



Sunday 8th December, 2024.

St Paul's Presbyterian Church Napier.

We celebrate life in Christ

Gift Service 10am

Welcome and Notices:

Call to worship and lighting the peace candle

***Hymn Love came down at Christmas (WOV 243)**

Opening prayer

Reading: Isaiah 11:1-9 *Marian Eagle*
Luke 1: 26-45

***Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem (WOV 240)**

JESUS – THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS

Carol Mary did you know (*remain seated*)

Carol Te Harinui

Carol Make Room (Video) *remain seated*

Carol Once in Royal David's city (*WOV 237 v1, 2, 5*)

Carol: While Shepherds watched their flocks (*WOV 223 v 1,2 & 6*)

Gift giving: Swinburn House
 Napier Family Centre

Offering:

Prayers for others:

Closing hymn: **Joy to the World** (*WOV 224*)

Blessing:

Service led by Lynne Arnold. Music by Dorothy Finlayson

Welcome to our Gift Service

Today, we extend a very special welcome to our friends from Napier Family Centre and Swinburn House.

THIS WEEK'S NOTICES:

	<u>Serving Today</u>	<u>Serving 15th Dec 2024</u>
<u>Greeters:</u>	Jill McC & Margaret G	Kerry & Penny Marshall
<u>Offering</u>	Liz Willis	Janice Tucker
<u>Bible</u>	Marian Eagle	Richard Loan
<u>Music</u>	Dorothy Finlayson	Pam Clare
<u>Flowers</u>	Pam C & Marian E	Marian Eagle
<u>Grounds</u>	Murray & Lynne A	Paul Hentschel

Nourished for Nil:

It is a precious time of the year where we remember the reason for the season and why we do what we do for our community! Thank you for the incoming food donations that have been dropped off in Onekawa in the last month, truly every bag, can and packet helps. We just put up a tree in the depot complete with beautifully wrapped presents for little people that might be going without, this Christmas. In the lead up to Fri Dec 20th (when our Foodbank closes and reopens Jan 14th – emergency parcels will continue) we appreciate more non-perishable products for our parcels such:

Spreads of all kinds, Sweet Biscuits, Treats, Crackers, Muesli bars, cereal and rice/pasta.

Thanking you once again and we wish a wonderful festive season with your loved ones,

Christina McBeth | Nourished for Nil

HB Orchestra Koha Christmas Concert

There will be a very special koha Christmas Concert put on by the HB Orchestra on **Sunday 15th December 2.30pm at the Municipal Theatre**. See the flyer on the foyer noticeboard for more information.

It promises to be an exciting afternoon of musical entertainment including a chance to sing along to some well-known carols played by a full symphonic orchestra and choir.

Eco Corner

Harvey Cox, professor of divinity at Harvard University, *Living in the New Dispensation*, *Atlantic Monthly*, March 1999

Divine *omnipotence* means the capacity to define what is real. It is the power to make something out of nothing and nothing out something.

The willed-but-not-yet-achieved omnipotence of The Market

means that there is no conceivable limit to its inexorable ability to convert creation into **commodities**....

Things that have been held sacred transmute into interchangeable items for sale. Land is a good example. For millennia it has held various meanings, many of them numinous. It has been Mother Earth, ancestral resting place, holy mountain, enchanted forest, tribal homeland, aesthetic inspiration, sacred turf, and much more. But when the Market's Sanctus bell rings and the elements are elevated, all these complex meanings of land melt into one: real estate. At the right price no land is not for sale, and this includes everything from burial grounds to the cove of the local fertility sprite. **This radical desacralization dramatically alters the human relationship to land;** the same happens with water, air, space, and soon (it is predicted) the heavenly bodies.

Check out <https://pray-as-you-go.org> for a 15-minute guided prayer reflection on a Scripture of the day. Downloadable as an app for your phone.

**For any giving and donations to St Paul's Presbyterian Church:
Our Bank Account is 02 0700 00131 01 00**

Contact Information:

Ministers: ___Revs Mark Johnston & Carolyn Kelly: 020 473 1186

markkcml@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: Bridget Dunn 06 835 5359

(Office Open Tues–Fri 11am–1.30pm)

stpaulsnapier@gmail.com

Parish Clerk: Lynne Arnold 027 277 1423

Muly.arnold1@gmail.com



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