

## Facebook Page

Have you checked our church Facebook page lately? Rev Shelley posts something new on it each day. Today there is a link to watch the Royal NZ Ballet special broadcast for Anzac Day featuring the works 'Passchendaele' and 'Dear Horizon'.

## Songs of Praise:

This is a British version of Praise be but is extra special because they show scenery as well. Robin gets it on Sky but Marion told me she found it on the TV channel "Shine" on Sunday evening.

## Thank you



Isn't it lovely when the phone goes and someone is just wanting to know how you are getting on? It warms the cockles of your heart and makes you feel you are not alone. Keep it up everyone! Also, I have so appreciated the response to the **Virtual Morning Tea**. It is great to hear what everyone else is doing and gives me a sense of church community. We are not alone. See you on Sunday morning for a cuppa!

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### Te Awamutu Methodist Church Website

[http://www.methodist.org.nz/find\\_us/waikato\\_waiariki/te\\_awamutu](http://www.methodist.org.nz/find_us/waikato_waiariki/te_awamutu)

or just search 'Te Awamutu Methodist Church'

**Notices for next Sunday's bulletin to Lynn please**  
Phone 07 871 3554 or email [colinlyn@xtra.co.nz](mailto:colinlyn@xtra.co.nz)

## Weekly Newsletter – 26 April 2020

### METHODIST PARISH OF TE AWAMUTU, PIRONGIA, OTOROHANGA

**Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu**



### Wings of the morning – Reflection on Psalm 139

If I were to take the wings of the morning  
or dwell in the depths of the sea,  
you would be there surrounding me with your love;  
even when I lie in the grave you will still hold me.  
You will never let me go.  
There is no challenge, no experience,  
that will cause you to abandon me,  
or that we cannot overcome together,  
for I am made of you.

Phil Dyer from *Oh Light* ed. Anna Gilkison (Lower Hutt, NZ: Disability, Spirituality & Faith Network, 2008) used with permission.



## Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

[Acts 2.14a, 36-41](#) Peter, in his message to the Jews on the Day of Pentecost, explains that the scriptures foretold the resurrection of Jesus. “Everyone in Israel should then know for certain that God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ, even though you put him to death on a cross.” He urges them to respond by turning back to God and being baptised.

[Psalm 116.1-4, 12-19](#) The psalmist praises God for hearing his prayer and saving him from death.

[1 Peter 1.17-23](#) Peter reminds his fellow believers that Christ has set them free from their former useless way of life. “You were rescued by the precious blood of Christ.” Now they are to keep on loving one another.

[Luke 24.13-35](#) The resurrected Christ appears to two disciples as they walk on the road to Emmaus. They don't recognise him until they arrive at their home and he breaks bread with them.

### Services

**April 26** Attached is a new **Worship at Home** Service.

It invites you to reflect on the road that your life has taken – has it been smooth or has it had lots of twists and turns? Have you walked it alone or together with companions?

There are also many services available on YouTube. We watched the service from Takapuna Methodist Church and found the photographs quite lovely and very interesting to see how they had used the technology.



### Pray for others

Also attached is a service to use for Anzac Day.

There is a beautiful prayer for others there that you might like to cut out and keep to use often.

As always we pray for our congregation members, those in hospital, those recovering at home, those living alone, those in need of brightening up.

We pray for the leaders of our country, grappling with unimaginable difficulties and trying to do the best for everyone. God be with them.

Rev Shelley sent me this hymn written by Rev Andrew Pratt, a British Methodist Minister, who has been inspired by our social isolation to write several hymns. If you would like to try singing this one, think of Hyfrydol, the tune we use for the Easter Hymn “I will sing the wondrous story”

Senses sharpened in the silence,  
gently, quietly, feel your breath,  
know God's love will never leave us,  
now, or in our time of death.  
In this time imagine bird song,  
thunder of a mountain stream,  
slap of waves along the shoreline,  
things for which we hope or dream.



All the beauty of the starlight,  
rainbow colours in the sky,  
things that we can just imagine  
feed our minds until we die,  
fill our hearts with heightened wonder,  
strain the sinews of our thought,  
soon exhausting human language,  
through the images we've caught.



Lifted up within the mystery,  
now embodied in our praise,  
mystic music moves our being,  
sounding notes from phrase to phrase,  
raising us beyond the present,  
held in loving symphony;  
God inspire our hearts with singing  
in one cosmic harmony.



Andrew Pratt 19/4/2020