



# KAURIHOHORE / KAMO CO-OPERATING PARISH

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## Sunday 8 March 2026 – Lent 3 Water that Refreshes

Our Service today is led by Kath Little,  
one of our Lay Preachers.

### **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.***

**Curiosity:** we are committed to a life of learning, questioning, and exploring the mystery of God, Jesus, and the Bible.

**Welcome:**

**Reading:**

Psalm 95:1 – 7            (*page 933*)

**Hymn HFTC 38: [Praise My Soul the King of Heaven](#)**

### **Opening and Candle Liturgy**

There is so much during the day that clamours for our attention. Friends, family, work, classes, household tasks. And the noise! We are bombarded with sound, from the clock that awakens us to the telephone, the radio, the television, the conversation that we have or overhear.

Where is the time and place to listen for the still, small voice of God? Sometimes it seems that God would have to speak in a whirlwind to be heard above the clamour! Listen now. There is a place of quiet rest, and it is the place where God dwells within you. Close your eyes. Be aware of the place.

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

In Lent we journey to the parts of ourselves known only to God, beneath the clamour. Let the story of Jesus reach us there. Let it teach us wisdom in our secret hearts.

*(Silent time)*

As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the darkness and pain of violence in the world and to the Earth.

*(A candle is extinguished.)*

*Let us pray:*

**Draw us together in your love, O God. May our restless hearts not resist you, but continue to search until they find their rest in you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*(Source: Process and Faith, 2015)*

Hymn HFTC 260: [Great is Your Faithfulness](#)

Prayers: Confession and Assurance

Hymn HFTC 545: [Lord Be My Vision](#) (verses 1, 2, 5)

Readings:

Exodus 17: 1 - 6           *(page 112)*  
John 4: 5 – 42           *(page 1652)*

Children's Time: Water and it's Goodness

Food for Thought: Jesus' Goodness

Short Video from Stories of the Bible: [Jesus and the Woman at the Well](#)

Community Time: Notices, Celebrations, Concerns for Prayer

Offering Dedication

Song - Praise Maranatha 130: [I've Got Peace like a River](#)

*Songwriters: Joseph M. Martin / Traditional (pd)*  
*Lyrics © Milwin Music Corp., Songtrust Ave*  
*Source: [Musixmatch](#)*

1. I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river  
In my soul

*Repeat the verse*

2. I've got love like an river  
I've got love like an river  
I've got love like an river  
In my soul

*Repeat the verse*

3. I've got joy like a river  
I've got joy like a river  
I've got joy like a river  
In my soul

*Repeat the verse*

## **Prayers - Pastoral and for the World**

### **Hymn Songs of Fellowship 362: [Lord the Light](#)**

*(Shine Jesus Shine)*

*(Lyrics: Graham Kendrick, Copyright © 1987 Make Way Music)*

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me

*Chorus:*

*Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light*

2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence  
From the shadows into your radiance  
By the blood I may enter your brightness  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus:*

3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
So our faces display your likeness  
Ever changing from glory to glory  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story  
Shine on me, shine on me

*Chorus:*

**Blessing:** *(Please say together, (from Alleluia Aotearoa 102))*

**Now unto him who is able to keep,  
able to keep you from falling,  
and present you faultless  
before the presence of his glory  
with exceeding joy;  
to the only wise God our Saviour,  
be glory and majesty,  
dominion and power  
both now and forever.  
Amen.**

**Sung: 3-fold Amen**

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## **Summary of Building Better Communities: Work & Incomes**

The third week of the Building Better Communities series focused on the critical intersection of Work and Incomes. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to our guest expert, Edward Miller, a researcher for the Centre for International Corporate Tax Accountability and Research (CICTAR), for sharing his deep expertise in labour movement strategy and economic commentary. Grounded in the Salvation Army's "State of the Nation" reports, the evening explored how local action can address the inequities found in our current economic landscape.

Edward began by discussing the fundamental importance of work and incomes, encompassing the essentials of economic survival, the fulfilment found in valuable contribution, and the formation of individual identity. His presentation highlighted a sobering trend: New Zealand is in its fourth year of a cost-of-living crisis, with unemployment rising from 120,000 to 160,000 people between 2023 and 2025. This rise is not felt equally, as unemployment disproportionately affects Māori (11.2%), Pasifika (12.3%), and youth, with 17.4% of young people in Northland currently unemployed. Edward noted that while average earnings appear to have risen by 49% since 2016, the inflation-adjusted increase is a mere 10%. Furthermore, he critiqued the current economic model of using interest rates to control inflation, which effectively induces recession and forces the poor to pay the cost for price stability.

Following the presentation, small-group discussions allowed the Whangārei community to voice local concerns, such as the hopelessness felt by youth not in training or employment and the undervaluing of essential services like healthcare. Participants noted a historic shift since the 1980s from a focus on universal equity and social security to a system that no longer delivers true wellbeing. There was a strong consensus that social issues are deeply interlinked, and the current taxation disparity prevents the community from looking after one another as it did in the pre-neoliberal era.

Looking toward a fairer future, the participants identified bold dreams and actionable steps, ranging from the introduction of a Universal Basic Income (UBI) to better apprenticeship schemes.

Participants called for the government to tie a living wage to actual welfare costs and for local institutions to provide wrap-around services and employment pathways rooted in community projects. Ultimately, the goal is to shift our culture toward *whanaungatanga* / shared responsibility, viewing hardship as a shared risk rather than a personal failure, and living by the principle: "From each according to their means to each according to their needs".