



KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

growing in courage to live the Jesus way

10am – 6 March 2016

Fourth Sunday in Lent



Pre service music *“Etude”* Carl Czerny (1791-1857) played by Tegan Baldwin; *“Jesu meine Freude”* J S Bach (1685-1750); *“Preambulum Jesu meinr freude”* Johann Krebs (1713-98); *“O Sacred head”* Flor Peeters (1903-86)

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Introit *“Blest are the pure in heart”* Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

Alex McAdam soloist

Call to Worship

(inspired by Joshua 5: 9-12)

Manna came in the morning and disappeared in the evening.
Now we feed from the landscape of God's promises.

God's generosity toward us is eternal

The fight for liberation and freedom is ongoing.
We are called to be communities of cooperation and service.

God's covenant with us is eternal

As we journey during Lent as a community of faith
Let our light shine as a beacon of hope and our actions
be a challenge in dark places of broken promises and relationships

God's forgiveness and love is eternal

Let us worship God

Hymn *“Creator of mountains”*

1 Creator of mountains, of glaciers and streams,
Great Splasher of fountains and Dreamer of dreams,
We gather in wonder and praise for your grace.
Responding, we ponder our work in this place.

2 Creator of peoples and races and tribes,
Not bound by church steeples or what myth describes,
We celebrate now our diversity here,
In penitence vow to accept and not fear.

3 Creator for caring for all human need,
We seek to be daring in thought and in deed.
Turn us from all strife that demeans or divides.
Reform us for life that empowers and abides.

(St Denio) Sing the Faith 2061 - Jane Parker Huber

4 Creator of river and forest and snow,
Eternal Life-giver whose presence we know,
Your voice is resounding in storm, wind, and wave.

Your love is abounding, embracing to save.

5 Great God, now we come, our hearts grateful for days
When faith, like a drumbeat, keeps steady our praise.

In song and rejoicing hopes stir and arise,
Our spirits now voicing their hymns to the skies.

Prayer of Praise and Confession, Assurance of Forgiveness

E te whanau ... all are God's beloved people. **Thanks be to God.**

Passing the Peace, then Anthem *“He watching over Israel slumbers not nor sleeps”*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)

Conversation with young members

Hymn *“The Church is wherever God's people are praising”*

CH4 552 – Carol Rose Ikeler

1 The Church is wherever God's people are praising,
knowing they're wanted and loved by their Lord.
The Church is wherever Christ's followers are trying
to live and to share out the good news of God.

2 The Church is wherever God's people are loving,
where all are forgiven and start once again,
where all are accepted, whatever their background,
whatever their past and whatever their pain.

3 The Church is wherever God's people are seeking
to reach out and touch folk wherever they are –
conveying the Gospel, its joy and its comfort,
to challenge, refresh, and excite and inspire.

4 The Church is wherever God's people are praising,
knowing we're wanted and loved by our Lord.
The Church is where we as Christ's followers are trying
to live and to share out the good news of God.

Reading 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church **Thanks be to God***

Gospel Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

*This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ **Praise to Christ the Word***

Sermon “Homecoming”

Hymn “*Deep in the human heart*”

(Diademata) TIS 228– Bill Wallace

1 Deep in the human heart
The fire of justice burns;
A vision of a world renewed
Through radical concern.
As Christians we are called
To set the captives free,
To overthrow the evil powers
And end hypocrisy.

3 Taking the step of faith,
We leave the past behind
And move into the future's world
With open heart and mind.
By grace we work with Christ,
As one community,
To bring new hope, and fuller life
To all humanity.

2 This is our task today -
To build a world of peace;
A world of justice, freedom, truth,
Where kindness will increase.
A world from hunger freed,
A world where people share,
Where every person is of worth
And no one lives in fear.

Prayer for others, then ...

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Offering and Dedication *"A moment of reflection"*

Mons Leidvin Takle (b. 1942)

*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.*

Notices

Hymn *(please read the words carefully as you sing!)*

"Guide me, O thou great Redeemer" (Cwn Rhondda) CH4 167 - William Williams

1 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore;
feed me now and evermore.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the living waters flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

Commissioning and Benediction

Threefold Amen, then Postlude

"Praeludium and Fugue in E minor" BuxWV 152 'The Phrygian'

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

The worship today was led by Rev Carol Grant and

Rev Dr Peter Matheson

You are invited to morning tea after worship, in the Gathering Area.

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A copy of this week's sermon will be on the website and printed copies available in the church early this week.