

Ōpoho Presbyterian Church

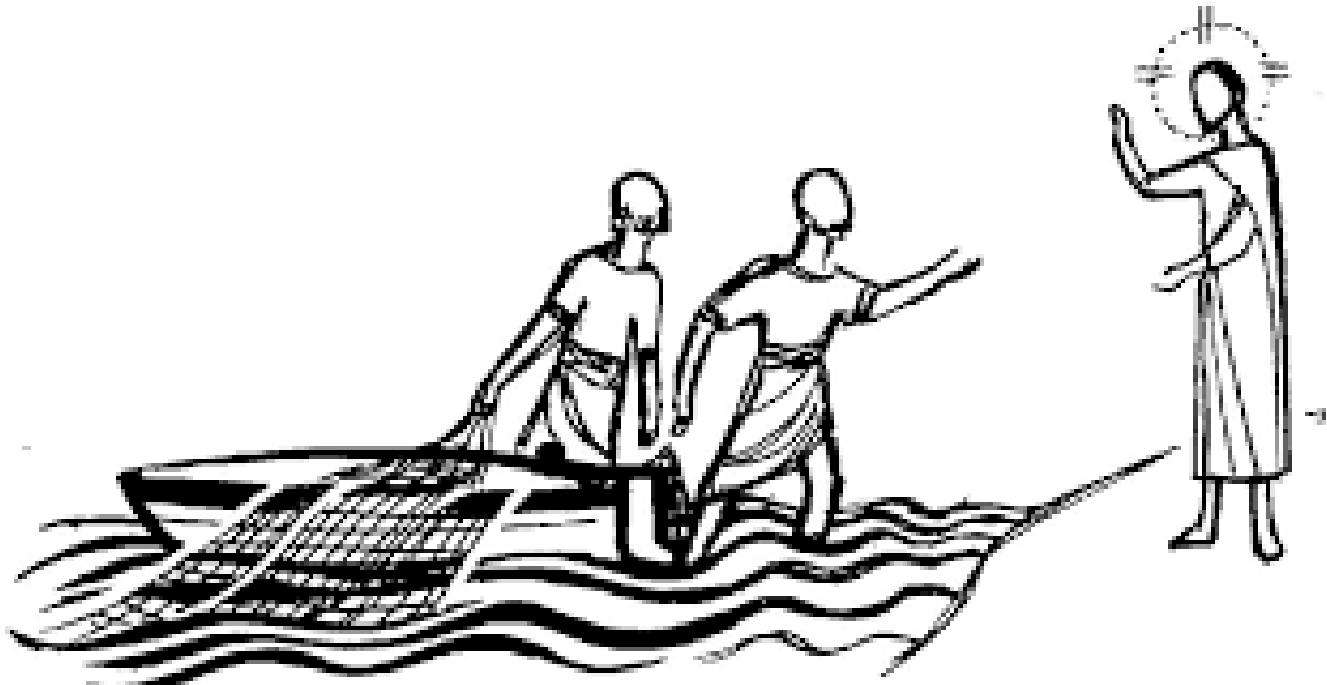
opohochurch.org

18 January 2026 – 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

Welcome!

*Whether you come often, haven't been for a while or you're new,
we are glad you are here today. We are all one in God.*

*Everyone here is seeking to know God better,
and we're glad you have joined us on this journey.*



Offerings of money for the work of this parish, money for the Dunedin Night Shelter, and goods for Presbyterian Support's Food Bank may be left in the offering bag, dish, or basket (as appropriate) on the trolley near the door, either before or after the service. Offerings may also be made electronically – ask to talk to our Treasurer.

Please consult the Minister or worship leader before taking photographs or other recordings during a service, in accordance with the church media policy displayed in the Morrison Lounge.

Call to Worship

Ata mārie!

Good morning!

Haere mai!

Welcome!

Ka haere tatau ki te karakia.

We gather together to worship.

Hymn words John L. Bell and Graham Maule, tune *Kelvingrove* CH4 533

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Prayer of Confession

Prayer of Assurance

... We are forgiven;

we are set free.

We rejoice together in your love and grace.

Praise be to God.

The Peace

Kia tau tonu te rangimarie o te Ariki ki a koutou;
the peace of Christ be with you all
A ki a koe anō hoki; and also with you
we exchange a sign of peace with each other

Community Time – welcome, notices, news, anniversaries, etc.

Birthday greetings today.
May God bless you we pray.
Live for Jesus dear [name or friends],
May he guide you always.

Chat Time *Lord of the Dance*

Children's Song words and adapted American Shaker tune by Sydney Carter WOV 183

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth:

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he;
and I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John –
they came with me and the dance went on: *Refrain*

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and they left me there on a cross to die: *Refrain*

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone; *[pause]*
but I am the dance and I still go on: *Refrain*

They cut me down and I leap up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he: *Refrain*

Please remain standing for the Offertory Prayer.

Prayer of Offering

You give us so much, and we aim to follow you,
so here we are, passing it on.

Here, and at the food bank, at the night shelter, at the bank,
we are giving back some of the great blessings you gave us.

Accept our offerings, accept our work, accept our love.

Amen

Bible Readings

Isaiah 49: 1-7 The Lord's Servant Commissioned

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

John 1: 35-50 The First Disciples

This is the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise to Christ the Word.

Reflection Being a Follower

Hymn words Jim Strathdee (alt.), tune Light of the World WOV 669

*'I am the light of the world.
You people come and follow me!'
If you follow and love,
you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.*

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds
have found their way home,
the work of Christmas is begun: *Refrain*

to find the lonely and the lost,
to heal their broken souls with love,
to feed the hungry children
with warmth and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above; *Refrain*

to free the prisoners from their chains,
to make the powerful care,
to re-build the nations
with strength of goodwill,
to be at one with people everywhere; *Refrain*

to bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in
an old man's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth. *Refrain*

Prayers of Intercession

We sing together **the Lord's Prayer**

(music by Richard Gillard and John Smith, arr. Guy Elwyn Jansen WOV 676)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth, as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.

Amen, amen. Amen, amen. Amen, amen. Amen, amen.

Thanks for the service

Hymn words Traditional Samoan, tune *O Le Faafetai*, WOV 629

Faafetai i le Atua,
Le na tatou tupu ai,
Ina ua na alofa fua
Ia te i tatou uma nei.

Ia pepese, ia pepese
Alleluia, faafetai,
Ia pepese, ia pepese
Alleluia, faafetai.

Faafetai i lona Alo
Le na afio mai luga
Le ua fai ma faapaolo
Ai le puapuaga.

Ia pepese, ia pepese
Alleluia, faafetai,
Ia pepese, ia pepese
Alleluia, faafetai.

Faafetai i le Agaga,
Le fesoasoani mai,
E manuia ai talosaga,
Atoa uma mea e fai.

Ia pepese, ia pepese
Alleluia, faafetai,
Ia pepese, ia pepese
Alleluia, faafetai.

*Thanks to God
who has given us life
when God freely loved
all of us.*

*Sing, sing
Alleluia, give thanks.
Sing, sing
Alleluia, give thanks.*

*Thanks to his Son
who came from above,
who protects you
from all suffering.*

*Sing, sing
Alleluia, give thanks.
Sing, sing
Alleluia, give thanks.*

*Thanks to the Spirit
who helps
to bless our prayers
and whatever we do.*

*Sing, sing
Alleluia, give thanks.
Sing, sing
Alleluia, give thanks.*

Benediction

**May the Lord our God, Jesus Christ our Saviour,
and the Holy Spirit our inspiration and delight call us all,
and may we willingly follow where they go,
today, in the days to come, and all our lives. Amen**

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Everyone is welcome to stay for morning tea after the service.

Today's service was brought to you by
Leading the Service: Abby Smith

Door Duty: Mark Ranby and Michael Ovens

Music: Alan Baker

Readings: Jenny Bunce

Sound and Data Projector: Benjamin Thew

Flowers: Judy Rodda

Morning Tea: Daniel Larsen

Church Cleaning: Jane Bloore

Hall Cleaning: Fiona Stirling

Opportunities for ministry week ending 25 January

Door Duty: Sanel and Rudie Tomlinson

Music: Music Group

Readings: Marian Weaver

Prayers: Sanel Tomlinson

Sound and Data Projector: Kieran Somerville

Flowers: Judy Rodda

Morning Tea: Abby Smith

Church Cleaning: Jane Bloore

Hall Cleaning: Fiona Stirling

Parish Clerk: Hamish Spencer 021 279 7986 opohoclerk@gmail.com

Minister: The Rev. Clare Lind 021 0276 1962

opohominister@gmail.com

Keeping in Touch

If you would like to be emailed about church news and coming events, please give your email address to the Parish Clerk, Hamish Spencer, or email him at opohoclerk@gmail.com

Coming Events at Ōpoho Presbyterian Church

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|-------------------------|---|
| 20 January ~ Tuesday | Material due for February <i>Ōpoho Signal</i> |
| 25 January ~ Sunday | 10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind |
| 27 January ~ Tuesday | 7 p.m.: Writers' Group, Morrison Lounge |
| 31 January ~ Saturday | 9 a.m.-12 noon: Parish Council retreat, Morrison Lounge |
| 1 February ~ Sunday | 10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Communion |
| 6 February ~ Friday | Waitangi Day – public holiday |
| 8 February ~ Sunday | 10 a.m.: Worship, Meegan Cloughley |
| 10 February ~ Tuesday | 7.30 p.m.: Christian Development Committee, Morrison Lounge |
| 11 February ~ Wednesday | 7.30 p.m.: Property and Finance Committee, Morrison Lounge |
| 12 February ~ Thursday | 2 p.m.: Fellowship Group, Morrison Lounge |
| 15 February ~ Sunday | 10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind |
| 20 February ~ Friday | Material due for March <i>Ōpoho Signal</i> |
| 22 February ~ Sunday | 10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Harvest Thanksgiving |
| 26 February ~ Thursday | 7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge |

Lenten Book Club: God, AI, and Us

Hewitson Library has recently added dozens of titles on the subject area of artificial intelligence (AI) and theology. Please see:

<https://hewitson.mykoha.co.nz/cgi-bin/koha/opac-shelves.pl?op=view&shelfnumber=165&sortfield=itemcallnumber> .

Ōpoho Church members are invited to join other Presbyterians from around the country in a six-part series of short book club discussions via Zoom. These will be held from 7.30 to 8.10 on the Monday evenings in Lent, 23 February to 30 March. Each week we will read a chapter taken from six books that the Library now holds on the AI topic. We can learn and grow together, in our knowledge of how AI will affect theology in particular and our world in general.

Please contact Jay Robinson (Director, Presbyterian Research Centre) at jay.robinson@prcknox.org.nz by Monday 26 January so that the readings can be sent out in advance.