



Virtual Service 6 February 2022

Welcome!

(Larry Robbins)

Welcome to our virtual service this Waitangi Day. It is the last holiday of summer and the last public holiday until Easter. I pray that you will have a restful day. Of course, Waitangi Day is not always peaceful, certainly not in all areas of the country, so perhaps the sermon title this week is appropriate: "Watch Your Words"!

May the service today help to make your Waitangi Day, and the coming week, peaceful, restful and refreshing.

Call to Worship

(Jim Milmine)

These are troubling times, and you'll agree that the advance of COVID and Omicron in our society can appear to overwhelm us. Horatio Spafford was a successful businessman in Chicago in the mid 1800s. But his 4-year-old son died of scarlet fever just before the devastating Great Chicago Fire of 1871. With everything lost Spafford, decided to make a new start in Europe and then on to Jerusalem. He sent his wife and four daughters ahead by ship as he finalised the sale of his property. The telegram from his wife said only two words, "save alone". Their ship had been hit by another ship causing it to sink quickly. Spafford's four young daughters were drowned. Soon after, as his boat passed through the same area, Spafford wrote a poem which became our first hymn this morning. True peace comes only from one source—the Lord Jesus Christ who said in *John 14:27*, "*peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*"

Hymn: When Peace Like a River...

(Jim Milmine)

[When Peace Like a River...](#)

Prayer

(Serene Hu)

Our Heavenly Father, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Most High God, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Lord of Hosts.

You are our Rock, our Redeemer, our Strength, our Sanctifier, our righteousness. The Lord of our Presence, the Lord of our peace, our Shepherd, our Banner, our Healer, our Provider. You are omnipresent, omniscient and omnipotent. You are full of grace and mercy. Your faithfulness is new every morning. We want to worship you and you alone. We want to bless you, honour you, praise you and offer you our sacrifices of praise in songs, in reading of your word, in our obedience to your word in our thoughts, words and deeds.

We love you Lord!

We come with Thanksgivings in our hearts. Our words cannot articulate all your goodness we have experienced in each one of our lives and in each and every day. You have brought us thus far; protecting us from wars, from volcano

eruptions, from tsunamis, from great floods from temperature extremes and from devastating diseases inspire of Covid 19! Yes, as we consider what's is happening around us in the rest of the world, we are so grateful! We thank you for everyday answered prayers for our church family, our own families and our loved ones.

We thank you for having a church building to worship in, for our Pastor and our Leadership Team. We thank you that we are able to participate in ministry of supporting missionaries, local and overseas.

We are grateful that you have given so many talents to so many members to enable us to serve you in worship, in music, in teaching, in praying and in showing love for one another. We pray that we will continue to seek you that we may know you more, to love you more and to be able to serve you better.

Thus Lord, as some church activities resume, we ask for your blessings that we will be safe and enjoy being together to study your word and to enjoy fellowship with each other. We pray for the leaders of our country, that they will, through the power of your Holy Spirit, receive your instructions and your guidance to lead the people of New Zealand so one day we will be a nation of people who will call on Your Name and You will be our God.

We continue to pray for your protection against Covid 19. Even now as people are anxious, fearful and feeling insecure, that many will turn to You and acknowledge their need for your mercy and salvation by faith in Jesus Christ. We pray for the young people in our country. Lord protect their hearts and their minds from the Evil One. They are fed with so much information that is untrue, enticing them to sin against You. Lord shepherd them through the ministry of many young Christian leaders in the community.

Lord we bring before you so many who are in despair, depressed and discouraged even to the point of ending their lives or seeking transient hopeless refuge in drugs and alcohol. Lord, please lead us in practical ways to assist them and lead them to You, our Hope. Lord, we pray for the many refugees in the whole world risking their lives in search for a better future for themselves and their children. We often feel that there is so little we can do to help them but in You we trust as we pray for their safety, for your provision for their needs, especially for their salvation in Jesus Christ.

We thank you again for the missionaries who bring your word to them. Protect and watch over these precious servants. Grant the people whom they minister to, a soft heart and a listening ear.

Lord your will be done. We look forward to your coming again. In your presence is great joy. Come Lord Jesus! You are our great provider, giving us more than what we need. Thank you, Father God. As we bring a little token each week, we ask that You will enable this token to be used for Your glory here and in the greater community in our country and in many countries overseas.

Amen!

Hymn: Let Our Praise Be to You as Incense

(Jim Milmine)

Written by Brent Chambers born in 1948 in Napier.

He attended bible college and Auckland university and became a self-employed painting contractor and song writer. He has written or co-written over 500 songs, a number of them being recorded.

[Let Our Praise Be to You as Incense](#)

Let Our Praise To You Be As Incense
Let Our Praise To You Be As Pillars Of Your Throne
Let Our Praise To You Be As Incense
As We Come Before You And Worship You Alone
As We See You In Your Splendour
As We Gaze Upon Your Majesty
As We Join The Hosts Of Angels
And Proclaim Together Your Holiness [2]
Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Is The Lord [4]

Introduction

(Jeevan Karki)

Dear Church,

I take this opportunity to introduce my family to the congregation. Thanks to Pastor Brian and the Leadership Team for providing this opportunity.

We have been attending the Milford Baptist Church for a few weeks. We used to attend a Baptist Church in South Auckland. Since we moved to the North Shore last year, we had been praying for a local Church.

We are a family of four members, and it is my privilege to introduce me and my family to you today. My name is Jeevan Karki, and my wife's name is Nisha. We have two daughters, Luniva and Lumana. We currently live in Glenfield, but we came from Nepal, a beautiful country between India and China.

I was born in a Hindu family, but a miraculous event led us to be in a Church when I was six years old, leading a journey to be saved when I was eleven. I will share, God willing, my testimony in the future. The plan to pursue higher education brought us to New Zealand about three years ago, but I understand He has a bigger plan on/through me and my family. Currently, I am undertaking postgraduate research on disaster resilience. I also work part-time for Tearfund, a reputed Christian charity in New Zealand. I have over 15 years of experience in working with charity organisations to help poor and marginalised people to improve their lives and livelihoods.

I married Nisha in 2008. I met her in the organisation I used to work in Nepal. She is a lovely woman. She has studied business studies and has good finance, administration, and IT support skills. However, she works as an essential worker--the pandemic has told us what this means.

Our eldest daughter turned 11 years a few months ago. She loves reading and is learning to play the violin. Our youngest daughter Lumana is eight years old. Like her sister, she loves reading. She also likes cycling and is learning to play the piano. They both attend a Christian school in North Shore.

The last three years have taught us that Lord is so faithful. He is "*our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble*" (Psalm 46:1). Our prayer with the Lord was/is to lead us to a good Bible-believing New Testament Church in the North Shore to learn, grow, and serve Him faithfully. We are praying to reach to the decision with peace soon.

Thank you!

Hymn: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

(Jim Milmine)

Richard Gillard was a teacher and a member of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Auckland for many years.

[Will You Let Me Be Your Servant](#)

Bible Reading [James 3:1–12]

³ Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. ² We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

³ When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. ⁴ Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. ⁵ Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. ⁶ The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

⁷ All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

⁹ With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. ¹¹ Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? ¹² My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

Sermon "Watch Your Words"

(Brian Lima)

[Read the Sermon](#)

[Watch the Sermon](#)

Lord's Supper

(Brian Lima)

Let us remember the love of Jesus to plant within us God's Word and the guidance of God' Spirit.

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

The Lord Jesus...took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Hymn: Lord, Speak To Me That I May Speak

Jim Milmine

Frances Ridley Havergall (1872) was a female linguist who wrote many hymns such as “Jesus Master Whose I Am”, “Take My Life And Let It Be”, “I Am Trusting Thee Lord Jesus”, “Like A River Glorious Is God’s Perfect Peace”, and “Master Speak Thy Servant Heareth”.

[Lord, Speak To Me That I May Speak](#)

Benediction

(Brian L.)

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5–6