



Sunday 08 March 2026

I was reading this week in Isaiah, chapter 58 God speaks and Isaiah shares an indictment on the people of God around their abuse of the Sabbath.

*'Why have we fasted,' they say,
'and you have not seen it?*

*Why have we humbled ourselves,
and you have not noticed?'*

*"Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please
and exploit all your workers. Isaiah 58:3*

The people of God practice their religious duties. They fast, they even observe the Sabbath. But in their important religious lifestyle, they live off the backs of the workers who serve them on the Sabbath so they don't have to. The workers don't get to rest, they have the yoke of expectation and oppression laid on them in order that those in power and with influence can appear holy.

God is not impressed with our prayer and fasting, our religiosity, if in the process we are exploiting others with no concern for their wellbeing. In our prayer and fasting, don't neglect the needs of others who might not be in a position to object or express their own devotion.

Jas

CHURCH SERVICE TODAY

Service Leader: Jas

Preacher: Jas

YouTube Link: <https://youtube.com/live/OpoClgKaEjE?feature=share>

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER: 9.45am in Barrett Room

READINGS:

Luke 15:11-24

Luke 15: 25-32

The Worship Hymns and Songs:

Come People of the Risen King

The Steadfast Love

In Christ Alone

He Honore, He Kororia

CELEBRATIONS:

Birthdays: none this week

Wedding Anniversaries: none this week

May The Lord bless you and keep you well 😊

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon 09 March: 2 John 1:1-13

Tue 10 March: 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Wed 11 March: John 7:14-31, 37-39

Thu 12 March: Ephesians 4:25-32

Fri 13 March: Ephesians 5:1-9

Sat 14 March: John 1:1-9

Sun 15 March: John 9:1-41

NOTICES:

Friday 6th March: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, 7pm, Trinity Methodist Church, King Street, Rangiora. This year's service is prepared by Nigerian Women and has a theme of "I will give you rest: Come." Please come and join us at this annual special service. Supper will be served afterwards. ALL WELCOME. *Annette P*

Sunday 15th March: we have a shared morning tea next to mark the end of the Season of Prayer and Fasting. Please bring a plate to share and any prayers/thoughts from your experience during the 3 weeks of Prayer and Fasting.

Every Wednesday: Connect, 10am, JKR

Church directory update: As from 6th March Allan and Mary Blaikie will no longer have a landline telephone. Their cell phone numbers are: Allan 027 246 9247; Mary 027 246 1247. Their email address is unchanged: amblaikie@xtra.co.nz

Hard Knox Cafe: Seeking a Co-coordinator for 2026 to help manage and run HKC, a safe and fun ministry for Year 8–13 youth. If you can help coordinate events and assist one evening a fortnight, please come chat with me — I'd love to hear from you

Season of Prayer and Fasting: Begins this Sunday. Pick up a guide from the Stewart Lounge on Sunday or during the week, and keep it with you or in your Bible to support and inspire your prayer and mission over the next three weeks

Prayer for our family and friends:

Max Atkins & Averill Gibson, Janice and Ross Wilson, Donna Abernethy, Clare Calder, Mary Stewart and Ian Cormack.

CHURCH DUTY ROSTER FOR MARCH 2026
08 March

Elder Duty: Annette Patterson	Door Duty: Moira Courtney and Kim Fletcher
Power Point: Alan Russell	Mini Bus: Grenville / Mayhew's T or A
Morning Tea: Daphne Begley and Lana Stevens	Offering Count: Graham/Annette
Readings: Howard F	Heroes Leader: Marlene
Prayers: Vincent S	Fun with Music: Sue Burt, Margaret Vallance

15 March

Elder Duty: Anne Moffat	Door Duty: Lincoln and Anne Moffat
Power Point: Alan Russell	Mini Bus: Richard / Sue
Morning Tea: Merle Wilcox and Ali Romeril	Offering Count: Gaye/Christine
Readings: Anne M	Heroes Leader: TBC
Prayers: Anne M	Fun with Music: Daphne Begley

Minister	Rev Jas King	027 452 7546	jason@johnknoxrangiora.co.nz
Parish Council correspondence	Craig Sargison	021 716 984	Sargison.craig@gmail.com
Financial Committee:	Annette Wright	021 036 3922	Correspondence to: admin@johnknoxrangiora.co.nz
	Kristen Weston	021 110 0697	
	Richard McMurdo	021 1175 300	
	Richard Morris	022 029 0817	
	Tracy Mayhew	027 3257 377	
Facility Booking:	Tracy Mayhew	027 3257 377	admin@johnknoxrangiora.co.nz
Parish Clerk:	Craig Sargison	021 716 984	Sargison.craig@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor:	Megan Waddington	022 108 2007	waddingtonmegan@yahoo.co.nz
Church contacts:	P.O. Box 74, Rangiora 7440	www.johnknoxrangiora.co.nz	

Complaints and Disputes Manager	PCANZ	0800 244 357	<u>ComplaintsandDisputesManager@presbyterian.org.nz</u>
--	-------	--------------	---