

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021



# HOON HAY Presbyterian CHURCH

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Hello Everyone,

I trust you are staying focused and productive in Level 3. For some, the isolation is a welcome break from the hurly burly of a life on the move; for others, it can be tough, feeling cut-off and alone. As a church community we must make every effort to stay in touch as best we can and keep strong in faith as well as emotionally and physically. In these trying times we use what technology is available to offer a service online. Shilo and I have been working together to try new things and are always learning what works, and what doesn't.

Please keep informed with what is happening by checking out the website and Facebook page. Also, if you know of someone who doesn't have the internet and can't see the service; perhaps you could ring and share about the service? (Just a suggestion!).

We again welcome those from outside our community who are viewing today's service. May you be encouraged and blessed as you read, watch, and listen.



God bless,

*Michael*



Happy  
Father's  
Day

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To zoom in on any part of this document, hold down the Control Key and use either the arrow keys or the roller on your mouse, or you can use buttons on the toolbar. Clicking the icon  alongside songs & message will open in YouTube, and  in 'Bible Gateway'. After viewing, click the 'Back' screen to return to this document.

## OPENING PRAYER

God our Creator,  
your kindness has brought us the gift of a new day.  
Help us not to cling to yesterday,  
nor covet tomorrow,  
but to accept the uniqueness of today.  
By your love,  
celebrated in your Word,  
seen in your Son,  
brought near by your Spirit,  
take from us all we need carry no longer,  
that we may be free again to choose to serve you  
and be served by each other.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord

*Amen.*



**Listening:** 'In Christ Alone/The Solid Rock'

*Two hymns together here: one contemporary the other an old favourite. These words need to be claimed and proclaimed in uncertain times.*

## FOCUSING PSALM: PSALM 11

*David is literally taking refuge in God in this Psalm at the Temple and rejecting his advisors' advice to flee in the midst of panic. They saw only frightening circumstances and crumbling foundations – but David knew God. Verse 3 seems apt given we are now said to be living in a 'new normal' world of pandemic, climate, and other fears. From verse 4 on David affirms God's sovereignty and absolute justice. So should we.*

<sup>1</sup>In the LORD I take refuge.

How then can you say to me:

“Flee like a bird to your mountain.

<sup>2</sup>For look, the wicked bend their bows;

they set their arrows against the strings  
to shoot from the shadows  
at the upright in heart.

<sup>3</sup>When the foundations are being destroyed,  
what can the righteous do?”

<sup>4</sup>The LORD is in his holy temple;

the LORD is on his heavenly throne.

He observes everyone on earth;

his eyes examine them.

<sup>5</sup>The LORD examines the righteous,


but the wicked, those who love violence,  
he hates with a passion.

<sup>6</sup>On the wicked he will rain

fiery coals and burning sulphur;  
a scorching wind will be their lot.

<sup>7</sup>For the LORD is righteous,

he loves justice;  
the upright will see his face.

 **Listening:**  
'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty'

*Based on Psalm 103 this reminds us of God's great love for us, and that what God does for us tells us what He is really like. Another royal occasion – play it loud!*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS (NIV)

Old Testament



Psalm 36



Lamentations 1: 1-10

New Testament



1 Peter 1: 13-25

*In biblical times as today, praise and worship are a great response to fear and uncertainty. We can sing along here or let the singers provide fuel for our own reflection and meditation.*

**Listening:**   
'10,000 Reasons'

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

God of righteousness,  
hear our prayer for the life of our country.  
Bless all in authority who make decisions  
about our direction and welfare.  
Bless the people:  
rule their hearts and encourage  
their endeavours for good.  
Help us to seek service before privilege,  
public prosperity before private gain,  
and the honour of your name  
before the popularity of our own.  
Give us liberty, peace, and joy,  
and bind us in service to the community  
and in loyalty to you;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**MESSAGE:**



'Faith & Real Life' (Pt.7): Hope

**Listening:**



'Days of Elijah'

*This song was written after writer Robin Mark heard about the genocide in Rwanda in the mid-1990s. He says, "I found myself despairing about the state of the world and, in prayer, began asking God if He was really in control and what sort of days were we living in. I felt in my spirit that He replied saying that indeed, He was very much in control and that the days we were living in were special times when He would require Christians to be filled with integrity and to stand up for Him just like Elijah did, particularly with the prophets of Baal." (1 Kings 18).*

## BENEDICTION

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ;  
the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit;  
be with us all, now and forever.

*Amen.*

## CHURCH NOTICES

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

**Annual Reports:** If you are able, please email your Annual Report (to the end of June 2021) to the Office so these may be gathered together. Date of AGM to be confirmed.

**Virtual Logos Hour:** This Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm, Logos Hour will be hosted online utilizing the 'Zoom' meeting platform. If you would like to join, please email [Michael](#) to request an invitation.

During this challenging time, we would like to share in your celebrations and milestones, please email the church office so these events can 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](#).

## LOCKDOWN ACTIVITIES

**Task One:** This week we have a [Bible Crossword Puzzle](#) to try. These can be a challenge but I encourage you to give it a go, you might know more answers than you first realise!

**Task Two:** I have to admit, last week's honey and oat biscuits didn't come out very well, the mix was far too dry. So today I share a trusted recipe that is *supposed* to be a bit crumbly, [Pear Crumble Muffins!](#)

**Task Three:** This is the time to plant sunflower seeds! Maybe you have some seeds floating around from last year? Sow two seeds in each pot and take out the weakest seedling once they've germinated. Plant out in the garden when the seedling is 12-15 cm tall.



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‘Hope is being able to see the light despite all the darkness.’

- Desmond Tutu

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