

Ōpoho Presbyterian Church

opohochurch.org

7 December 2025 – Second Sunday of Advent Quarterly Communion

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.*

We sing as the Bible is carried in ...

Hymn WOV 193 O come, O come Emmanuel

Prayer

... May God kindle in us the fire of love
to bring us alive and give warmth to the world.
**Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth;
lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust;
lead me from hate to love, from war to peace.
let peace fill our heart, our world, our universe.**

A New Zealand Prayer Book, p.164

Advent Candle Lighting

We light the candle of Peace.

We sing (please stay seated) words and music © Colin Gibson WOV 636

He came singing peace
and he lived singing peace;
he died, singing peace.
He arose in silence.
For the peace to go on
we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.

Passing the Peace

We greet each other saying **Peace be with you.**

Community Time – welcome, notices, anniversaries

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

Chat Time Christian World Service Children's Video

Hymn words (v.3 alt.) and music Cecily Sheehy *Carol Our Christmas* 25

Greetings, little child of Bethlehem!
Greetings, to the child in ev'ry mother's arms!
Welcome to each other, and all we wish to honour,
greetings, little child of Bethlehem!

Bless the one who came to Planet Earth:
he grew up and spread Good News to all he met.
All the children loved him, he talked with them and held them,
bless the one who came to Planet Earth.

Greetings little child of Bethlehem!
Joy and peace be all around the world today!
Greetings to each culture, and every living creature,
greetings little child of Bethlehem!

Please remain standing at the end for the Offertory Prayer.

Offertory Prayer

**Loving God,
for the good that you are to this community,
and for the good that you do
through this community,
we give you thanks.**

**Bless our offering of these gifts
and our offering of our service,
that each may work your good,
we ask in the name of your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.**

Bible Reading *Romans 15:4-13*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Communion Hymn WOV 642 Born in the night

Words of Institution

Thanksgiving Prayer

...

saying along with the angels,
**glory to God in the highest,
peace on earth
and good will to its people**

...

Breaking of the Bread and Distribution

*Communion is open to all who wish to receive it.
We have gluten-free bread and use unfermented grape juice.*

Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught his followers:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today 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.**

Hymn words Shirley Murray, music Carlton Young, *Carol Our Christmas* 40

Star-Child, earth-Child, go-between of God,
love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod,
*This year, this year, let the day arrive
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!*

Street child, beat child, no place left to go,
hurt child, used child no one wants to know,
this year ...

Grown child, old child, mem'ry full of years,
sad child, lost child, story told in tears,
this year ...

Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more,
wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store,
this year ...

Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sign,
down-to-earth Child, Star of stars that shine,
this year ...

Benediction

**May God, the source of hope,
fill us with joy and peace,
so that our hope will continue to grow
by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

*As you leave, please place your empty communion glass
in the container on the trolley at the back of the church.*

Use of all music from sources other than *With One Voice*
is licensed under the copyright licence CCLI 239741.

*Everyone is welcome to stay for morning tea –
through the door at the back of the church.*



Today's service was brought to you by
Leading the Service: The Rev. Clare Lind
Door Duty: Benjamin Thew and Bronwen Strang
Music: David Murray
Readings: Andrew Smith
Sound and Data Projector: Hamish Spencer
Flowers: Fiona Stirling
Morning Tea: Shona and Philip Somerville
Church and Hall Cleaning: Allison and Will Mulder

Opportunities for ministry week ending 14 December

Door Duty: Hamish Spencer and Abby Smith
Music: Alan Baker
Readings: Maurice Andrew
Prayers: Benjamin Thew
Sound and Data Projector: Benjamin Thew
Flowers: Allison Mulder
Morning Tea: Susan Wall and Christine Cleugh
Church and Hall Cleaning: Allison and Will Mulder

Parish Clerk: Hamish Spencer 021 279 7986 opohoclerk@gmail.com
Minister: The Rev. Clare Lind 021 0276 1962
opohominister@gmail.com

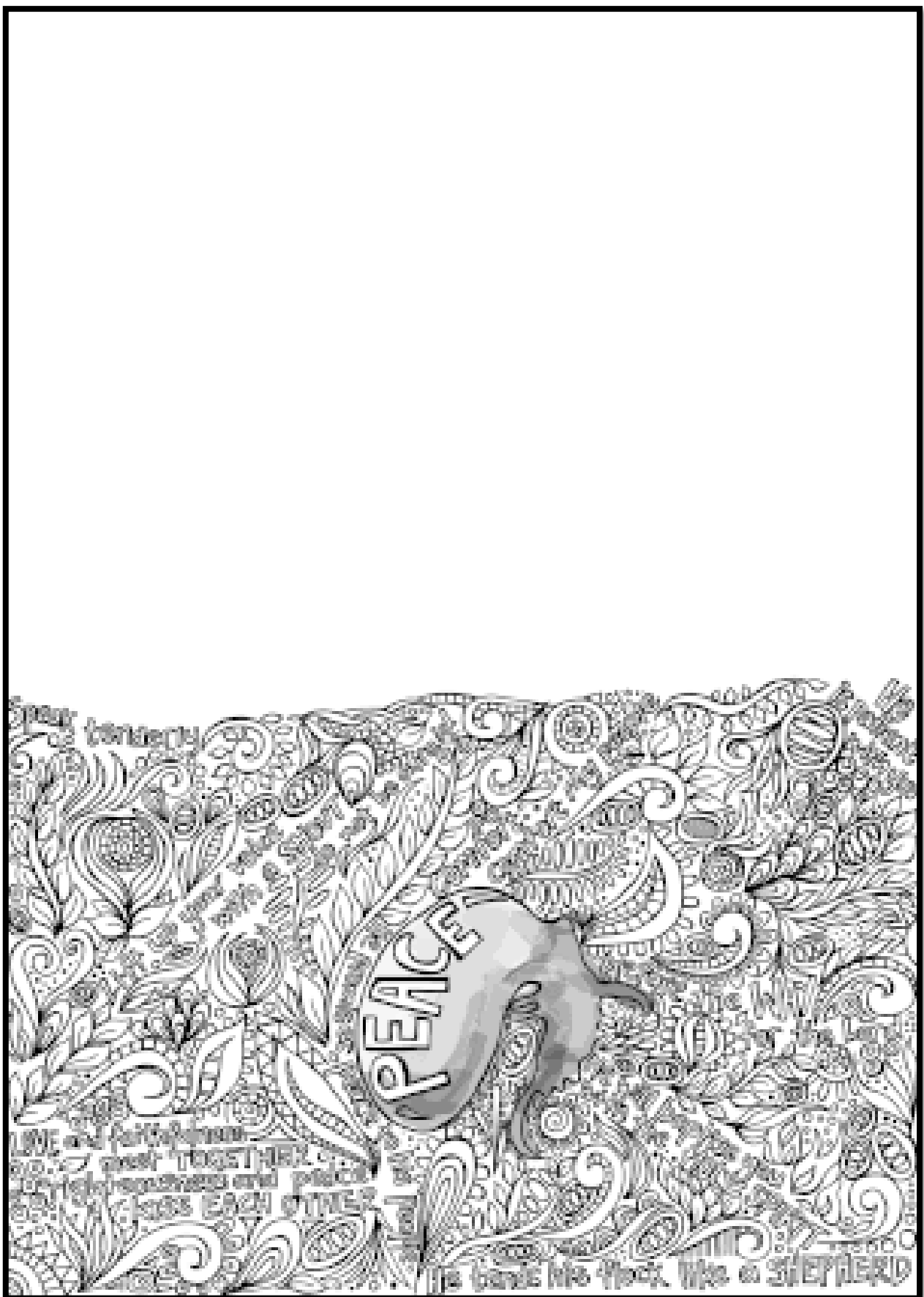


Keeping in Touch

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

7 December ~ Sunday	11.30 a.m.: Advent choir practice in church
10 December ~ Wednesday	7.30 p.m.: Property and Finance Committee, Morrison Lounge
11 December ~ Thursday	12.30 p.m.: Fellowship Community Christmas Lunch, in hall
14 December ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind – Lessons and Carols 2 p.m.: Sing Your Heart Out – community carol singing in church
18 December ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, 15 Gamma Street
21 December ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Julie Mander and children
24 December ~ Wednesday	11.30 p.m.: Christmas Eve service, the Rev. Clare Lind
25 December ~ Thursday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind – Christmas Day
28 December ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Benjamin Thew
4 January ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Russell Thew, Communion
11 January ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Mary Somerville
18 January ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Abby Smith
20 January ~ Tuesday	Material due for February <i>Opoho Signal</i>
22 January ~ Thursday	Borer treatment of church, Morrison Lounge, and hall – no part of buildings to be entered from 9 p.m. Wednesday 21 January to 9 p.m. Friday 23 January
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



*image by Rachel Doragh
from the A Rocha Eco Church Advent Art Project*