Sunday 02 August 2026

Winter Morning

When I can no longer say thank you
for this new day and the waking into it,
for the cold scrape of the kitchen chair
and the ticking of the space heater glowing
orange as it warms the floor near my feet,
I know it's because I've been fooled again
by the selfish, unruly man who lives in me
and believes he deserves only safety
and comfort. But if I pause as I do now,
and watch the streetlights outside flashing
off one by one like old men blinking their
cloudy eyes, if I listen to my tired neighbours
slamming car doors hard against the morning
and see the steaming coffee in their mugs
kissing chapped lips as they sip and
exhale each of their worries white into
the icy air around their faces—then I can
remember this one life is a gift each of us
was handed and told to open: Untie the bow
and tear off the paper, look inside
and be grateful for whatever you find
even if it is only the scent of a mandarin
that lingers on the fingers long after
you've finished peeling it.

By James Crews

CHURCH SERVICE TODAY

Service Leader: **Jas**
Preacher: **Jas**

YouTube Link:

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER: 9.45am in Barrett Room

READINGS:
Matthew 5:1-11
Matthew 5:11-12

The Worship Hymns and Songs:
We're together again/He is Lord
Wairua Tapu
Refiners Fire
His Mercy is More

UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS:
Birthdays: *Mary Blaikie*
Wedding Anniversaries: *none this week*
May The Lord bless you and keep you well 😊

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon 03 August:	**Romans 1:8-15**
Tue 04 August:	**Acts 2:37-47**
Wed 05 August:	**Matthew 15:32-39**
Thu 06 August:	**Acts 17:10-15**
Fri 07 August:	**Acts 18:24-28**
Sat 08 August:	**Matthew 16:1-4**
Sun 09 August:	**Matthew 14:22-33**

NOTICES:
Every Wednesday: Connect, 10am, JKR

AI and Humanity Conference: hosted by Cashmere Presbyterian. 28th and 29th of August. See notice on the noticeboard for more details.

Christmas Trees: we will have Christmas Tree Seedlings available next Sunday for our 5th Christmas Tree Fundraiser. Please take one (or more) to plant for our Christmas Tree Fundraiser. Last year we sold our first lot of Christmas Trees and raised $260. The trees we plant this year will be for our 2029 Fundraiser. Jas

Prayer Chain: the prayer chain group are available all the time to pray. If you would like prayer for anyone or anything please contact Sue by text or phone for this and she will notify the group. 0274 575 660

Parish Council: at the AGM we will need to elect 3 new people onto the Parish Council. The Council meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. If anyone is interested in being involved or has any questions about what is required, please see Jason

Parish Annual Report: It's that time of year again to be thinking of and collating your report. Could all reports be in to Tracy at the office before 7th August please.

Church Fair: We are looking at holding our Church Fair on the 17th of October this year. More information will be put out over the next few weeks.

Prayer for our family and friends:
Family of Margaret Vallance, Neil & Sue Burt, Family of Nell Ellis, Ken Hawke and family, Max Atkins & Averill Gibson, Janice and Ross Wilson, Donna Abernethy, Clare Calder, *Mary Stewart and Ian Cormack.*

CHURCH DUTY ROSTER FOR AUGUST 2026

02 August

Elder Duty: Richard McMurdo	**Door Duty**: Lincoln and Anne Moffat
Power Point: Annette Wright	**Mini Bus:** Lana, Vincent

Morning Tea: Tracy and Alon Mayhew	**Offering Count:** Richard/Anne
Readings: Annette Paterson	**Heroes Leader:** Lincoln
Prayers: Gaye Edwards	**Fun with Music:** Mary Blaikie

09 August

Elder Duty: Kayla Crampton	**Door Duty**: Gaye Edwards and Moira Courtney
Power Point: April McMurdo	**Mini Bus:** Richard / Sue
Morning Tea: Daphne Begley and Margaret Hamilton	**Offering Count:** Richard/ Annette
Readings: Gaye Edwards	**Heroes Leader:** Kate
Prayers: Ewen	**Fun with Music:** Margaret Hamilton, Lyn O'Malley

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