

P I C T O N Baptist Church



(Photo credit: <https://www.google.co.nz/>)

"You are no longer foreigners and aliens,
but fellow citizens with God's people and
members of God's household ..."
Ephesians 2:19

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Pastor: *Deo Vistar*, PhD

TODAY'S SERVICE

*Opening Song All together
At the Name of Jesus
Welcome & Notices Deo Vistar
*Singing All together
Shout to the Lord
Offering All together
*Singing All together
Lord Jesus Christ
Communion Led by Pene Sarjeant
*Singing All together
The Servant King
Lord, Make Me Like You
Sermon Deo Vistar
"One People of God"
Ephesians 2:11–19
*Closing Song All together
Lord Make Me Like You
Prayer & Benediction Deo Vistar

*Led by the Praise Team: Gwenda Galbraith (leader),
Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Johannes Hacker (guitar),
Lynn Whitlock (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

- ✱ If you have any questions or need help, please ask one of the welcomers who will be happy to help you.
- ✱ If you would like prayer after the service today, ask the people around you or come to the front and someone will pray for you.
- ✱ We invite you to stay for a cup of tea after the service.

PASTORAL NOTES

Arguably the greatest event in the history of the universe was the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. It was totally unprecedented, and it has changed the world forever. Together with His death on the cross, the resurrection of Christ has made possible the renewal of the whole creation, the salvation of an international, multi-ethnic, multicultural group of redeemed people called the church of Christ. We are a part of that mind-blowing work of God. Hallelujah!

As we come into the Holy Week, let's have a heart of worship and adoration for God's gift of His Son, for the Lord Jesus' willing sacrifice of Himself on the cross, and for the Spirit's amazing work of drawing us to

Christ and the Father. By approximation, today marks the day when the Lord Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time on His earthly journey, a journey that would end at Calvary. This coming Thursday night marks the day when Christ had His last supper with the disciples, during which He was betrayed by Judas Iscariot, and then arrested by Roman soldiers in the Garden of Gethsemane. Throughout the night until Friday morning Jesus was tried by the Jewish high priest, by Herod, and then by Pontious Pilate. By Friday morning Christ would be condemned both by Jewish crowd and Pilate to die on the cross.

Jesus was hanged on the cross on a Friday, and by mid afternoon he was dead. He died the death that He did not deserve, to pay the debt that He did not owe, all because of you and me.

But Christ is stronger than death. He conquered it. On a Sunday morning Jesus arose, not into the same corruptible body but into a resurrection body, never to die again. Blessed are those who belong to Him. Praise His name! Praise His name! Praise His name! May we all have a blessed Holy Week and Easter season.

A good news from John Stretton was that the medical procedure for his melanoma went successfully. Judith (wife) wrote on Thursday: "We have been uplifted today by everyone's prayers and John has come through well. Bless God there was just one node found in his neck and they got it all!! God bless you all PBC!" God be praised!

Pray for Nelson Dodge – due to a very bad dizzy spell on Friday afternoon he collapsed and was taken to the acute admissions ward of Wairau Hospital and is currently under care there.

PRAY FOR REFUGEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE

Taken from *The Barnabas Fund* 2018
barnabasfund.org

"My God ... [You] are my stronghold, my refuge and my saviour – from violent people You save me." (2 Samuel 22:3)

Many Christians have to flee from persecution or anti-Christian violence, sometimes escaping with nothing but their lives. Boko

Haram attacks have caused hundreds of thousands of Christians to flee to IDP (internally displaced people) camps in Nigeria. Here, the spectre of violence and discrimination in aid distribution follows them. South Sudanese Christian refugees who cannot reach Uganda, end up in (north) Sudan, whose government refuses to give them food aid (unless they covert to Islam) and forbids churches from helping them either.

Eritrean Christian refugees in Israel are finding it almost impossible to make a living due to the government's restrictive policies designed, the Eritreans believe, to break their spirits and force them from the country.

Hundreds of thousands of Syrian and Iraqi Christians have fled from genocidal violence at the hands of Islamic State and other Islamist militant groups. They dare not seek refuge in normal refugee or displaced camps for fear of further persecution by Muslims living in the camps.

Western governments and the UN mainly refuse to recognise the particular suffering of Christians or to grant them asylum on that basis. In 2016, the UK accepted only 27 Christians out of 7,499 Syrian refugees, despite them being ten percent of the Syrian population and persistent targets of Islamic State and other jihadists.

Barnabas Fund's Refugees Fund gives practical help to thousands of Christian IDPs and refugees. Operation Safe Havens, launched in 2015, has so far rescued 2,550 Christians from Syria and Iraq, safely resettling them in Australia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Canada and Brazil.

Lift up in prayer all Christians who are refugees in other countries or displaced within their own country. Pray that God will be their refuge and a strong tower (Psalm 61:3). Ask Him to watch over all dispossessed Christians, that they will know His comfort and peace and be assured by Him of their heavenly homeland, where the Lord has prepared a city for them (Hebrews 11:16).



NOTICES

Easter Worship

Come and be a part of our exciting celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ this Easter 1st April at 10am here at PBC. Bring a friend – pass the hope.

Holy Friday Event in Picton

Let's remember – and proclaim to Picton – the suffering and death of our Lord by carrying a cross through the main streets of the town. This is an event of the combined churches, happening at 11:30am. We'll start with songs and prayers at the Anglican church and culminate with songs and prayers at the Union Parish. All are welcome.

PBC Quarterly Meeting

8th April after the service. The agenda will be published next week (if you'll be away on Easter, no problem, you can access the bulletin online at www.pictonbaptist.org).

Don't miss the final session of the evangelistic training today (4pm) here at church!

Topic: The Simple Invitation that Can Change a Person's Life (a video by Dave Mann)

STAY CONNECTED DURING THE WEEK!

The following home groups are on this week:

- Tuesday 10am at 90 Lindens Road. Study pp. lesson 6 (pp. 31ff) of *My First Steps* (contact Deo at 022 421 1405)
- Tuesday 7pm at Kelvin & Carol Tapp's home (contact 5735262 or 027 7735 263)
- Wednesday 6:30pm at 35 South Terrace (contact Clive or Lynn at 573 8858)
- Thursday 7pm at 12 Lincoln St (contact Deo at 022 421 1405). Study Acts 4:32–37.

ROSTERS*

Hosting

1 Apr..... Bill & Mary Pettigrew
8 Apr..... D & A Le Heux (Communion)
15 Apr..... Bill & Mary Pettigrew

22 Apr..... A Woolf & L Price (Communion)
29 Apr..... L Young & N Davis

Children's Church Teaching

1 Apr..... Guan Vistar
8 Apr..... Linda Price
15 Apr..... Carol Tapp
22 Apr..... Guan Vistar
29 Apr..... Family worship

Note: There will be no *Sunday Friends* session on the last Sunday of each month, as we would like to provide an opportunity for children to worship with their parents.

Music & Sound

1 Apr: Guan Vistar (leading), Judith Stretton (singer), Te Mara Riwaka (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

8 Apr: Allison Le Heux (leading), Johannes Hacker (guitar), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Gyllian Macdonald (projector), Andy Baldwin (sound)

15 Apr: Allison Le Heux (leading), Graham Galbraith, Judith Stretton (singer), Pare Raj (singer), Mihi Raj (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

22 Apr: Garry Stanley (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Georgine & Mihi Raj (singers), Pare Raj (projector), Andy Baldwin (sound)

29 Apr: Georgine Raj (leading), Ana Woolf (keyboard), Pare and Mihi Raj (singers), Lynette Stanley (projector), Andy Baldwin (sound)

*If the date doesn't suit please arrange a swap with others on the roster.

"Come, and see the victories of the cross. Christ's wounds are your healings, His agonies your repose, His conflicts your conquests, His groans your songs, His pains your ease, His shame your glory, His death your life, His sufferings your salvation."
– Matthew Henry