



# KAPITI UNITING PARISH

ChristianChurchesNZ – Methodist – Presbyterian  
10 Weka Road, Raumati Beach, Paraparaumu 5032

**Raumati 10am combined United@9  
24 November**

**A service in response to the abuse and neglect of  
children in the care of state and faith based institutions  
1950-1999**

**Jesus said, suffer little children,  
and forbid them not to  
come unto Me – for  
of such is the  
Kingdom of  
Heaven**

**Matthew 19:14**

*“If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.*

*Matthew 18:6 New International Version*

## **Welcome and notices**

### **Opening Prayer**

#### **Hymn: Tell Out My Soul WOV109**

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;  
Tender to me the promise of his word;  
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out my soul, the greatness of his name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
His holy name – the Lord – the mighty one.

Tell out my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by:  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight;  
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out my soul, the glories of His word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercies sure:  
Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

*Timothy Dudley-Smith*

#### **Prayer of compassion:**

Jesus, our brother and friend,  
Look with kindness and compassion  
On those who were abused.  
You see the lost child within  
Still crying alone in the darkness  
Where the hidden wounds of childhood  
Still hurt, and make them afraid.

**When they feel abandoned, give them home,  
When they feel ashamed, give them comfort,  
When they feel unloved, give them faith,  
When they feel betrayed, give them peace.**

In the power of your resurrection  
may love triumph over fear,  
light shine in the darkness,  
and the long reign of terror be ended.

**Amen**

*Tracy Hansen*

**Reading:** Excerpt from article by Felix Desmarais

**Guitar Solo** – Kevin Boyce

**Litany** – Rose Luxford, Moderator of Presbyterian Church of  
Aotearoa NZ:

Holy God, this day we pause and we reflect.

**We are deeply saddened at what has occurred in the life of our  
nation and our national churches.**

Saddened and distressed that vulnerable people have been hurt.

**Hurt in situations and places where they should have been safe.**

We think of Jesus who came so that all may have fullness of life .

**And acknowledge that (instead) in our churches some have been  
denied that.**

We think of the courage it would have taken for people to tell their  
stories.

**And the pain and distress that would be there in the telling, and  
the hearing.**

As a church we grieve for the wounds people have to bear.

**And regret that this has happened within our church  
communities.**

Through time and space the church has failed to protect vulnerable  
people, and given a safe haven to those in power.

**And that weighs heavily on us all here and now.**

Our human condition is frail and has its shadow side .

**And often we find that hard to admit to ourselves and hard to bear in others God what are we to do?**

We call out to you in sincere humility and deep need.

(Pause in silence....).

We give thanks that this darkness can be brought to the light of Christ.

**And in that light, we pray that there may be healing and justice.**

In the light we pray that we can all learn from the mistakes of the past.

**And ensure that the present and future is guided by your Holy Spirit.**

So that all may feel safe and protected.

**That integrity, justice and honesty be hallmarks of our church.**

We pray that we can hold the tension of the reality of life and the hope that comes in Christ.

**And that in all things you are at work - in the brokenness, in the pain, in the healing.**

Gracious God, enfold your broken church in your loving embrace.

**And enable us to be the people that you call us to be. Amen.**

**Hymn: Jesus loves me this I know WOV166**

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
and the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong,  
in his love we shall be strong.

*Yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
the Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, "Let them come to me."  
*Yes, Jesus loves me...*

Jesus loves me still today,  
walking with me on my way,  
wanting as a friend to give  
light and love to all who live.  
*Yes, Jesus loves me...*

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 2: 1-8

## Reflection

### Passing the Peace



### **Hymn: Where mountains rise to open skies AA155**

Where mountains rise to open skies  
your name, O God, is echoed far,  
from island beach to kauri's reach,  
in water's light, in lake and star

Your people's heart, your people's part  
be in our caring for this land,  
for faith to flower, for aroha  
to let each other's mana stand.

From broken word, from conflict stirred,  
from lack of vision, set us free  
to see the line of your design,  
to feel creation's energy.

Your love be known, compassion shown,  
that every child have equal scope:  
in justice done, in trust begun  
shall be our heritage and hope.

Where mountains rise to open skies  
your way of peace distil the air,  
your spirit bind all humankind,  
one covenant of life to share!

*Shirley Murray*

### **Prayer of Dedication for the offering**

### **Prayer of Intercession**

### **Hymn: When I needed a neighbour were you there? WOV558**

When I needed a neighbour,  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?

*And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter  
Were you there?*

I was hungry and thirsty,  
were you there, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?  
*And the creed...*

I was cold, I was naked  
were you there, were you there?  
I was cold, I was naked were you there?  
*And the creed...*

When I needed a shelter  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a shelter were you there?  
*And the creed...*

When I needed a healer  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a healer were you there?  
*And the creed...*

Wherever you travel  
I'll be there, I'll be there.  
Wherever you travel I'll be there.  
*And the creed...*

*Sydney Carter*

## **Blessing**

Worship Leader: Rev Anna Gilkison

Musician: Elizabeth Kerr

Guitar Solo: Kevin Boyce

Readers: Kate Foley and Cathy Drummond

## **Waiata**

Ko koe, e Ihu, tena  
E patoto mai nei  
E whanga tonu ana  
Ko koe kia tomo mai  
E ao ia nei te kino  
Te hara tino nui  
Ko au kia keke tonu  
Ki tau i tono ai

### Lament

O Jesus, thou art standing  
Outside the fast-closed door  
In lowly patience waiting  
To pass the threshold o'er  
Shame on us, Christians all  
His name and sign who bear  
O shame, thrice shame upon us  
To keep Him standing there!

*Taken from the Council of Assembly's Letter of Apology  
on behalf of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.*

Further text in the December Together magazine