



## P I C T O N Baptist Church

**“Put off your old self ... and put on the new self,  
created to be like God in true righteousness and  
holiness.”**

**Ephesians 4:22, 24**



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Pastor: *Deo Vistar*, PhD

## TODAY'S SERVICE

\*Opening Song ..... All together  
Blessed be the Name of the Lord  
Notices & Prayer ..... Stu  
Offering ..... All together  
\*Singing ..... All together  
The Steadfast Love of the Lord  
As the Deer Panteth for Water  
Here I Am to Worship  
A Brief Sharing on “The Night of Power” ..... Pene  
Message ..... Deo  
“Put Off ... Put On”  
Ephesians 4:22–24  
\*Closing Song ..... All together  
I Surrender All  
Prayer & Blessing ..... Deo

\*Led by the Praise Team: Allison Le Heux (leading), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Gwenda Galbraith (projector), Deo Vistar (singer), 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

**K**ia 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.

The youth group's sleep-over at church this past Friday went well. One of the things they did was to watch the film *God Is Not Dead*, which the youth really enjoyed. Many thanks to those who donated money – proceeds will go to World Vision.

The Dinner Collective is only 7 days away! As we aim to use this event to reach out to the wider community, please personally invite your friends to the dinner (on the 17th Sunday 6pm). If you have any questions, please speak with Bronwyn or Pene or Laurie.

I would love to see you in prayer meeting this Friday (the 15th at 7pm) here at church. We'll be praying for our church and wider community.

I'll be away (with my family) to Christchurch from this afternoon until Tuesday.

Last Sunday we looked at Ephesians 4:17–21, where Paul talks about the church in relation to the secular, pagan world. We are to be careful and wise not to adopt the worldview and lifestyle of the world, but to follow Christ and his example. In our text this morning, Ephesians 4:22–24, Paul is talking about the Christian in relation to himself/herself. Here's God's Word: “Put off your old self, which is corrupted by its deceitful desires – to be made new in the attitude of your minds – and put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.” Whether you're a new Christian or a long-time believer, God desires for you to grow in your faith and be more committed to Him. What's He showing you to put off and put on today?

## LAYLATUL QADR: THE NIGHT OF POWER

From [www.pray30days.org](http://www.pray30days.org)

**M**uslim scholars believe that while the Qur'an was revealed over a period of 23 years the Night of Power is considered the night in which the first revelations of Islam and the prophethood of Muhammed began. This night is in celebration of the arrival of the Qur'an.

In Arabic, Laylatul Qadr (the Night of Power) is described in the Qur'an as “better than a thousand months” (Sura 97:3). Al-Qadr means power and implies having power over something, particularly to Allah. The character of Allah is said to be excellence in power, capable, all powerful, almighty and also implies “high esteem” and thus the Night of Power is to be highly esteemed.

The whole Night of Power, from sunset to sundown, is the holiest night of the year. It is believed that there are groups of special angels who are only seen on the Night of Power. These angels perform special purposes. Some come down for worship, others for granting the request of the believing Muslim. Other angels come down bringing with them proclamations of the coming year.

Today, many Muslims think this is a special night when God gives heed to their requests. Often they are open to dreams and visions as they seek for guidance and revelation. Many Muslims pray all night seeking a response to specific requests. One common belief is that angels will shower down the peace and blessings of God on all who remain awake during this “night of power.” According to the Qur’an, God either listens directly or via the angel Gabriel, to the requests of Muslims concerning their fate.

As Muhammed had his destiny fulfilled by receiving the revelation of the Qur’an on this night, Muslims also call this the “Night of Destiny.” This night seems important among orthodox Muslims and in Folk Islam. It is on this night, and during the following weeks, that many Muslims have had supernatural encounters with God.

Muslims are encouraged to stay awake the entire night, and pray for blessings and forgiveness. According to Abu Huraira translation of the Hadith, the Prophet Muhammed declared that “whoever prays during the Night of Power with faith and hoping for its reward will have all his previous sins forgiven.” There are many things that a Muslim will endeavour to do on the Night of Power including recite and study the Qur’an, make special requests from Allah, evaluate their own lives and make plans for the next year. Some Muslims will take the day off work so they can stay up all night and will often spend this night in the mosque.

Muslims come to this night with several attitudes. Some want to prove their devotion to God through their prayers, even being proud of their religious accomplishments. Others, knowing in their hearts that they are incapable of really pleasing God by their own religious activity, will feel disappointed with themselves. Finally, significant numbers will be praying in desperation and are genuinely seeking help from God.

Researchers contend that 80% of new Christians in South Asia come to Christ as a direct result of supernatural encounters. More than half of new believers in Iran have had a dream or vision of Jesus and at least 35% of all recent Turkish conversions were in response to a dream and/or vision. In most cases, these supernatural encounters are in relation to a specific need or answer to prayer and are the result of years of prayer and labour by God’s people, including martyrdom. Often, a Muslim has heard the

message of Jesus or even read parts of the Bible. While not all Muslims experience dreams or visions of Jesus, the supernatural is very much an accepted part of life.

*Ramadan is a strategic time for Christians to believe that God would sovereignly reveal Himself to those who do not yet know Him. As you pray during this night, pray for issues such as Muslim leaders and governments, Muslim families and children. Pray for increased numbers of missionaries and workers, and pray for new believers (1 Timothy 2:1). Pray to God to reveal more about Jesus to many Muslims who will seek God on the Night of Power (Psalm 118:21; Acts 4:33).*

### NOTICES

**Prayer Meeting**  
15th June (Friday) 7pm at church

**The Dinner Collective**  
17th June (Sunday) 6pm at church

#### This Week’s Regular Ministries at a Glance

Tuesday 10am	Home group (Bible study) at 90 Linden’s Road	Contact Deo at 573 6315
Tuesday 7pm	Home group at 5 Amelia Cres	Contact Stu at 573 7769
Tuesday 7pm	Home group at 90 Lindens Road	Contact Pene at 573 7785
Wednesday 6pm	Youth group in the Church Hall	Contact Mary at 573 5499
Thursday 7pm	Home group (Bible study) at church	Contact Deo at 573 6315
Sunday 9:30am	Prayer meeting in the Children’s Ministry Room	Contact Steve Lavers at 021 0235 5728
Sunday 10am	Church Service	Contact Deo at 573 6315
Sunday 10:30am	<i>Sunday Friends</i> (Children’s Ministry)*	Contact Carol at 027 7735 263

\*Except on the last Sunday of each month

**Any Prayer Requests?**  
If you have any prayer request for the prayer chain, contact Judith Dodge at 573 9245.

### ROSTERS\*

#### Hosting

3 June ..... N & J Dodge (Communion)  
10 June ..... A Woolf & L Price  
17 June ..... L Young & N Davis (Communion)  
24 June .....B & M Pettigrew

#### Children’s Church Teaching

3 June ..... Linda Price  
10 June .....Carol Tapp  
17 June ..... Linda Price  
24 June .....Family Worship\*\*

\*\*There will be no children’s church on the last Sunday of each month, as we would like to provide an opportunity for children to worship with their parents.

#### Music & Sound

3 June: Deo Vistar (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Jude Stretton (singer), Graham Galbraith (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

10 June: Allison Le Heux (leading), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Gwenda Galbraith (singer), Te Mara Riwaka (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

17 June: Garry Stanley (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Georgine and Mihi Raj (singers), Lynette Stanley (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

24 June: Gwenda Galbraith (leading), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Judith Stretton (singer), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Gyllian Macdonald (projector), Andy Baldwin (sound)

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