

Ōpoho Presbyterian Church

opohochurch.org

25 January 2026 – 3rd 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.*



Matthew 4: 12-25

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 words David Adam, music Colin Gibson FFS 51

O spring in the desert; O shelter from heat,
O light in the darkness, O guide for our feet,
O joy in our sadness, O strength for the weak,
O Christ with us always, your Presence we seek.

Please stand as the Bible is carried in and for the hymn.

Hymn Traditional, *Hope is Our Song* 23

E Te Ariki, whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.
E te Ariki, titiro mai rā ki a mātou.
Tēnei mātou ō tamariki.
E whakapono ana mātou ki a koe.
Auē, auē, te Matua, te Tamaiti, Wairua Tapu e,
te Matua, te Tamaiti, Wairua Tapu e.

Translation:

*O God, listen to the cry of your children.
O God, see the plight of your children.
We are yours and we believe in you
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

Prayer

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 *Following*

Children's Hymn words and music © Cecily Sheehy AA 111

One, two, three (*clap, clap*) alleluia,
one, two, three (*clap, clap*) alleluia,
one, two, three (*clap, clap*) alleluia!
Praise to you, our God.

Our God lives with us, alleluia,
making all things new, alleluia,
sharing in our lives, alleluia!
Praise to you, our God. (*boom, boom, boom*)
One, two, three (*clap, clap*) alleluia ...

Gifts of love God brings, alleluia,
filling us with joy, alleluia,
peace and goodness too, alleluia!
Praise to you, our God. (*boom, boom, boom*)
One, two, three (*clap, clap*) alleluia ...

Kindness is God's gift, alleluia,
patience will come too, alleluia,
if we wait in love, alleluia!
Praise to you, our God. (*boom, boom, boom*)
One, two, three (*clap, clap*) alleluia ...

By our love we show, alleluia,
how we live and grow, alleluia,
caring for each one, alleluia!
Praise to you, our God. (*boom, boom, boom*)
One, two, three (*clap, clap*) alleluia ...

Please remain standing for the Offertory Prayer.

Offertory Prayer

**Gracious God, you have treated us with kindness and love
and we are truly thankful.**

Bless these gifts.

**May all our living, our giving and receiving
bring glory and honour to you.**

We ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

Bible Reading *Matthew 4:12-25*

This is the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise to Christ the Word.

Sermon

Hymn words Leith Fisher, tune *Highland Cathedral* CH4 336

Christ is our light! the bright and morning star
covering with radiance all from near and far.
Christ be our light; shine on, shine on, we pray,
into our hearts, into our world today.

Christ is our love! baptised that we may know
the love of God among us, swooping low.
Christ be our love; bring us to turn our face
and see in you the light of heaven's embrace.

Christ is our joy! transforming wedding guest!
Through water turned to wine the feast is blessed.
Christ be our joy; your glory let us see,
as your disciples did in Galilee.

Intercessory Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**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 June Boyce-Tillman, tune *Woodlands* WOV 109

We sing a love that sets all people free,
that blows like wind, that burns like scorching flame,
enfolds like earth, springs up like water clear:
come living love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love that seeks another's good,
that longs to serve and not to count the cost;
a love that, yielding, finds itself made new:
come, caring love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid
to be itself, despite another's wrath,
a love that stands alone and undismayed:
come, strengthening love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, that, wandering, will not rest
until it finds its way, its home, its source,
through joy and sadness pressing on refreshed:
come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a burning, fiery, Holy Ghost
that seeks out shades of ancient bitterness,
transfiguring these, as Christ in every heart:
come joyful love, live in our hearts today.

Benediction

God looks at the world and sees that it is good.

Thanks be to God.

A world worth dying for, a world worth living for.

Thanks be to Christ.

And we are never left alone

in joy or struggle, failure or victory.

Thanks be to you Holy Spirit.

p.38 *Echoes of Our Journey*, Dorothy McRae-McMahon

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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: The Rev. Clare Lind

Door Duty: Sanel and Rudie Tomlinson

Music: Music Group

Readings: Marian Weaver

Prayers: Sanel Tomlinson

Sound and Data Projector: Benjamin Thew

Flowers: Judy Rodda

Morning Tea: Abby Smith

Hall Cleaning: Fiona Stirling

Opportunities for ministry week ending 1 February

Door Duty: Julie Mander and Benjamin Thew

Music: David Murray

Readings: Julie Mander

Sound and Data Projector: Benjamin Thew

Flowers: Fiona Stirling

Morning Tea: Sanel and Rudie Tomlinson

Hall Cleaning: Michael Ovens

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

Minister: The Rev. Clare Lind 021 0276 1962
opohominister@gmail.com



Lenten Book Club: God, AI, and Us

The 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> .

Opoho 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 (tomorrow)** so that the readings can be sent out in advance.



The Calling of Peter and Andrew
by Michel Corneille the Younger (1642-1708, French)

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

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 Ōpoho Signal
22 February ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Harvest Thanksgiving
26 February ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge
1 March ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Quarterly Communion
6 March ~ Thursday	2 p.m.: Fellowship Group, Morrison Lounge
8 March ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Meegan Cloughley
11 March ~ Wednesday	7.30 p.m.: Property and Finance Committee, Morrison Lounge
15 March ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
20 March ~ Friday	Material due for April Ōpoho Signal
22 March ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
23 March ~ Monday	Otago Anniversary Day
26 March ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge
29 March ~ Palm Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Abby Smith