

GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

***Matawhero Church – Church Lane
St Andrew’s Church and Community Centre:
176 Cobden Street, Gisborne***

24 November 2024

Reign of Christ

We welcome all 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.

A toilet is located in the hall.

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.

Welcome, news and Notices

Introit and entry of Bible

We Sing – Love came down at Christmas CH4 316

- 1. Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and angels gave the sign.**
- 2. Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
Worship we our Jesus:
But wherewith for sacred sign?**
- 3. Love shall be our token,
Love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and all men,
Love for plea and gift and sign.**

Call to Worship –Isaiah 40:6-8 **Good News Translation**

L: A voice cries out, “Proclaim a message!”

All: “What message shall I proclaim?” I ask.

L: “Proclaim that all human beings are like grass;

they last no longer than wild flowers.

**All: Grass withers and flowers fade
when the Lord sends the wind blowing over them.**

L: People are no more enduring than grass.

**All: Yes, grass withers and flowers fade,
but the word of our God endures forever.”**

Morning Prayer

Lectionary Reading: Luke 1:68-79 Good News Translation

⁶⁸“Let us praise the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has come to the help of his people and has set them free.

⁶⁹He has provided for us a mighty Savior,
a descendant of his servant David.

⁷⁰He promised through his holy prophets long ago

⁷¹that he would save us from our enemies,
from the power of all those who hate us.

⁷²He said he would show mercy to our ancestors
and remember his sacred covenant.

⁷³⁻⁷⁴With a solemn oath to our ancestor Abraham
he promised to rescue us from our enemies
and allow us to serve him without fear,

⁷⁵so that we might be holy and righteous before him
all the days of our life.

⁷⁶“You, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High God.

You will go ahead of the Lord

to prepare his road for him,

⁷⁷to tell his people that they will be saved
by having their sins forgiven.

⁷⁸Our God is merciful and tender.

He will cause the bright dawn of salvation to rise on us

⁷⁹and to shine from heaven on all those who live in the dark shadow
of death,

to guide our steps into the path of peace.”

⁸⁰The child grew and developed in body and spirit. He lived in the
desert until the day when he appeared publicly to the people of Israel.

***We Sing** Star Child, Earth Child COC40

**Star-Child, earth-Child,
go-between of God,
love Child, Christ Child,
heaven's lightning rod,**

*Refrain: This year, this year,
let the day arrive
when Christmas comes for everyone,
everyone alive!*

**Street child, beat child,
no place left to go, God
hurt child, used child
no one wants to know,
*Refrain***

**Grown child, old child,
mem'ry full of years,
sad child, lost child,
story told in tears,
*Refrain***

**Hope-for-peace Child,
God's stupendous sign,
down-to-earth Child,
Star of stars that shine,
*Refrain***

Celebration Time:

**Celebrations today! May God bless you, we pray
Live for Jesus dear people. May he guide you each day.**

Story Time: “Super Star”

***We Sing** On Jordan’s Bank

CH4 334

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every heart from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty Guest may come

For you are our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch out your hand, to heal our sore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
once more upon your people shine,
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit evermore

Reflection

Sing as a Prayer: God of freedom, God of Justice CH4 263 AA50
Tune:Picardy *Please remain seated*

God of freedom, God of justice,
you whose love is strong as death,
you who saw the dark of prison,
you who knew the price of faith:
touch our world of sad oppression
with your Spirit’s healing breath.

**Rid the earth of torture's terror,
you whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest,
you who shed the tears and blood:
move in us the power of pity
restless for the common good.**

**Make in us a captive conscience
quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly sisters, brothers
of whatever race or creed:
teach us to be fully human,
open to each other's need.**

Offering & *Dedication *Please stand as offering is brought forward
and join in the dedication.*

**As we bring our thank offerings of money and food, we offer
ourselves to your service, loving God. May we gladly serve you as
we are able, in Jesus' name, Amen**

***Final Hymn** **Shine, Jesus, Shine CH4 448** *Graham Kendrick*

- 1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth You now bring us,
shine on me, shine on me,**

Refrain

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory,
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

- 2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
from the shadows into Your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me,**

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,
so our faces display Your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me,

***Blessing**

May God, the source of our light, peace and love, strengthen your faith through the Holy spirit, and bring joy to you and through you, this Christmas season.

***AMEN X 3**

Ministers: *All the people in Christ*

Leader: *Lynnor Cooke*

Reader: *Seton Clare*

Please join us in the lounge for a time of fellowship and friendship over a cup of tea or coffee after the service

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.

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; Lynnor Cooke 06 214 3945; Barbara Larsen 863-9009

Matawhero Gardening happens from time to time. If you would like to help, please contact Paulina Melief 867 0605

Mindful Prayer topics: Nov 17th & 24th 2024. World Peace. The lonely and the homeless. GPP; The visit from the commissioners and the processes involved. Parish Council. Trust in God to show us the way forward. “Blessed are those whose strength is in You” Psalm 84
 Mindful Prayer contact Margaret Graham ph. 021 026 03990 or email m.n.e.gra@xtra.co.nz

DIARY

SUNDAY	24	PENTECOST 24 OR All Saints	
		10.00am	St. Andrew’s Lynnor Cooke
			Matawhero No Service
		2.00pm	Gisborne Orchestra and Concert Band
		3.30pm	Sea of Faith (note time)
Monday	25	9.00am	Walking Group
Tuesday	26	10.00am	Open Door All welcome
		7.00pm	Lessons and Carols Choir rehearsal
Wednesday	27	9.45am	mainly music
Thursday	28	2.30pm	Parish Council
		2.30pm	Leighton House service
		3.30pm	Kids’ Café
Friday	29	1.00pm	Choir rehearsal
Saturday	30		St Andrew’s Day
		3:00pm	Commissioners meet with Parish Council and Committee Convenors
		4:00pm	Congregational Meeting
		5:30pm	St Andrew’s Day shared meal
SUNDAY	1	ADVENT 1	Communion celebrant Val Hall
		10.00am	St. Andrew’s Communion
			Matawhero No service

Sunday	Reader	Door & Team	Morning Tea	Sound Visual
24 November Reign of Christ Lynnor Cooke	<u>Matawhero</u> No service <u>St Andrew's</u> Seton Clare	Seton Clare Dianne Burrows	Jenny Lawton	S&V: Linda C: Hans
1 December Advent 1 Communion	<u>Matawhero</u> No service <u>St Andrew's</u> June Stichbury	<u>Don</u> <u>McConnochie</u> Sarah McConnochie	Dianne Burrows	S&V: Alan C: Don

Communion Elders St Andrew's December 1st Val Hall celebrant; Seton Clare, Jan Gordon; Linda Savage, Cathy Porter

Gisborne Presbyterian Parish

St Andrew's Church and Matawhero Historic Church:

Office: 06 868 5513

176 Cobden Street 4010

standrewsgisb@xtra.co.nz

Hours 10-12 Tuesday – Thursday

Bank A/c number 03-0638-0462917-000

www.standrewsgis.org.nz