



PICTON Baptist Church

"And when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen, and [He] will reward you."

Matthew 6:6 (NIV)



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TODAY'S SERVICE

Opening Songs	All together
My Lighthouse	
The Mountain	
Welcome & Notices.....	Pene Sarjeant
Offering	All together
Singing	All together
More than Conquerors	
10,000 Reasons	
Reading	
Singing	All together
King of All Days	
Message	Deo Vistar
The Spirit Helps Us to Pray	
Matthew 6:5–8	
Closing Song.....	All together
Great Are You Lord	
Prayer & Benediction	Deo Vistar

- ★ 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.
- ★ A crèche is available down at the foyer. The service is relayed into the room so you are able to listen to it. Please ensure the room is left tidy.
- ★ We invite you to stay for a cup of tea after the service.

PASTORAL NOTES

Kia ora! Welcome to our worship this morning. If you are a first-time guest, I encourage you to fill out a blue visitor card and hand it to the welcomers or drop it in one of the offering bags.

Justin Martyr was executed for his faith around AD 165. His writings and leadership helped shape

countless believers. He has given the oldest extra-biblical description of Christian worship we have. He wrote: "On the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read as long as time permits. Then, when the reader has ceased, the president verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things." Of course much has changed with public worship nowadays, but the centrality of God's Word remains a central feature. Justin refers to the Old Testament as "the writings of the prophets" and to the New Testament as "the writings of the apostles." True worship will invariably lead us "to the imitation of these good things" we have heard from God's Word.

February is an exciting month for us here at PBC, with a number of events lined up (see NOTICES). I encourage you to participate (if you can) and pray for these events.

In our AGM last November I shared briefly about the vision the Lord has laid on my heart for a ministry to young families. I'm happy to share that this vision is now coming to reality with the first meeting of the Christian Parents Network happening on the 16th. We currently have 5 families, and we envision a monthly gathering for purposes of fellowship, equipping, helping and praying for one another. Pray that this ministry will be a blessing to all parents and children involved.

I'm equally excited about our new outreach venture called Tea @ 10, and I commend our dedicated Care Team for organising it. This complements our existing ministry at Seaview Home where we take a monthly worship service for the residents.

This coming Tuesday, 5th Feb, is Chinese Lunar New Year, and as my wife is Chinese we will be celebrating the day with a little party with friends in Blenheim on Tuesday night.

As someone who's only beginning to be a Kiwi, there's much about Waitangi Day (which is coming up on Wednesday) that I don't know. I've heard about the Treaty of Waitangi, and I've also heard some Baptist pastors describe that Treaty as a covenant. I don't know if that's an appropriate word, but the Treaty itself obviously is an important document for the bicultural (and now increasingly multicultural) nature of NZ society. In the midst of all this I can only wish and pray the God's love in Christ unify all peoples in NZ, and for

that to begin here where we are – in our hearts, families, church, and community.

This morning we'll continue our series on prayer, and we're looking at Jesus' teaching on how we should pray, in Matthew 6:5–15. I hope this message blesses your heart and faith and help you to enjoy your relationship with Christ.



THE RIGHT WAY TO PRAY

By Xochitl Dixon

I admire people who record prayer requests in journals tattered from daily handling, those who keep track of every prayer and praise and then faithfully update their lists. I'm inspired by those who gather with others to pray and whose kneeling wears out the carpet at their bedsides. For years, I tried to copy their styles, to emulate a perfect prayer life, and to imitate the eloquence of the so-much-more-articulate-than-me folks. I strived to unravel what I thought was a mystery, as I longed to learn the right way to pray.

Eventually, I learned that our Lord simply desires prayer that begins and ends with humility (Matthew 6:5). He invites us into an intimate exchange through which He promises to listen (v. 6). He never requires fancy or memorized words or phrases (v. 7). He assures us that prayer is a gift, an opportunity to honor His majesty (vv. 9–10), to display our confidence in His provision (v. 11), and to affirm our security in His forgiveness and guidance (vv. 12–13).

God assures us He hears and cares about every single spoken and unspoken prayer, as well as the prayers that slip down our cheeks as silent tears. As

we place our trust in God and His perfect love for us, we can be sure praying with a humble heart that's surrendered to and dependent on Him is always the *right* way to pray.

"Lord, thank You for reminding us You hear every prayer."

NOTICES

Any Prayer Requests?

If you have any prayer request for the prayer chain, contact Judith Dodge at 573 9245.

Giving by Internet Banking

If you'd like to give to the Lord's work here at PBC, you can do so via internet banking. To start an automatic payment please phone Garry Stanley at 027 278 4998 (or Lynette at 027 500 1517) or email jessdog10@hotmail.com.

Events in our Church and Community this February

- ❖ Mission weekend with Kim & Mary Robertson on 9th & 10th (Sat–Sun). A shared meal at the church on 9th at 6pm.
- ❖ Morning tea outreach (organised by the Care Team) on the 15th Feb (Friday) at 10am at the Marina Cove Lower Lounge.
- ❖ Christian Parents Network – first gathering on 16th (Sat) at the church at 4:30pm
- ❖ Worship service at Seaview Home on the 24th (Wed) at 10:30am
- ❖ Celebration of Baptism & Church-wide Picnic on 24th (Sun) 12ish noon at Ngakuta Bay

For Your Prayers:

- ❖ Andy Baldwin's mum (Pat) in Timaru who's currently very unwell
- ❖ Our missionaries: the Morrises in Malawi and the Robertsons (who are currently in NZ on furlough)
- ❖ Our ministry events this month (see above)
- ❖ The ongoing search for a new leader of the Baptist Union

ROSTERS*

Hosting

3 rd Feb.....	Pene & Gyllian
10 th Feb.....	Ana & Linda P (Communion)
17 th Feb.....	Lauraine Y & Nelia
24 th Feb.....	Bill & Mary P (Communion)

Music & Sound

3rd Feb: Garry (leading), Jonathan (guitar), Bronwyn (keyboard), Jude (singer), Lynette (projector), Steve L (sound)

10th Feb: Gwenda (leading), Graham (keyboard), Ian Stewart (singer), Lynette (projector), Bill P (sound)

17th Feb: Allison (leading), Ana (keyboard), Jude (singer), Bill P (projector), Steve L (sound)

24th Feb: Garry (leading), Jonathan (guitar), Bronwyn (keyboard), Kirsty (singer), Lynette (projector), Andy (sound)

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