#### GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH ***Matawhero Church – Church Lane***

#### ***St Andrew’s Church and Community Centre:***

#### ***176 Cobden Street, Gisborne***

#### ***14th April, 2024 Easter 3***

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***We welcome all other visitors to our service this morning.***

 ***Please sign the Visitors’ Book and make yourself known to the Hosts who stand at the back of the church.***

***In our worship we use inclusive language as much as possible. Sometimes, especially in the hymns, this is not possible. Feel free to insert the language with which you are most comfortable.***

***BOLDED WORDS are for congregational response.***

***Where there is an asterisk \* please stand.***

MEETING THE RISEN CHRIST

Welcome and Notices.

Silent Preparation

Introit: In the quiet of this day FFS 37

In the quiet of this day,

in the safety of this place,

Holy Presence, hear me pray,

soothe my spirit with your peace.

Take the tangle of my thought,

Take the tension from my frame,

Free within me what is fraught,

still the waves I cannot tame.

I am tired and out of tune:

It is you who gives new song,

I am fearful and alone:

Bring me home where I belong.

What I am, you truly know,

More than lover, more than friend,

You the light to which I grow,

You my meaning and my end.

*Alleluia, allelu, alleluia, allelu,*

*Alleluia, allelu Alleluia, allelu,*

 *Shirley Murray*

Opening Worship

We give thanks to You, O Beloved, For you are kind;

 Let every nations proclaim,

 **Your steadfast love endures forever.**

 Let all the people cry,

 **Your steadfast love endures forever.**

 Leader; Let those who reverence You sing  **Your steadfast love endures forever.**

 We give thanks to You, O Beloved, For you are kind;

 **Your steadfast love lasts forever!**

\*HYMN; He came singing love **WB70**

**He came singing Love**

**and he lived singing love;**

**he died, singing love**

**He arose in silence.**

**For the love to go on**

**we must make it our song;**

**you and I be the singers.**

**He came singing faith**

**and he lived singing faith;**

**he died, singing faith.**

**He arose in silence.**

**For the faith to go on**

**we must make it our song;**

**you and I be the singers.**

**He came singing hope**

**and he lived singing hope;**

**he died, singing hope.**

**He arose in silence.**

**For the hope to go on**

**we must make it our song;**

**you and I be the singers.**

**He came singing peace**

**and he lived singing peace;**

**he died, singing peace.**

**He arose is silence.**

**For the peace to go on**

**we must make it our song;**

**you and I be the singers.**

PRAYER

That we may be pulled out into the light of Easter from our shadowed fears,

From the shadows of routine lives into the Easter light of energetic effort

**Lead us, Spirit of the risen Jesus**

From the shadows of insecurity and fears of change into the Easter light of openness to the new

**Lead us Spirit of the risen Jesus**

From the shadow of fearful silence into the light of freedom of speech among diverse voices

**Lead us Spirit of the risen Jesus**

From the shadows of prejudice and judgmental attitudes into the light of acceptance of our differences

**Lead us, Spirit of the risen Jesus**

\*HYMN; We are many, we are one FFS 67

We are many, we are one, and the work of Christ is done *FFS 67*

when we learn to live in true community,

as the stars that fill the night, as a flock of birds in flight,

as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;

as the branches of a tree, as the waves upon the sea,

as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

All division is made whole when we honour every soul,

find the life of God in every you and me,

as the fingers of a hand, as the grains that form the sand,

as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;

as the threads upon a loom, as a field of flowers in bloom,

as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

We will join creation’s song, make a world where all belong,

build as one in peace and loving harmony,

as the voices of a choir, as the flames within a fire,

as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;

as the snowflakes in the snow, as the colours of a bow,

as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine. *Colin Gibson*

**Celebrations: Celebrations today,**

 **may God bless you, we pray**

**Live for Jesus dear people.**

**May he guide you each day.**

Prayer “ *Meeting Jesus on the road”*

We saw him walking alone on the beach.

There was a nor” wester that swept across the sky

like a broom on the floor of the shearing shed, and his coat was flapping behind him, his hair wet with flying spray.

He laughed as he held his hands out to us, and said to us” Isn’t this a beautiful morning?”

and we who had been moaning about the weather,

suddenly saw the day bright with the energy of God

and we felt our hearts soar like birds on the wind.

Later we tried to describe it.” Just like Emmaus,” we said.

We were stuck in a motionless car.

There had been a rock fall in the gorge

and we had been waiting over an hour for machines that worked in slow motion.

 Rows of cars, pacing drivers, fretful kids-

It was a great start to the holiday!

Then she came along the road, in an apron,

carrying a cardboard box from car to car.

Sandwiches and muffins, she explained,

Because we looked like we could be hungry.

No one knew where she’d come from

and just as quietly she disappeared, leaving an oasis of peace behind her.

We felt the warmth in our hearts “Just like Emmaus” we said.

Then we knew that the road to Emmaus

lies not on a map of some ancient land, but clean through the middle

of the hungry human heart.

*Joy Cowley*

READING; Luke 24:35-48

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

**35**Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**Jesus Appears to His Disciples**

**36**While they were talking about this, Jesus[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2024%3A35-48&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-26018a)] himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2024%3A35-48&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-26018b)] **37**They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. **38**He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? **39**Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” **40**And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2024%3A35-48&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-26022c)] **41**Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” **42**They gave him a piece of broiled fish,[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2024%3A35-48&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-26024d)] **43**and he took it and ate in their presence.

**44**Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” **45**Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, **46**and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2024%3A35-48&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-26028e)] is[[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2024%3A35-48&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-26028f)] to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day **47**and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48**You are witnesses[[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2024%3A35-48&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-26030g)] of these things.

REFLECTION;

Prayer: **We find ourselves in the locked doors of ourselves just as the disciples were behind closed doors. We too are afraid and need the breath of the Holy Spirit to take away our fears so that we can come out from behinds these closed doors.**

**Risen Christ we too need the peace you bring because our world is fraught with violence and unrest.**

**Risen Christ may the doors of our hearts, homes and churches be open to all.**

Presentation of tithes and offerings.

\*Doxology; (Sung) CH4 468

**1 Son of God, eternal Saviour,
source of life and truth and grace,
Son of Man, whose birth incarnate
hallows all our human race,
great High Priest, who, throned in glory,
for Your own will ever plead:
fill us with Your love and pity,
heal our wrongs, and help our need.**

**2 Lord, as you have lived for others,
so may we for others live.
freely have Your gifts been granted;
freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver,
yours the wealth of sea and land;
we but stewards of Your bounty
held in trust at your command.**

**3 Come, Lord Jesus, reign among us,
King of Love and Prince of Peace;
hush the storm of strife and passion,
bid its cruel discords cease.
Yours the prayer, and yours the purpose,
that Your people should be one,
grant from heaven our hope’s fruition;
here on earth your will be done.**

Somerset Corry Lowry (1855-1932)

\*Dedication; All.

**Accept the gifts we offer with love and gratitude.**

**What is our treasure but Your Love.**

**There is nothing on earth that we desire besides You.**

**Our bodies and minds may fail but You are the strength of our hearts and our joy foreve**r.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE.

THE LORDS PRAYER (Based on the original Aramaic.)

**O Cosmic Source of all radiance and vibration!**

**Soften the ground of our being**

**And carve out a space within where your presence and abide.**

**Fill us with your creativity so that we may be empowered to bear the fruit of your mission.**

**Let each of our actions bear fruit in accordance with your desire.**

**Endow us with the wisdom to produce and share what each being needs to grow and flourish.**

**Untie the tangled threads of destiny that bind us,**

**As we release others from the entanglement of past mistakes.**

**Do not let us be seduced by that, which would divert us from our true purpose,**

**But illuminate the opportunities of the present moment. For you are the ground and fruitful vision,**

**The birth, power and fulfilment,**

**All is gathered and made whole again.**

**Amen**

\*HYMN: Make me a channel of your peace (© CH4 #528, verses 1-4)

 **Make me a channel of your peace.**

 **Where there is hatred let me bring your love;**

 **where there is injury, your healing power;**

 **and where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

 **Make me a channel of your peace.**

 **Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;**

 **where there is darkness, only light;**

 **and where there's sadness, ever joy**

 **Oh, Spirit, grant that I may never seek**

 **so much to be consoled as to console;**

 **to be understood as to understand;**

 **to be loved, as to love with all my soul.**

 **Make me a channel of your peace.**

 **It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,**

 **in giving of ourselves that we receive;**

 **and in dying that we're born to eternal life**

\*BLESSING:

Loving God, Grant patience to all who work for peace.

Grant us wisdom in proportion to our science.

Grant us humanness in proportion to our wealth and might.

And bless our earnest will to help all races and peoples to travel in friendship with us

Along the road to justice, freedom and peace.

**\*AMEN (Sung X 3)** CH4 819

*Please join us for a time of fellowship and friendship and a cup of tea or coffee in the lounge of the Community Centre next door*

**Ministers*: All the people* Service leader** *Sr Cynthia Kearney*

**Reader:** *Ruth McLennan*  **Organist:** *David Russell*

**Note:** The offering is now received at the door as we enter. If you miss noticing this, you may place a retiring offering in the offering boxes at the door as you leave.

**Mindful Prayer topics:** April 7th & 14th 2024 - Thanks for Faith and Fellowship. Transplant and donor patients, family and friends. The effects of climate change. Those struggling with acceptance. Those involved with preparation and delivery of our services and outreach programmes.

.Mindful Prayer contact Margaret Graham ph. 021 026 03990 or email m.n.e.gra@xtra.co.nz

Christian Blind Mission accepts used stamps. Send directly to them or Val Hall. (Leprosy Mission no longer accepts stamps)

**Please remember** donations for the Love basket when shopping. All offerings gratefully received.

Val Hall and Pat Flockhart are offering Home Communion, and they need an Elder to be present. Any Elders willing to assist, please phone or email Val Hall.

For all Pastoral care needs please contact one of the committee members:

Jenny Lawton  868 4268; Ruth McLennan 021 02704867; Jan Gordon 0211836008 Annette Ormiston 0275535028 Barbara Larsen 863-9009

With blessings from the Pastoral Committee

**DIARY**

**SUNDAY 14 EASTER 3 Sr Cynthia Kearney**

 **Celebration Service**

**10.00am St Andrew’s Autumn School Hols (1)**

 **Matawhero - No service**

Monday 159.00am Walking Group

 Matawhero Gardening

Tuesday 16 10.00am Open Door **All welcome**

Wednesday 1710.30am Beetham Health Care service

**2.30pm Finance Committee**

Thursday 18 3.30pm Dunblane Rest Home Service tbc

 Friday 19 1.00pm Choir Practice

**SUNDAY 21 EASTER 4 Rev Shirley Barker-Kirby**

**10.00am St Andrew’s Autumn School Hols (2)**

 **Matawhero - No service**

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| Sunday | Reader | Door & Team | Morning Tea | Sound Visual |
| 14 April Easter 3Sr Cynthia KearneyAutumn School Hols start | **Matawhero**No service**St Andrew’s** Ruth McLennan | **Chrissie Parker** Dianne Burrows Jean Hillyard | Jenny Lawton Trish Kwak | S: HansV: AlanC: Hans |
| 21 April Easter 4Rev Shirley Barker-Kirby  | **Matawhero**No service**St Andrew’s** Gina Hughes | **Pat Flockhart** Sarah McCCathy Porter | Paulina MeliefDianne Burrows | S: HansV: LindaC: Don |

***Gisborne Presbyterian Parish***

***St Andrew’s Church and Matawhero Historic Church:***

***Office: 06 868 5513******Hours 10-12 Tuesday – Thursday***

***176 Cobden Street 4010 Bank A/c number 03-0638-0462917-000***

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