

St Columba's Church Havelock North



26 January 2020

Epiphany 3

Welcome to St Columba's

Rev Wayne Toleafoa is leading the service this morning.
Minister's Elder is Ian Holford
Duty Manager is Graeme Mueller
Organist is Nolan Martin

Visitors are invited to sign the Visitors Book in the Foyer.

Epiphany means, a 'manifestation' or a 'realisation'. For several weeks after Christmas we reflect on the many manifestations of Christ to all peoples. Colour: 'Green' for growth.

WE GATHER AS PEOPLE OF GOD

INTROIT:

Please stand as the Holy Bible is carried into the church.

'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty' WOV 65
Tune (ii) Tersanctus

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

GREETING AND WELCOME:

NOTICES:

CHILDREN'S PRAYER:

There is no children's programme in January but there are activity sheets in the corner at the back of the church as well as 'quiet toys'.

THEME: The Kiwi Christ

*The congregation is invited to say together words printed in **bold type**.*

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Isaiah 9, Psalm 27, Matthew 4)*

To those who sit in darkness, light has dawned.

To those who dwell in gloom and despair, God's glorious presence has appeared.

God is indeed our light and our salvation.

We will follow, unafraid, where God and Jesus lead us.

Let us worship our God of light and promise.

Let us celebrate the hope and joy of our salvation.

PRAYER OF APPROACH: *(Isaiah 9, Psalm 27, Matthew 4)*

God of light and love, we come this morning with eyes unused to the brightness of your glory. We have become so accustomed to the darkness, that your radiant light threatens to overwhelm us.

Open our eyes to the light of your dawning, that our souls may be flooded with the joy of your salvation.

Open our hearts to receive your message of comfort and, peace, that we may find strength in your loving presence.

Open our spirits to follow the path you set before us, that we may lead lives committed to the way of Christ. **Amen.**

WE SING: 'Christ is the world's light' WOV 191

WE ARE RENEWED BY GOD'S GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *(Isaiah 9, Psalm 27, 1 Corinthians 1, Matthew 4)*

God, our light and our salvation,
sometimes, we prefer to live in darkness,
embracing the safety and anonymity of the shadows;
sometimes, we delight in our divisions,
believing we are better than others;
sometimes, the yoke of our calling feels too heavy,
and we seek to slip out from under the beam across our shoulders.
Forgive our fear.

Forgive our aversion to the light.

Forgive our unresponsiveness to your call.

Forgive our wilful blindness and deafness to the way.

Help us know deep in our souls
that you are our light and our salvation,
our joy and our wonder,
our very life.

Hear us as we cry aloud in our need.

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: *(Psalm 27)*

Our God of light and love hears us when we cry aloud. We have nothing to fear. Know that this God of light wraps us in comforting arms, lifts us from the darkness of our guilt and sin, and forgives us once and for all. Know that we will dwell in safety in God's house, now and forevermore.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST: *(Psalm 27)*

Let us greet one another with these words:

"The God of light and love surrounds you with joy and peace."

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF PREPARATION: *(Isaiah 9)*

Open the eyes of our hearts, O God, to comprehend your words of love and salvation. Through your Holy Spirit, make your presence real to us, that we be truly blessed in the readings and hearing of your word revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

Amen.

BIBLE READINGS: *Reader: Anne Keown*

First reading: Isaiah 9: 1-4 (page 555)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18 (page 926)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

WE SING: 'Spirit of God, unseen as the wind' CH4 600

BIBLE READING: *Reader: Rev Wayne Toleafoa*

Matthew 4: 12-23 (page 785)

This is the gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ, the Word.

SERMON: The Kiwi Christ

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

WE SING: 'I heard the voice of Jesus say' CH4 540

Tune CH4 291

© Used with permission CCLI 80177

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING: *(Isaiah 9, Psalm 27)*

Light has dawned in our lives and in our world. We are called to share that light, and to speak words of comfort in a world often shrouded in gloom and darkness. Our offering will enable this community to be a beacon of light to those caught in the darkness of suffering and wandering.

OFFERING PRAYER: *(Isaiah 9, Psalm 27, Matthew 4)*

What can we offer in thanksgiving, for the gifts of light and life and love we have received from you, and from your beloved community here on earth? We offer our all: our resources, our energy, our time, our very selves to answer your call and to follow without fear. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: *Led by Ian Holford*

To the words: 'Lord of Light and Love'

The congregation is invited to Respond: '**Hear our prayer**'

Our Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed 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 forever. Amen.

WE SING: 'In Christ there is no east and west' WOV 391

© Mrs B Perry. Used with permission CCLI 8010177

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

BLESSING:

Go out in response to the God who calls you.

Go out proclaiming the message of repentance, for the Kingdom of heaven is always near.

Go out united in purpose and do not be afraid when your purpose is called foolishness.

And may God be a sheltering cover above you and a firm rock below;

May the foolishness of Christ Jesus be your wisdom;

And may the Holy Spirit be the light that overcomes your darkness and sets you free.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

We go in the name of Christ.

SUNG THREE-FOLD 'AMEN'

EXIT OF THE HOLY BIBLE: *Please stand as the Bible is carried from the church.*

Acknowledgements:

The Abingdon Worship Annual edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu, Copyright © Abingdon Press. Contribution by Rev. Dr. Joanne Carlson Brown, Pastor at Tibbetts United Methodist Church in West Seattle, USA
Laughing Bird Liturgical Resources (2020) - Nathan Nettleton.

NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 26 JANUARY 2020

CALENDAR:

Tuesday 28	7.30 pm	Church Council meeting, Millar Room
Saturday 1	9.00 am	Mini market
Sunday 2	10.00 am	Sunday Service

HOUSE SITTING:

Many of you will remember our lovely American friends Ken and Joan Smith. They are planning another trip to New Zealand for a holiday in March this year and have asked if we know of anyone who would like them to house sit while they are in Havelock North. We don't have definite dates yet, but if you are interested in having house sitters in March - April, please contact Ailsa or Wayne Rewcastle.

NEWSLETTER: Columba News Feb/March is available in the pigeonholes, ready for delivery.

MINI MARKET:

Jams/Preserves: Contributions of white and brown sugar, malt and white vinegar and sultanas would be greatly appreciated. Recycled jars can be left in the box in the foyer or in the office.

Cash donations: If you prefer to donate cash instead, please hand in at the office or put in the offering bag in an envelope marked 'Mini Market'.

White elephant stall: We need more stuff! If you're having a clear out or are decluttering, please contact Peter Kidd or Phil Carter.

Cake stall: Please leave your contributions in the office or bring it to the cake stall on Saturday morning before 9.00am. If you need your contribution to be collected, please ring Elma. Thank you for your contributions.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

RNZ NAVY BAND CONCERT: The Band has been invited by Rev Wayne to perform here in our church on Thursday 20 February at 6.30 pm, followed by a light supper. Tickets are available in the office or at the door @ \$10 per person.

ROSTER: Sunday 2 February 2020

Minister's Elder:	Beth Neilson
Elders:	Elma Pienaar, Greg Rowe
Door duty:	Phil Carter, John Bark, David McDonald
Organist:	Ngaire Anderson
Sound:	Mike Earle
Bible reading:	Mary Benson
Morning tea:	Stephanie Mueller, Graeme Mueller, Barbara Randal, Stephen Randal
Children:	Elma Pienaar
Flower arrangements:	

LECTIONARY READINGS:

SUNDAY 2 February 2020

 Micah 6: 1-8	 Ps 15
 1 Cor 1: 18-31	 Mt 5: 1-12
