

# Sunday 2nd February 2025

## Epiphany 4C – Wesley 10.45 am

Liturgist: Rev Ian Diamond    Preacher: Rev Dr Bruce Stevens  
Reader: Jan Tarbotton    Director of Music: Jade McFaul  
Organist: Mary Anne Neilson  
Flowers today are arranged by Ann Sutton



Tile from the Peace Wall, Hamilton, New Zealand

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*We shall be using the Peter Guy setting of the sung Communion Service*

## The Gathering of God's People

### **Prelude Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring BWV 147**

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

### **Introit: God is Light**

Music and Words: George Thalben-Ball

God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

**Greeting:** The Lord be with you  
**And with you!**

### **Acknowledgement of Country and Safe Church Statement**

### **Lighting of the Community Candle**

**Call to Worship** – *an invitation to prayer & praise* [from Psalm 71]

Our hope is in God all of our lives.

**God is a rock of refuge: a fortress against threat and shame.**

God has held us since our birth.

**So we are never in the full grasp of the unjust and cruel.**

In love, God saves and supports us.

**Trusting in God, we continually offer our praise!**

Let us worship God!

**Hymn 98: We praise, we worship you, O God...**

Music: James Elliot (1833-1915), Words: Anon.

### **Prayer of Adoration**

Most wonderful God, you are beyond our sight, above our thought,  
infinite, eternal, and unsearchable;

your wisdom shines in all your works;

Your glory is shown in your goodness to all people;

Your grace and truth are revealed in Christ.

Therefore we adore you, our God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Call to Confession**

God calls us to speak the truth, even when it is difficult,  
to others but also to ourselves.

Confessing our sin in prayer,

we dare to speak the truth about ourselves to God,

who desires to deliver us and to cast out fear.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**God of life,**

**we admit to you and to each other**

**that we have not always lived lives of love.**

**We have lost patience and been rude.**

**We have been irritable and insisted on our own way.**

**We have even let love end.**

**Forgive us and heal us, dear God,**

**through Jesus Christ, your love incarnate. Amen.**

**Lord, have mercy....sing, seated**

### **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Though we know only in part, we are fully known to God.

**By the grace of Christ, God forgives us in love,**

**and calls us to abide in faith, in hope, and in love.**

Believe the Gospel, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Gloria (sung):**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavn'ly King, almighty God and Father,**

we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father,  
Amen, Amen.

**The Peace** – *one with God, and one with each other*  
The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## **The Service of the Word**

**A story for all ages**

**Prayer for Illumination** Spirit of life, God of love,  
open our hearts and enter in,  
that hearing your word of love,  
we may become your love for others. Amen

**Bible Readings** – *listening for God's living Word*

**The Hebrew Scripture:** Jeremiah 1:4-10 page 609

**The Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 page 934

**Hymn 699: A new commandment I give unto you..**

Music: Anon, Words: from James 13:34-35

**The Gospel:** Luke 4: 21-30 page 835

After the Gospel the reader will say: "Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to my feet"

Please respond by saying: **"and a light to my path."**

**Anthem Nunc Dimittis**

Taize Community, Jaques Berthier

Nunc dimittis servum tuum Domine  
Secundum verbum tuum in pace  
Domine.

Now, Lord, you can let your servant go  
in peace according to your promise.

## Preaching of the Word

### Hymn 534 V.1,3,5&7: Love is his word, love is his way..

Music: Anthony Milner (b. 1925), Words: Luke Connaughton (1917-79)

*[During which the offering is received]*

## Our Response to God's Word

### Welcome and Announcements

### Prayers of the People

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle focus: Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, Tunisia  
After the general intercessions, **the bidding**: O God of all creation, is followed by **the response**: **Be our hope and trust.**

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### Hymn 540: Christians, lift you hearts and voices..

Music: Henry Gauntlett (1805-76), Words: John Bowers (b. 1923)

*[During which the Table is prepared]*

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Thanks and praise..... the eternal hymn:

**Sanctus and Benedictus (sung):**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you... all honour and glory are yours, Father almighty, now and for ever.  
**Amen**

### Acclamations (sung):

**Christ has died, Christ is ris'n**

**Christ will come again.**

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours forever and ever. Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The bread we break.....The gifts of God for the people of God.*

**Agnus Dei (sung):** Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

## **The Communion**

### **Prayer after Communion**

## **Sending forth of the people of God**

### **Hymn 531: Sent forth by God's blessing..**

Music: Trad. Welsh, Words: Omer Westendorf (b. 1916)

### **Word of Mission**

Empowered by God's love for you, go out and love your neighbours, the ones just like you and those different from you.

### **Blessing**

Now may the grace of God, the love of Christ, and the friendship of the Holy Spirit go with you all, Amen.

### **Postlude Vivaldi's Organ Concerto in A minor, Mvmt. 3 BWV 593**

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)