



Western Bay of Plenty Circuit.

Worship at Te Puke

30th August 2020

Light candle

We light the candle of hope for this future, asking God's presence with us all through the light, and to take up the challenge of what is in front of us. Lord light our way.

Call to worship Psalm 105.1-8 & 45c

Praise the Lord and pray in his name!

Tell everyone what he has done.

Sing praises to the Lord!

Tell about his miracles.

Celebrate and worship
his holy name with all your heart.

Trust the Lord, and his mighty power.

Remember his miracles
and all his wonders, and his fair decisions.

*You belong to the family of Abraham, his servant;
you are his chosen ones, the descendants of Jacob.*

The Lord is our God,
bringing justice everywhere on earth.

*He will never forget his agreement or his promises,
not in thousands of years.*

Shout praises to the Lord!

Come down O Love divine WOV 310

- 1 Come down, O Love Divine,
 Seek Thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with Thine own ardour glowing;
 O Comforter, draw near,
 Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.

- 2 O let it freely burn,
 Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;
 And let Thy glorious light
 Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

- 3 Let holy charity
 Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
 True lowliness of heart,
 Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

- 4 And so the yearning strong,
 With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
 For none can guess its grace,
 Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes His dwelling.

Bianco da Siena

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our father in heaven, holy be your name
Your kingdom done 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
Do not bring us to the test, but deliver us from evil
For the kingdom the power and the glory
Are yours now and forever. Amen.

Reading Romans 12; 9-21

⁹ Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. ¹⁰ Love each other with genuine affection,^[a] and take delight in honoring each other. ¹¹ Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.^[b] ¹² Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. ¹³ When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. ¹⁵ Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. ¹⁸ Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

¹⁹ Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say,

"I will take revenge;

I will pay them back," says the Lord.

²⁰ Instead,

"If your enemies are hungry, feed them.

If they are thirsty, give them something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads."

²¹ Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good

Reflection Live in harmony.

Peace costs

READER ONE: Jesus said "My peace I leave with you"

READER TWO: Not as the world gives

READER THREE: We all like the idea of peace

READER ONE: It forms part of what everyone believes this world needs

READER TWO: We all want world peace

PAUSE

READER ONE: But peace costs

READER TWO: It asks that revenge ceases

READER ONE: It demands that power struggles stop

READER TWO: It says "Enough!" before the utter end is reached

READER ONE: Peace costs

PAUSE

READER THREE: Jesus said "I come not with a sword"

READER ONE: Jesus said "I say to you 'Pray for your enemies' "

READER TWO: Jesus said "When someone forces you to do something, do more than they ask"

READER THREE: Jesus said "Take up your cross and follow me"

PAUSE

READER ONE: We remember Gandhi

READER TWO: who took the words of Jesus and refused to take up arms...confounding the might of the British Empire

READER ONE: We remember Martin Luther King

READER TWO: who took the words of Jesus and refused to use violence against the violence offered people of colour in 1950's America

READER ONE: We remember Parihaka

READER TWO: and people who took the words of Jesus to follow the way of passive resistance to colonisers who lied and cheated to obtain land that they wanted

PAUSE

READER THREE: We remember the cost of peace

PAUSE

READER THREE: We thank you God, as we benefit today from people whose call to justice was not bathed in power, in superior technologies, in overwhelming manpower but in peaceful protest

READER TWO: strong

READER ONE: truthful

READER TWO: from Jesus' words and life

PAUSE

READER THREE: May your grace, mercy and peace mark all our words, our actions, our lives

READER ONE: In the name of him who is called Prince of Peace

ALL: Amen

© Alan K Webster (used with permission)

- 1 Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you,
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.
- 2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travellers on the road,
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear,
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

- 4 I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you,
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love, and agony.
- 6 Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you,
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

©Richard Gillard

**Offering
Offering Prayer**

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me bring love
Where there is injury, Your pardon Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in You

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness ever joy

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
Or to be loved as to love with all my soul
Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
It is in giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we are born to eternal life

Prayers for Others

Benediction.

Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above
Go now in peace, in faith and in love
Amen, Amen, Amen.