

12 January 2020
 Celebration of
 Community

Parish and Community Service

Thinking Allowed – Thinking Aloud Allowed

Worship Leader: Rev Dr Robyn McPhail

Musician: Dave Hallam

Reader: Kay Blunkell

Being family, we watch out for, and care for, one another.



Tātou tātou e

Settling in

Gathering with the Saints [Vagabonds](#)

He hōnore, he korōria ki te Atua...

Mihi

Karakia

Haere mai, te Wairau Tapu
 Aio ki te whenua
 COME HOLY SPIRIT.
 DEEP PEACE TO THE EARTH.
 Haere mai, te Wairau Tapu
 Aio ki te moana
 COME HOLY SPIRIT.
 DEEP PEACE TO THE SEA.
 Haere mai, te Wairau Tapu
 Aio ki ngā tāngata
 COME HOLY SPIRIT.
 DEEP PEACE TO THE PEOPLE.
 Haere mai, te Wairau Tapu
 Aio ki ahau, ki a mātou
 COME HOLY SPIRIT.
 DEEP PEACE TO ME, TO US.

Joy Cowley, *Psalms for the Road*, p.9

Hymn *E te Atua, kua ruia nei*

We celebrate this God
 who leaps free of all our boundaries
 in love stretching out from horizon to horizon,
 and in mercy bending deep
 into fragile human hearts.

Dorothy McRae-McMahon

Who we are who have gathered

Who are we, who have come here this morning. Maybe alongside you are people you know. Maybe you kind of know them, or you never met them before. I wonder what range of people there may be, what variety of places we come from, what connections we have. How you've connected to me and/or this parish.

I know that we are people of multiple communities - the networks we are part of, where we're known by name, have a shared interest, do stuff together, look out for each other.

Household, whanau, workplace, friendship groups, marae, clubs, volunteer organisations, church, peer groups, social action, politics...

Have a chat with those around you. Introduce yourselves – where you come from, what your passion is, what connection has brought you here.

And thank you so much for coming!

Symbol of God's Presence Kay Blunkell

Hymn *Brother, sister, let me serve you* by Richard Gillard

Clarifying our Purpose

Community with Purpose – a reflection

So we form networks, be it family, neighbourhood, hapū, marae, work, volunteering, church, friends, and all sorts of ways we support one another and enjoy one another's company. We're part of multiple communities and today I want to celebrate the fact and the experience of belonging in multiple communities, each special in their own right. They have been – you have been – significant for me. You have become my world.

What seems to me to make our networks strong is having a shared sense of purpose, and stronger even when that purpose is directed towards greater well-being. There's a favourite reading of mine, a paraphrase of a portion of Matthew 5 called the Beatitudes.

The "blesseds".

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Ka koa te hunga he rawakore nei te wairua: nō rātou hoki te rangatiratanga o te rangi.

and so on.

Here's how this version from South America reads

Reading A paraphrase of Matthew 5:3-12

Blessed are the poor ...
not the penniless
but those whose heart is free.

Blessed are those who mourn ...
not those who whimper
but those who raise their voices.

Blessed are the meek ...
not the soft
but those who are patient and tolerant.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice ...
not those who whine
but those who struggle.

Blessed are the merciful ...
not those who forget
but those who forgive.

Blessed are the pure in heart ...
not those who act like angels
but those whose life is transparent.

Blessed are the peacemakers ...
not those who shun conflict
but those who face it squarely.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for justice ...
not because they suffer
but because they love.

P. Jacob. Taken from *Compartir*, Santiago, Chile

Hymn *Great God, your Spirit, like the wind* by Alan Gaunt tune: Jerusalem

More about Community

I recall the realisation a couple of decades or so back that we don't so much belong to the community as belong to multiple communities. Church, and most of all rural church, has noticed it very much, because it has meant people putting time and commitment into different groups or causes and often being a no-show to Sundays or church meetings. What is more, as us baby-boomers grew up, loyalty, duty, and obedience were no longer key words. It became choice, change, and diversity.

The variety is good, very good. Different networks relating to the different aspects of ourselves. And increasing the opportunities for support when we need it. It's recognised that social support reduces the negative impact of stress on health as well as decreasing the psychological risks when bad stuff happens to us. Studies related to post-traumatic stress syndrome show that being embedded in social networks has a significant impact on recovery to wellness.

When we are integrated into a network, among people we feel good with, support is more likely to come naturally. And the different networks we are part of means there's a greater chance of having some relationships at a level where you feel comfortable to open up about things, and give a genuine answer to that question: "how are you?"

I hope that is your experience when you need support. It has been for me. It's a very big thing to farewell close connection with such networks. So I know that it's among the most important things for us to do on – besides getting our house finished – when we get south: build connections essential to whole person well-being.

I trust you'll keep nurturing your own communities of belonging. The best blessing I've heard over the years is this:

Stay well connected.

Prayers: our thankfulness and our hopes – write on post-it notes
– attach to whiteboard

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

Lord's Prayer a paraphrase by Tim Gee (screen)

God of all creation, intimate, caring, guiding,
your name is the sound of the earth,
the birth of the world, the breath of all life,
help us to live in your image,
give us today the bread of life
and forgive our indifference and malice
so we may forgive all who harm us.
And do not let temptation overcome us,
but deliver us from evil,
for you are the life, all powerful and wondrous,
now and forever.
Amen.

Hymn *Nothing is lost on the breath of God* by Colin Gibson

At Home in Diversity

Community is Costly

Community asks of us:

- Vulnerability
- Prayer
- Trust
- Commitment to others
- Accountability
- Faithfulness
- Giving and receiving of forgiveness
- Openness

Acceptance of diversity
Kindness
Risking of ourselves

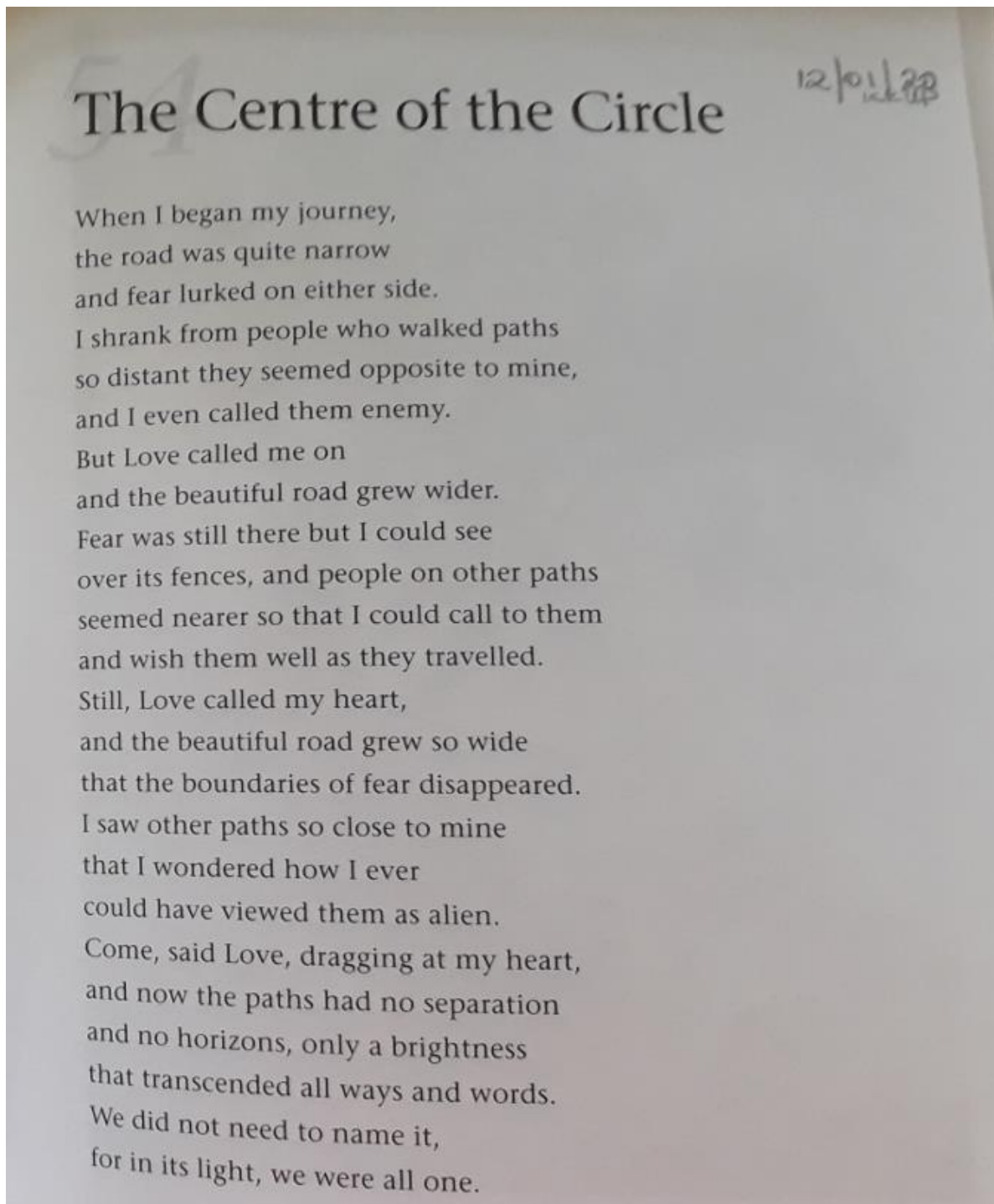
Silent Reflection

O God, we are many times afraid of our calling to community.
We would prefer to travel without responsibility.
We would rather not risk being hurt.
We find it more comfortable to have structures of power.
We sometimes choose to stay with our guilt
and separate ourselves from community.

FORGIVE US, O GOD, AND HELP US TO REMEMBER THAT WE ARE YOUR BODY, THE HANDS AND FEET FOR THE SPIRIT AT WORK IN THE WORLD.

Dorothy McRae-McMahon

The Centre of the Circle by Joy Cowley from *Psalms for the Road*



Loving the World as God Loves

What is your hope, O God?
It is not always clear to us.
WE LONG FOR A SAFE PLACE
WHERE WE CAN LOOK UPON YOUR FACE
AND YOU SEEM TO OFFER US
A TRACK THROUGH A WILDERNESS.

Give us the faith to believe
that this is the pathway through to life.
You, who spent time in a wilderness,
remember with us your struggling.
You, who were tossed in the centre of storms,
remember with us the fear of that moment.
You, whose friends slept through your agony of heart,
remember with us the loneliness.

PLEASE, O GOD, MAKE STRAIGHT THE PATH BEFORE US.
CALM THE STORM IN THE MIDST OF OUR LIFE TOGETHER
AND TAKE OUR HAND FOR THE NEXT STEP OF THE WAY.
AMEN.

Dorothy McRae-McMahon

Blessing

May the God who dances in creation,
who embraces us with human love,
who shakes our lives like thunder,
bless us and drive us out with power
to fill the world with justice.

Janet Morley, *All Desires Known*

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki a Ihu Karaiti
me te aroha o te Atua me te whiwhi-nga-tahi-tanga ki te Wairua Tapu
Āke āke, āke, Āmine.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Evermore, Amen.

*Following the Service, please gather in the Hall to meet and greet and enjoy a shared lunch together.
There will be some farewell formalities at around 12.30/45pm*

May the God of Aroha nui who guides the waka to the shore
guide you safely o'er life's waters, keep you safe for ever more.

May his Aroha nui tapu hold you closely to his heart.

Go in peace, dear friends in Christ. x3

Go in peace, haere rā.

Amine. Amine. Amine. Amine. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

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NOTICES FOR TODAY – 12 January 2020

Parish email: admin@kkup.org.nz **Church Office:** 09 407 8250

Find us at www.kkup.org.nz and on [Facebook](#)

Minister: Robyn McPhail (DD) 09 283 4802, 021 0247 6280
minister@kkup.org.nz

Ministry Leadership Team: Bev Tayler, Alan Robinson, and Robyn

Notices for Bulletin and Newsletter: news@kkup.org.nz

KK Pastoral: Jessica Scott 09 407 5555 jomscott2@gmail.com

Bookings for the buildings (hire or church use): phone office or cornerstone@kkup.org.nz or wesleydale@kkup.org.nz

NEXT SUNDAY 19 JANUARY 2020

Service led by Jan Gough

Musicians: Marie Cannon (KK) Clyde Foster (Kaeo)

Readers: Diane Paterson - KK tba - Kaeo

Door and Tea: Christina and Mary – KK

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL GIVE WATER GIVE LIFE

Donations can still be made for this year's Christmas Appeal. Some envelopes are now available at the services. Or put your donation in a clearly marked envelope and place with the offering. Donations can also be made at christmasappeal.org.nz/donate/

WATER

“HAPPY TO CHAT” BENCH: The Garden Group plan to put a seat in place at the road front on Kerikeri Road for passers-by to rest on. The idea of a 'Happy to Chat' bench is that it offers an opportunity for contact, particular if people are on their own and lonely.

The idea started in England and has taken off all over the world. If you would like to make a donation for a 'Happy to Chat' seat, and for its sign and installation, please put your donation in an envelope marked 'SEAT' in the offering bag. Thank you.



CAR BOOT SALES: next sale on 25 January at 7.30am-12noon at Cornerstone. Contact: Mary 021 722 938 or carboot@kkup.org.nz



INDUCTION SERVICE AND WELCOME

All are invited, friends in other churches and throughout the community, to join us on Saturday 8 February to

WELCOME

Saikolone and Fele'unga Taufua, their daughter Tokilupe, and all their fanau.

11am in Cornerstone – Whare Karakia o Manako, with shared lunch to follow. Please join us if you can.