now with the end in mind; that is, enjoy every good thing but never lose sight of our accountability to God.

Blessings for a good week - keep in touch and stay safe!

Michael