



Virtual Service 29 May 2022

Welcome!

(Larry Robbins)

It is good to have you joining with us “virtually” as we worship the Living Lord today. May you be richly blessed by something contained in this service

Call to Worship Psalm 103:1-8

(Brian Michell)

- ¹ Praise the LORD, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- ² Praise the LORD, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all the oppressed.
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel:
- ⁸ The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

[Now Thank We All Our God](#)

[Surely Goodness and Mercy](#)

Prayer

(Rosemary Cavander)

Lord our heavenly Father, forgive us that already in this new day that You have given to us, it is filled with thoughts and activities that we consider important, rather than focusing our full attention on You, our Father in heaven, for guidance. Forgive us Lord that we do this every day – we do desire to know Your will for our daily lives. Thank You for hearing the prayers we bring before You, our loving heavenly Father, in this place of worship but also in our homes as some will be tuning in to the virtual service today. In the mornings we rush onto the treadmill of life and then wonder why we're so frustrated, confused, and dissatisfied. Help us to come to You with hearts open to Your instructions for the day because we know that You can accomplish more through us, than if we try to do it all our

way. If we are too busy, we are denying ourselves from the blessing of an intimate relationship with Christ. When we do make the time, You fill us with peace and joy. You guide us when making decisions. You empower us to obey, and therefore we will be more productive, and through it all be comforted with Your love. Thank You Lord God.

We bring our intercessory prayers to You O God. Today MBC would have been taking the chapel service on the 5th Sunday, but with restrictions in the hospital, this is not possible but we do pray for the chaplains and those who can respond to those who desire to have prayers from Your servants. We give thanks for all those who work in the hospitals, medical clinics, hospices, and for all health workers. Today there are those of our people who rely on medicine to give them a better quality of life for those who have had recent surgery and are now recovering – we give You thanks.

We give You thanks for those who rely on loved ones and specially trained nurses who can give them comfort and hope for another day.

Today Your Word will go out to many corners of our nation – we give thanks for the Christian leaders who have prepared to give many a message from Your Word, of thanks and hope for today and the coming week. We do pray for the leaders in our Government and all in authorities that they may be honest, wise, diligent, and give generously to those who have special daily needs.

For our own church, Milford Baptist, we give You thanks for bringing us thus far under Your Hand of love, guidance, and protection, for giving us Pastor Brian who brings Your Word to us, making it relevant to our daily walk with You O God. We pray that You will give guidance to Brian and Jo as they seek directions for their further ministries. We pray for the leadership team who guides the daily activities – help them now to make the right decision for the ongoing ministry here, we pray. We pray, too for the right person to fill the gap in our church office, while Katarina is away.

For the world situation – the scenes and news we see and hear from media leave us dismayed, but let us remember that You O God, are in control. It cheers us when we hear of Christian ministries serving those in need so willingly, bringing hope again to those who have been left with nothing and are so fearful– they are bringing food, shelter and we pray that the Christian message will give them a hope for the future. We pray that the world leaders will make right decisions to make restoration to those left with shattered lives. We pray too, for Israel, who is in many ways being threatened by those who have no fear of You O Lord, the One true God, and are unaware of the plans for Your chosen people. Even now You are opening the doors for many Jews to return to Israel, some from Ukraine – we give You thanks.

Lord, our Giver, we have mentioned how much need there is in the world, but here in NZ we have so much provision, and we give You thanks for our daily bread. Please receive the offerings and tithes that we bring to You today, in our envelopes and by electronic banking. We ask that they be used wisely for the furtherance of Your Kingdom.

Thank You for the loving God that You are. Thank You for the faith we have today and the hope we have for tomorrow, giving us Your great promises but especially for the promise of eternal life with You O Lord. Even now You are giving us signs of the return of Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ. May we all be prepared and assured in our hearts that we are ready for that precious moment when You will gather us into Your loving arms.

*Thank You for hearing our prayers of thanks and petitions through Your only Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen*

(Brian Michell)

[In Christ Alone](#)

Bible Reading

Colossians 2:16–23

¹⁶ Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. ¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. ¹⁸ Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind. ¹⁹ They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

²⁰ Since you died with Christ to the elemental spiritual forces of this world, why, as though you still belonged to the world, do you submit to its rules: ²¹ “Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!”? ²² These rules, which have to do with things that are all destined to perish with use, are based on merely human commands and teachings. ²³ Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

Sermon “What Actually Works?”

(Brian Lima)

[Read the Sermon](#)

[Listen to the sermon](#)

(Will be posted here after the service)

[Yet Not I But Through Christ](#)

Benediction

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Colossians 3:15