

St Paul's Presbyterian Church

'Partners in God's Mission of Love'

'We celebrate life in Christ. Join us on the journey'

10:00 am Service led by Keith Rowe

The first Sunday in Pentecost

Year C, 5th June 2022

*It is delightful that you are here as we worship God together this morning.
Please join in reading the **words in bold italic type** if you would like to.*

*Where you see a * please stand if you are able.*

Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Talofa lava, Anyoung haseyo, Malo elelei,

Ni hao, Ohayo gozaimasu, Fakaalofa atu!

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome!



Welcome and Notices

Gathering Prayer

Today we join with the church in every part of the world in reading and being questioned by the ancient story of the day of Pentecost. We will pray that we, along with neighbours near and far, may live within God-Spirit.

We will read this story of how people from many nations, speaking different languages and shaped by many cultures, were bound together by a lively and unifying energy. We will ask what the story might mean in our day.

“Spirit-God, author of our prayers and shaper of our living,
Here in this church and in the city of Napier, our languages are many. We live within different ambitions, we own different things, we are shaped by differing cultures, we laugh at different things and we remember different stories.

Yet in the Spirit of God, we are held together as a single community.

Our experiences of life differ. We carry within us experiences of grief and joy, pain and pleasure, confidence and uncertainty, love and aloneness, trust and distrust. Each of us has arrived at the present moment by our own unique journey.

Yet in the Spirit of God, we are held together as a single community.

We are differently gifted. We are thinkers and activists, administrators and managers, teachers and learners, poets and scientists, we are singles and partnered, parents and grandparents. We are children discovering gifts, adults using gifts for the common good, we are elderly giving new direction to well used gifts.

Yet in the Spirit of God, we are held together as a single community.

Come Holy Spirit, move among us and grant to us your gifts of unity and love, courage and hope. May the way of Jesus be woven into the texture of our living and may we live within the same empowering Spirit that gave direction to his life.

***This is the prayer we bring to this time and this place.
Amen.”***

***Hymn: All-Present, All-Visible, Source of All Life.**

(Tune: Immortal invisible)

All- present, all visible, Source of all life,
within and around us, through joy and through strife.
Most Sacred, Eternal, You move on the earth,
You beckon and call forth new life and new birth.

Enlivened, extravagant, Sower of seeds,
abundant, abounding, your mercy exceeds.
Unhindered, unbridled, you shine forth your grace,
that we may do likewise, revealing your face.

You care for Creation, O Mother of all,
great mountains, clear waters, and flowers so small.
The earth is your temple, for all life to share,
so, help us be stewards of healing and care.

Transcendent, uncharted, and still close at hand,
encompassing people from near and far lands.
Within each new moment, throughout life and death,
your praises are sung out from all that has breath!

(Sara Klosterboer)

Prayer for the Day

Spirit Divine, attend our prayers

And make this house your home.

Spirit Divine, attend our prayers

Make this lost world your home.

Come as the dove and spread your wings,

The wings of peaceful love. Amen.

Readings:

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

(An ancient poet reflects on the presence of God-life in every part of creation. Remember our writer was a poet, not a modern scientist. He/she knew nothing about ecology, evolution or geology, knowledge we take for granted when we look at our world. But our poet knew one thing that endures: at the heart of all that is, in the very being of every creature, in everything of beauty, in everything that nourishes human living, there is God-Spirit. The creating and loving spirit of God is what gives meaning to all that is.)

Acts 2:1-21

(The Acts of the Apostles begins with a parable-like reflection on the new possibility that had gripped the minds and hearts of those who followed the Way pioneered by Jesus. They lived in a society dominated by Roman power: difference was not tolerated; political and social uniformity was demanded of those who lived in this powerful empire. At the heart of the Jesus Way was the possibility of all people learning from one another, discovering God-life in their differences as well as in what they shared. They sought a society transformed by listening love. Is it possible to live this way? The church still lives within the question and in following the footsteps of Jesus points the way into what could be.)

***Hymn: Loving Spirit, loving Spirit.** *(Tune, Omni Die)*

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
You have chosen me to be -

You have drawn me to your wonder,
You have set your sign on me.

Like a mother you enfold me,
Hold my life within your own,
Feed me with your very body,
Form me of your flesh and bone.

Like a father you protect me,
Teach me the discerning eye,
Hoist me up upon your shoulder,
Let me see the world from high.

Friend and lover in your closeness
I am known and held and blessed:
In your promise is my comfort,
In your presence I may rest.

Shirley Murray

Sermon/Reflection

***Hymn: Spirit of Gentleness**

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the waters,
you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:

"Awake from your slumbers
and rise on your wings."

2 You swept through the desert,
you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded
with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets
to open their eyes.

3 You sang in a stable,
you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still;
and down in the city
you called once again,
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind.

4 You call from tomorrow,
you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow
all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions,
our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions
your people arise.

Prayers for the world:

Followed by The Lord's Prayer sung

Our Father in heaven,

*Holy be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day 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 the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours now and for ever.
Amen, amen, amen, amen;
amen, amen, amen, amen.*

Offering

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Ever present God, hidden within the everyday and inviting us to travel with you into an unexplored future.

We give thanks that life is filled with possibilities beyond our imagining.

Spirit-God, present in our thinking and our dreaming, our living and our loving,

We give thanks for all good things that surround us and all good people who care for us.

God of what could be, God inviting us to work and pray for peace and harmony in our broken world,

We give thanks for good people everywhere who work for a society where no one is without a secure home, food to eat, and supportive friends.

God in each of us, may the prayers and the dreams of your church, here and throughout our city contribute to the healing and renewal of our divided world.

May what we do and who we are be our contribution to a generous and caring society.

***Hymn: God, we wonder where to find you**

(Tune: Austria WOV 374i)

God, we wonder where to find you; should we turn our eyes above?
How can people understand you? Is your love a distant love?
Do our songs rise up to heaven? Does that language still ring true?
In this world of joy and suffering, God, we wonder: where are you?

God, we wonder at our calling; is it only in the church?
We may struggle with tradition; where are you God, in our search?
We are taught that you are gracious; can we find you in new ways?
Could there be some brand new places where you challenge and amaze?

We are grounded in creation--- in the water, dirt and sky,
and we find the Spirit's presence as we hear creation's cry.
For we see in life's beginning what is now and always true:
we're at home in what you've given, called to care for earth for you.

We are grounded in our neighbours, in our loved ones, in our towns,
and in daily, loving labours, where your signs of grace abound.
Here in Christ, we love each other and we care for the oppressed;
Spirit-filled, with one another, we are grounded! We are blessed!

God, we trust that you are with us, dwelling in the here and now.
When we struggle to live fully your compassion shows us how.
As we work to bring your justice, as we seek your peaceful way,
as we put our faith practice, may we find you, God, today.

Blessing

As we go,

Let us recall the way of Jesus:

Blessed are those who know their need

the grace of heaven surrounds us.

Blessed are those who weep

our tears are being wiped away.

Blessed are the humble

we are close to the sacred earth.

Blessed are those who hunger for earth's oneness

we see signs of what we seek.

Blessed are the forgiving

we are being freed from slavery to past hurts.

Blessed are the clear in heart

we live within the Living Presence.

Blessed are the peacemakers

we are born of God and serve God.

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THIS WEEK'S NOTICES 5th June 2022

Helping Today

Greeters: Lynne & Murray Arnold

Offering: Janice Tucker

Bible Reader: Marion Fell

Musician: Dorothy Finlayson

Flowers: Rae Wildbore & Helen Dunnett

Grounds: Mike & Bev Coghill

Helping next week Sunday 12th June 2022

Greeters: Rae Wildbore & Margaret Greig

Offering: Helen McClymont

Bible Reader: Meg Sillay

Musician: Pam Clare

Flowers: Eleanor Holmes & Yvonne Dickson

Grounds: Bruce Tucker

What's On This Week

Tuesday Jitterbugs Pre-school music from 9am.

Thursday Prayers & Revelation Studies in Lounge at 9.00am.

Prayer Focus: Let us pray for: -

- * Ministry among us: **Bible Readers**
- * Partners in God's Mission of Love: **Napier Family Centre**
- * Partners in the Napier Inner City: **Trinity Methodist Church**
- * Parishes in our Presbytery: **St Columba's Havelock North**

Thanks for helping

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the farewell celebration for Sally last Sunday such a special day. There is no doubt that we gave Sally the kind of farewell she deserved. Her contribution to our church family, the wider community and the national church was celebrated in the appropriate way.

Everyone's contribution was much appreciated.

Lynne Arnold, Parish Clerk.

Napier Food Bank

The Napier Foodbank is currently low on canned fruit, soup, baby food and nappies. Thank you so much. All donations are very gratefully received.

Napier Repair Café coming to St Paul's

The Repair Café will be starting this month and they need the following:

- Certified Electricians
- Sewers (hand or machine sewers)
- General DIY fix it guys and gals
- Bakers (to provide some sweet treats for the volunteers & café attendees)
- Bicycle repair people
- Jewellery repair people
- Other enthusiastic people

Last Saturday of every month starting June 25th 2022 from 11:30am to 2:30pm in Asher Hall.

We'd love to be able to help with baking in particular (it's our specialty after all!). If you can help with providing some sweet treats for the Repair Café please talk with **Adair (ph. 022 461 9700)**. *Thank you!*

Napier Civic Choir & HB Orchestra Concert Series

On **Friday 17th June at 7.30pm**, the choir are performing Mendelssohn Hymn of Praise at **Blyth Centre in Havelock North** and again on **Sunday, 19th June at 2.30pm in the Napier Cathedral**. The Hawke's Bay Orchestra will be playing Brahms & Beethoven on **Saturday, 18th June at 7.30pm** at the **Blyth Centre in Havelock North**. For more information, there are brochures and leaflets in the foyer and posters on the notice board.

Bible Readings for Monday 6th June – Saturday 11th June

- Monday, June 6, 2022: Psalm 48; Joel 2:18-29; 1 Corinthians 2:1-11
- Tuesday, June 7, 2022: Psalm 48; Ezekiel 11:14-25; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16
- Wednesday, June 8, 2022: Psalm 48; Numbers 24:1-14; Luke 1:26-38
- Thursday, June 9, 2022: Psalm 8; Proverbs 3:13-18; Ephesians 1:17-19
- Friday, June 10, 2022: Psalm 8; Proverbs 3:19-26; Ephesians 4:1-6
- Saturday, June 11, 2022: Psalm 8; Proverbs 4:1-9; Luke 2:41-52