

Opoho Presbyterian Church

opohochurch.org

22 March 2020 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

Welcome!

*Whoever you are, you are welcome here at Opoho Church.
Whether you come often, haven't been for a while or you're new,
we are glad you are here today. We are all one in God.*

*Everyone here is seeking to know God better,
and we're glad you have joined us on this vital quest.*



The Light of the World (1851–1853) by William Holman Hunt (1827–1910), see John 9:5

Offerings of money for the work of this parish, money for the Dunedin Night Shelter, and goods for Presbyterian Support's Food Bank, may be left in the offering bag, dish, or basket (as appropriate) on the trolley near the door, either before or after the service.

***Please consult the worship leader
before taking photographs or other recordings during a service,
in accordance with the church media policy displayed in the Morrison Lounge.***

Gathering

The Welcome

The Call to Worship

God summons us to wake up and see.

Light has come to lead us to all that is good.

Our eyes have been opened to God's goodness.

We seek to live as children of light.

God sees beyond our outward appearance.

God knows the intent of our hearts.

We are here to find out what is pleasing to God.

We want to know what is right and true.

God listens to all who worship sincerely.

Praise God with openness and obedience.

We seek to know and follow God's will.

This is a day to do the works of God.

We sing our Opening Lenten Hymn

words James Gerimenian, tune *Winchester New* WOV 264

Throughout these Lenten days and nights
we turn to walk the inward way
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
we live in hope till Easter day.

The pilgrim Christ, the Lamb of God,
who found in weakness greater power
embraces us, though lost and flawed,
and leads us to his rising hour.

We bear the silence, cross and pain
of human burdens, human strife,
while sisters, brothers help sustain
our courage till the feast of life.

And though the road is hard and steep,
the Spirit ever calls us on
through Calvary's dying, dark and deep,
until we see the coming dawn.

So let us choose the path of one
who wore, for us, the crown of thorn
and slept in death that we might wake
to life on Resurrection Morn!

Rejoice, O sons and daughters! Sing
and shout hosannas! Raise the strain
for Christ, whose death Good Friday
brings,
on Easter Day shall live again!

Prayers of Praise and Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Sharing the Peace with Others

Proclaiming

First Reading *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

This is the Word of God

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading *John 9:1-41*

In this is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

A Word with the Children *Lessons from the Seven Dwarfs – ii Dopey*

We sing a Hymn of Illumination WOV 56 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound

Sermon *NONE SO BLIND*

Responding

We have a Moment of Silence for Reflection

We sing a Hymn of Response

words Horatius Bonar, tune *The Rowan Tree* (Scots Traditional)

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast';
I came to Jesus, as I was
so weary, worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place
and he had made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one,
stoop down and drink and live';
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright';
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

We present to God our Tithes and Offerings

We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the Table
and those which wing their way electronically
from our banks to the Church's account.

Prayer of Dedication

Morning Pastoral Prayers concluding with the Saviour's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth, as in heaven.
Give us today 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.

Sharing the Parish News

We sing a Hymn of Commitment

words © John. L. Bell & Graham Maule, tune *Ye Banks and Braes* CH 4 718

We cannot measure how you heal
or answer every sufferer's prayer,
yet we believe your grace responds
where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,
survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life
and cradle children yet unborn.

The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long past,
the fear of what the future holds,
are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside,
the memories that haunt the mind.

So some have come who need your help
and some have come to make amends,
as hands which shaped and saved the world
are present in the touch of friends.
God, let your Spirit meet us here
to mend the body, mind, and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain,
and make your broken people whole.

The Benediction and the sung Amen

*When the Worship is Over the Service Begins
Every Christian is a Minister*

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*It is good to have you worshipping with us today.
Everyone is welcome to stay for morning tea
in the Morrison Lounge and/or Hall after the service –
through the door at the back of the church.*

Keeping in Touch

Parish directories with contact details of parishioners are available on the back pew. Please take one if you need it. If you would like to be emailed about church news and coming events, please give your email address to the Parish Clerk, Tui Bevin, or email her at mark.bevin@gmail.com

Any changes or additions to events listed in the *Opoho Signal* will be posted as they are known on the website at <http://opohochurch.org/events-and-activities/>

Today's service was brought to you by

Leading the Service: The Rev. Graeme Munro

Door Duty: Abby Smith and Hamish Spencer **Music:** Mark Bevin

Readings: Marian Weaver **Prayers:** Abby Smith

Flowers: Jane Bloore **Morning Tea:** Jane Bloore and Tony Parry

Church Cleaning: Jane Bloore **Hall Cleaning:** Andrew Smith

Opportunities for ministry week ending 29 March

Door Duty: Jane Bloore and Benjamin Thew **Music:** Music Group

Readings: Hamish Spencer **Prayers:** Gregor Macaulay

Flowers: Judy Rodda **Morning Tea:** Jenny Roxborough and Bronwen Strang

Church Cleaning: Judy Rodda and Kirk Hamilton

Hall Cleaning: Benjamin Thew

Parish Clerk: Tui Bevin 473 8677 mark.bevin@gmail.com

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Ed Masters 027 637 9818

Presbyterian Support Food Bank wish list this month:

Maggi sachets (e.g. for devilled sausages),

gravy mix, cheese sauce.

Presbyterian Support Otago and Neighbours Day 27 March – 5 April

Presbyterian Support New Zealand supports Neighbours Day Aotearoa and we look for ways to support communities, churches, schools and our own organisation to celebrate their neighbours. Perhaps you could organise something for your church to do with your neighbours, or do something in your own street. If you need any ideas or help with this please get in contact with Carolyn Sims at Presbyterian Support Otago at 477 7115 or carolyns@psotago.org.nz
Below are some ideas of what you could do as a church, in your community or in your street:

- Host an afternoon tea, play Neighbour bingo “which neighbour has a dog called Fred?”, street barbecue, play games at your local playground
- Set up a Meet your Neighbours get-together, drop off a card saying “Happy Neighbours Day”
- Say “Hello” or wave to a neighbour

*In the current circumstances, all events detailed below
are subject to confirmation – check with organisers in each case*

Music for Easter *Sacred works of the Baroque for voice, strings and organ.* With Claire Barton (mezzo), Caroline Burchell (soprano), David Burchell (organ), Rachel Barton, Nathaniel Otley (violins), Ben Pinkney (viola) and Tessa Dalgety-Evans (cello). Featuring Vivaldi's setting of *Stabat Mater* for solo alto and works by Telemann, Bach, Buxtehude, and Charpentier. **7.30 p.m. Friday 27 March**, Knox Church. Tickets \$25/\$20/\$15, accompanied children free. Door sales available from 7.00 p.m. on 27 March or book now at:

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2020/music-for-easter/dunedin>

For more information email claire@clairebarton.com

The Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Trust Board cordially invites you to a service of induction of the Rev. Jordan Redding as a chaplain at the University of Otago and of recognition that the Rev. Olivia Dawson is becoming a full-time chaplain on **Sunday 5 April at 7 p.m.** at Knox Church. Contact: paul.trebilco@otago.ac.nz

Faith Thinking Events

Faith, Truth, and Courage: The Story of Rachael Denhollander in the era of #MeToo and #ChurchToo

Professor David Tombs, Centre for Theology and Public Issues, Theology Programme, University of Otago.

Friday 3 April, 7-9 p.m. Burns 7, University of Otago and Saturday 4 April, 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m., 7N10 Richardson Building, University of Otago

Going Deeper into 1 Corinthians

Professor Paul Trebilco, Theology Programme, University of Otago.

7-9 p.m., Wednesday 22, Wednesday 29 April, Wednesday 6 May, Burns 7, University of Otago

Finding Faith in 'Secular' Times: What can we learn about Christian witness from the experiences of recent converts to Christianity?

Dr Lynne Taylor, Somerville Lecturer in Pastoral Theology, Theology Programme, University of Otago

Friday 22 May, 7-9 p.m. and Saturday 23 May, 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m.,

Dunedin City Baptist Church, 19 Main South Road, Concord

Each course costs \$20. These courses are jointly organised between the Theology Programme and some Dunedin churches, and supported by Continuing Education at the University of Otago. Contact: paul.trebilco@otago.ac.nz

Walk the Gorge and Support Support

Dunedin South Lions Annual Taieri Gorge Rail Walk, **Sunday 3 May**. The Lions Club are pleased to announce that the very successful fundraising walk will be returning in its 12th year with limited ticket numbers of 400, so book your seat on the train to enjoy the experience of walking through the picturesque Taieri Gorge! The train departs at 8.30 a.m. from Dunedin and winds its way up through Taieri Gorge to Flat Stream. Passengers disembark at this point and walk approx. 2 - 2.5 hours to Deep Stream. The gentle gradient walk includes bridges and tunnels with a sausage sizzle before departing from Hindon back to Dunedin.

- Tickets are \$65.00 per person and all children under 12 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.
- Walkers will need a torch, wet weather gear, sun lotion, hat, sturdy footwear (no jandals or thongs), drink bottle, snacks and warm clothing.
- A buffet car will be part of the train on the day

Not only is this event unique and the only time you can walk the train line but all proceeds will be donated to Presbyterian Support Otago's group programmes for children, parents, and grandparents.

To book your seat, please email bookings@dunedinrailways.co.nz
or phone 477 4449.

Diary of Coming Events

25 March ~ Wednesday	6.30 p.m.: Psalm Writing with BYO takeaways, 129 Signal Hill Road
29 March ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship with Music Group, the Rev. Anne Thomson 11.30 a.m.: Parish pot luck lunch in the hall
1 April ~ Wednesday	7.30 p.m.: Ministry Settlement Board, venue TBC
2 April ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Bible Book of the Month, <i>Philippians</i> , 129 Signal Hill Road
5 April ~ Sunday	DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS – put clocks back one hour 10 a.m.: Worship for Palm Sunday with Holy Communion, the Rev. Graeme Munro 11.30 a.m.: Pastoral Care and Community Committee, Minister's Study
9 April ~ Thursday	2 p.m.: Fellowship Group, Morrison Lounge; Gregor Macaulay will talk about the Opoho First World War Roll of Honour 7 p.m.: Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion, Morrison Lounge, the Rev. Simon Rae
12 April ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship for Easter Sunday with Holy Communion, the Rev. John Roxborough
16 April ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge