



Kaurihohore Historic Church

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Kaurihohore / Kamo Co-operating Parish Sunday 28 April 2024 – Easter 5

The service this morning is led by Rev Freddy De Alwis

Welcome to our service this morning.

In working together on our shared mission, we commit to seven core values:

Togetherness, Humility, Curiosity, Love, Inclusiveness, Justice, Sustainability.

Inclusiveness: we recognise the full equality of the entire human family to share in ministry, leadership, and worship, regardless of race, age, physical ability, neurodiversity, marital or economic status, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Please join us after worship for a cup of coffee or tea.

Community time during the service is a good opportunity to ask for prayers for yourself or others. If you, or someone you know, would appreciate a visit from one of our **Pastoral Network Team**, please speak to the service leader.

Welcome and Introduction:

Sentence: Jesus said in John 15:3-4a, You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you.

Song HFTC S.4: [Bind Us Together Lord](#)

*Chorus: Bind us together Lord, Bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken
Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together with love*

There is only one God
There is only one King
There is only one body
That is why I sing.

Chorus:

Mission Statement: Sharing God's love, creating hope, working for justice.

You are the family of God
You are the promise divine
You are God's chosen design
You are the glorious new wine.

Chorus:

Bill Gillman

Call to Worship:

In reverence and fear, celebration and wonder we come together as one – united in love. Today and all days we worship the living God.
Like a shepherd who leads the flock;

Jesus guides and encourages the people of God.

Like a shepherd who cares for the sheep;

Jesus is a friend to the lonely and down-hearted.

Like a shepherd who calls for the lost sheep;

Jesus calls us home and gives direction to the lost.

Living God, open our hearts to the real treasures in life:
may we seek the love that lasts, the song that echoes,
and the life everlasting.

Open our hearts to the Christ, the Spirit of life,
and you, the Creator of all – the Eternal One.

May we trust your steadfast love over and above the needs of our daily life we pray. Amen.

Celebrations and Notices:

Prayer of Confession and Healing:

(The United Church of Christ)

Master, Saviour, Shepherd, Messiah, we know you by many names, Lord. Your presence fills our lives all that we are and all that we have comes from you; all that you do declares your love for us.

You guide us in right paths, you lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, our rage, our greed, and at times even hate, to direct our paths.

We have overreacted, we have taken more than our share, we have despised others that seem to have it all.

And when trouble comes, when adversity plagues us, we wonder where you are; we even wonder who you are. How quickly we forget that you are always with us. Forgive us, God, for not following your ways.

Forgive us for not remembering that we are your sheep, and you are our shepherd.

Forgive us when we have not listened for your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world.

Dispel our gloom and despair. Change our garments of darkness into robes of dazzling light. Spread your table before us, and feed us from your hand. Guide us back to your path, to loving you and loving our neighbours.

Help us to unclench our fists and lend out our hands in hope and healing, forgiveness and love. In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Even in the darkest valley though death's shadow may threaten us, we need not fear, for the Lord is with us. The Good Shepherd knows the sheep, and lays down his life for the sheep so that the sheep may live.

We are part of the flock; we are part of Christ's body.

In Christ we find wholeness and restoration.

Go forth and share this Good News.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Hymn: [Called As Partners in Christ's Service](#)

(Tune: Ode to Joy)

1. Called as partners in Christ's service,
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfill God's chosen end.

2. Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering,
Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
All God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold.
3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens,
Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action,
Make us colleagues, free and fair.
4. So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.

Jane Parker Huber

Reading: John 15:1-8

Reader: Richard

Message: *Remain Connected With Christ*

Hymn FFS 67: [We Are Many, We Are One](#)

1. We are many, we are one,
and the work of Christ is done
when we learn to live in true community
as the stars that fill the night,
as a flock of birds in flight,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the branches of a tree,
as the waves upon the sea,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

2. All division is made whole
when we honour ev'ry soul,
find the life of God in ev'ry you and me
as the fingers of a hand,
as the grains that from the sand,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the threads upon a loom,
as a field of flowers in bloom,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

3. We will join creation's song,
make a world where all belong,
build as one in peace and loving harmony.
as the voices of a choir,
as the flames within a fire,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the snowflakes in the snow,
as the colours of a bow,
as the cluster of the grape upon the vine.

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Prayers of the People & Intercessory Prayers:
Lord's Prayer

Offertory Prayer:

Hymn HFTC 560: [God Is Here! As We His People](#)

(Tune: Blaenwern - Love Divine, All Loves Excelling)

1. God is here! As we his people
Meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
What it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
All our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of his Spirit
Into open minds and hearts.

2. Here are symbols to remind us
Of our lifelong need of grace;
Here are table, font and pulpit;
Here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
Here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

3. Here our children find a welcome
In the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
Seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living
To believe and to adore.

4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the Gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
All we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe!

F.Pratt Green 1903

Greeting of Peace:

Lord Jesus Christ, in your tenderness, bind us with bonds of love that cannot be broken.

My brothers and sisters, the peace of Christ be with you.

And with you also.

Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(The people stand as they are able)

The risen Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;

Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Yours is the glory, O God, for raising Jesus from the darkness of death. Yours is the glory, O Christ, for being prepared, through your love and your sacrifice, to conquer death and give us the gift of eternal life.

And, as if that were not enough, you greet us by name, as you greeted Mary in the garden, and transform our lives forever with your Easter life.

Risen Lord, we worship and adore you; and we pray that your life in us, will conform us to your image, that we radiate your glory, through our witness, rejoicing and praise, and in all the places where people's lives are still affected by the powers of death and cross.

Yours is the glory, O God, for showing us the human face of your love in Jesus, your Son, our risen Lord.

Yours is the glory, risen Lord Jesus, and we rejoice that 'endless is the victory that you over death have won'.

All glory and thanksgiving to you, Lord God, creator and ruler of the universe, because you gave your beloved Son Jesus Christ, who on the same night he was betrayed, took bread, and after giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Glory to you Lord Christ; Your death we show forth; Your resurrection we proclaim; Your coming we await. Come risen Lord Jesus come.

(People may sit)

Breaking of the Bread:

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We eat and drink with thanksgiving, remembering all that Jesus has done for us.

The Communion:

Prayer after Communion:

This has been no ordinary meal. It has been one in which we have been fed and nourished with the life of Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord.

May we go from here, refreshed and eager, to share that life with others. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ the risen saviour. Amen.

Hymn FFS 32: [God Who Sets Us On a Journey](#)

(Tune: Hyfrydol)

1. God who sets us on a journey
To discover, dream and grow,
lead us as you led your people
In the desert long ago;
Journey inward, journey outward
Stir the spirit, stretch the mind;
Love, for God and self and
neighbour.
Marks the way that Christ defined.
2. Exploration brings new insights,
Changes, choices we must face,
Give us wisdom in deciding,
Mindful always of your grace;
Should we stumble, lose our bearings,
Find it hard to know what's right,
We regain our true direction
Focused on the Jesus light.
3. End our longing for the old days,
Grant the vision that we lack -
Once we've started on this journey
There can be no turning back;
Let us travel light, discarding
excess baggage from our past,
Cherish only what's essential,
Choosing treasure that will last.
4. When we set up camp and settle
To avoid love's risk and pain,
You disturb complacent comfort,
Pull the tent-pegs up again;
Keep us travelling in the knowledge
You are always at our side,
Give us courage for the journey,
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.

Joy Dine

Benediction & Grace:

May the goodness and mercy of God enfold you,
the glory and light of Jesus Christ shine upon you,
the insight and power of the Holy Spirit inform you
this day and every day.

Go into this week to love and serve.

We go in the name of Christ.

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with us all.**

Amen, Amen, Amen.