

# St Columba's Church Havelock North



16 February 2020

Epiphany 6

## Welcome to St Columba's

Rev Wayne Toleafoa is leading the service this morning.  
Minister's Elder is Stephen Randal  
Duty Manager is Rex Bartlett  
Organist is Jean Jarvis  
Floral artist is Judi Schnell

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' WOY 65**

### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

### GREETING AND WELCOME:

### NOTICES:

### CHILDREN'S PRAYER:

*Children and young people are invited to meet Elma in the foyer.*

### THEME: Choosing life.

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

### CALL TO WORSHIP: (Psalm 119)

Happy are those who are without blame.

**Blessed are those who walk in God's way.**

Happy are those who are faithful.

**Blessed are those who seek God.**

We will obey your word, O God.

**We will praise you forever!**

### PRAYER OF APPROACH: (Deuteronomy 30, Psalm 119)

Come, Holy One: teach us your ways,  
lead us in your paths, guide us on our journey.  
Speak to us your words of life,  
for you offer us direction and wholeness when we hear your voice and follow.

You bless us with your love, shower us with your grace,  
and help us grow in faith.

We seek you, O God, with all our hearts.

Be near to us this day. **Amen.**

### WE SING: 'Lord the Light of Your love' CH4 448

## WE ARE RENEWED BY GOD'S GRACE

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Deuteronomy 30, 1 Corinthians 3, Mark 5)

Loving God, you call us into community and teach us your ways,  
blessing us with abundant life.

Yet we turn aside to follow other paths; we take the easy way out,  
listening to the world's call rather than your call to commitment;  
we quarrel with one another, letting differences divide us;  
we cherish our resentments, shutting off our hearts  
from forgiveness and reconciliation;  
we cling to petty jealousies,  
feeling we deserve more than we have.

**Forgive us when we wander from your love.**

**Draw us into community with each other,  
and feed us with the milk of your grace,  
that we may grow in faithfulness  
and work together in peace. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE: (Deuteronomy 30, 1 Corinthians 3)

God is at work, nurturing our growth and showing us the ways that lead to life.

God is at work, reconciling us to one another and teaching us the paths of love.

God is at work, hearing our confessions, forgiving our failings, and blessing us in love.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:** *(Matthew 5)*

Christ asks that we be reconciled to one another. The love of Christ reaches out to friend and stranger, touching each life with blessing. Let us share the peace and forgiveness of Christ with one another.

*We pass on a sign of peace to those around us.*

### **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

#### **PRAYER OF PREPARATION:**

Open the eyes of our hearts, O God, to comprehend your words of love and life. 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.**

#### **OUR SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

*Reader: Ailsa Rewcastle*

*First lesson: Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 (page 163)*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Second lesson: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9 (page 927)*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**WE SING: 'Brother, sister, let me serve you' CH4 694**

**THE GOSPEL LESSON:** *Reader: Rev Wayne Toleafoa*

*Matthew 5: 21-37 (page 786)*

This is the gospel of Christ.

**Praise to Christ, the Word.**

**SERMON:** 'Choosing Life'.

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**WE SING: 'Will you come and follow me' CH4 533**

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**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:** *(Deuteronomy 30, 1 Corinthians 3)*

God has given us growth, guided our steps on the ways that lead to life, and provided companions for our journey. Our very lives are a gift from God. With gratitude and praise, we turn to God with obedient hearts to offer back our gifts, that others may find life and wholeness.

**OFFERING PRAYER:** *(Deuteronomy 30, Matthew 5)*

Loving God, you have shown us your ways, and led us in the paths of life. You have blessed us and kept us safe. In you we know that we are loved. We offer you our lives, past, present and future. We offer you the praise of our hearts, for your love is better than life. Use all the gifts we have, to establish your realm of love, in all places where we live, work and play. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:** *Led by Stephen Randal*

To the words: 'Lord, in your mercy',  
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: 'Be thou my vision' CH4 465**

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### **WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

**BLESSING:**

God has placed before us life and death, blessings and curses. Therefore let us choose life, and follow God's way. Let us go now, and be a people of reconciliation and integrity. Let our 'yes' be 'yes', and our 'no', 'no'. And in all the paths we walk may God hold us steady and close. May Christ Jesus bless us and every place we enter. And may the Spirit give us long life and days full of gratitude.

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:**

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- *Laughing Bird Liturgical Resources* (2020) - Nathan Nettleton.
- *Weekly Worship* – Church of Scotland February 2020.

## NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2020

### CALENDAR:

Tuesday 18 9.30am Badminton & table tennis, St Andrew's hall  
Thursday 20 9.30am 'mainly music', foyer  
*Thursday 20 6.30pm Navy in concert*  
Sunday 23 10.00am Sunday Service

### 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.

**Fresh fruit to be used for jams and preserves will be much appreciated! Please ring Janet or Jill or bring to 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 are filled to the rafters, so no more contributions for the time being please! Thank you for your contributions.

**RNZ NAVY BAND CONCERT:** The concert is on Thursday 20 February at 6.30 pm, followed by a light supper. Tickets: \$10.00 per person: available today in the foyer from Elma or in the office on weekdays from 9-12.

**FAITH AND REASON DISCUSSION GROUP:** No meeting in February. The first meeting for the year is on Sunday 29 March.

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** Ash Wednesday is this year held at St Luke's Church on Wednesday 26 February 2020 at 7.00 pm. We are invited to attend for time of prayer and reflection. **Please confirm your attendance by 19 February** to Thea Kloppenburg, St Luke's Church Administrator – phone 877 7366 or email [admin.havelocknorth@waiapu.com](mailto:admin.havelocknorth@waiapu.com)

**PASSOVER SUPPER:** Wednesday, 8 April, time to be confirmed, here in our church/Function Centre (depending on numbers attending). Members of the Havelock North Talmidei Messanic Ministry will share and explain the significance of the Passover Supper which Jesus shared with his disciples during "Holy Week". We will provide supper after the traditional meal. If you would like to take part, please contact Elma/Lorraine in the office or speak with Rev Wayne.

### COMMUNICATING AND LEADERSHIP FOR TEENS TOASTMASTERS

**COURSE:** Please note that this planned to start on 18 February in the foyer at 5.30 – 7.00 pm. We need you to **spread the word** in the run-up as we keep in line with our goals to get teenagers into our church. This worthy Toastmasters Course is proven to boost teen confidence as well as their C.V.s

## EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

**CONNECT GATHERING:** Meeting on Thursday 13 February at 1.30 pm at St John's Church Hastings. Information on the notice board in the foyer.

**UPMARKET, PRE-LOVED CLOTHING AND JEWELLERY SALES EVENING AT ST LUKE'S CHURCH:** This is a fundraiser in conjunction with their Annual Fair on Sat 7 March. Please donate clothes, shoes, handbags, jewellery. Drop off at St Luke's Church. Information on the notice board in the foyer.

**THE NAPIER PIPE BAND'S ART DECO CONCERT AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH, NAPIER,** on Saturday 22 Feb starts at 2.30pm. The programme will feature Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah, along with Amazing Grace, Highland Cathedral and many other favourites. Tickets available at the door or get yours early by phoning Bett 844 0055 or Marg 843 9012 – Adult \$10, gold coin donation 15 years and under. Information on the notice board in the foyer.

### ROSTER: Sunday 23 February 2020

**Minister's Elder:** Scott Henderson  
**Elders:** Anne Heesterman, Stephen Randal, Nicholas Amponsah  
**Door duty:** Graeme Mueller, Colleen Parker, John Heesterman, Barbara Randal  
**Organist:** Nolan Martin  
**Sound:** Arthur Peake  
**Bible reading:** Jocelyn Williams  
**Morning tea:** Jill McDonald, David McDonald, Elaine Congdon, Noel Congdon  
**Children:** Anne Keown  
**Flower arrangements:** Helen Caley

### LECTIONARY READINGS:

### SUNDAY 23 February 2020

 Ex 24: 12-18  
 2 Peter 1: 16-21

 Ps 2 or 99  
 Mt 17: 1-9