

# ***Wellsford Co-operating Parish***

## **APRIL 2023**

*View this bulletin, view video clips and other information on our website:*

<http://wellsfordmethodistpresbyterian.weebly.com>

**Church Office Phone: 09 423 8076**



**Church Centre,  
253 Rodney Street, Wellsford 0900**

***If you know of someone who was absent from church today, or who is new to our community, would you kindly deliver a copy of this bulletin to them... To Show We Care... Thanks.***

# ***What's Happening in April?***

**PASTORAL:** Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those who are sick and recovering currently. If you know of any person who is ill or would particularly appreciate a visit, please contact a member of the Pastoral Care team.

**Inter-church Good Friday service** will be on **7<sup>th</sup> April**. It will be at **9:45am** (please see our advert on the second to last page of this bulletin).



**GOOD  
FRIDAY**

**Parish Council:** The Parish Council Meeting for this month will be on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**.



**Birthdays:** If your birthday is in **April**, a very happy birthday to you!



**SHARED LUNCH** for this month will be Rheychille's home at 19 Tuariki Drive, on the 2nd of April.  
**The Church Shared Luncheon** for May will be on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, at Steven & Nelleke's place.



## **REMAINING PARISH MEETINGS FOR 2023**

21 May

20 August- AGM      19 November

**Do you have a church related event?** Let us know so we can include it here.

**Hour of Power** – Bobby has released a Godly meditations eBook – you can sign up for a [free copy here](#)

**Our Mission: 'Love God, Love Each Other, and Extend that Love beyond our Church'**

**Do you have a church related notice for this space? E-mail Mark at [marklorenzen73@gmail.com](mailto:marklorenzen73@gmail.com)**

## PASTOR'S BLURB FOR APRIL 2023

Easter is this month. Palm Sunday is the 2nd of April. Good Friday is the 7th of April. Easter Day is the 9th of April. Come with me now and less of us, by faith, survey the wondrous cross. Hear the seven words that Jesus spoke from the cross. First Word: The Word of Forgiveness: Father forgive them, for they not what they do (Luke 23:34). On one level they knew very well what they were doing. They were killing the hated Jesus. But on a deeper level, they did not know that, by murdering Jesus, they were opening a door of forgiveness for His very murderers. Died He for me, who caused His pain; for me who Him, to death pursued. And soon the forgiven people would start to enter heaven. The thief on the cross. The centurion. The Old Testament saints who came out of their graves at the earthquake. All the way down to us. Second Word: The Word of Salvation. 'I tell you the truth: today you will be with Me in paradise. (Luke 23:43). Jesus said this to the repentant thief who said to Him, 'Lord, remember me when you come into Your kingdom'. Two lessons from this statement: (a) Jesus went to heaven the moment He died. (b) You can't save yourself by works. The thief couldn't do any works. Just to see Jesus for Who He is enough to save you. Third Word: Mother, behold your son; son behold your mother (John 19:26). The Word of Relationship. Jesus, by His death on the cross, did not just knock down the dividing wall between humanity and God, He knocked down the dividing wall between people. Fourth Word: My God, my God, who have you forsaken me? (Mathew 27:46). The Word of Dereliction. God turned His face away before He is too pure to look upon sin, and Jesus had 'become sin for us' (2 Corinthians 5:21). He was abandoned so that you could be accepted. Fifth Word: I thirst (John 19:28). The Word of Torment. Isaiah 53 tells us that the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him. He was abandoned so that we could be accepted. He thirsted so that we drank the Water of Life. He endured the midday midnight of Calvary so that we could walk in the light. Sixth Word: It is finished (John 19:30). The Word of Triumph. 'Finished' can mean 'ended', as in 'coming to the terminus'. It can also mean 'fulfilled', as in 'the telos (the fulfilment) has been reached'. The Greek for 'it is finished' is tetelestai. This is the second of the two meanings of 'finished'. Jesus meant that the Scriptures had been fulfilled, God's holiness had been vindicated, the serpent had had his head crushed, the capstone of the new and living temple had been laid, and the Holy Spirit would be poured out on all of God's people in fifty days' time. It is fulfilled! The Seventh Word: Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit (Luke 23:46). The Word of Reunion. Jesus knew that after the temporary abandonment by His Father, the Father and the Son were reunited, at one, forever and ever. 'At one' is the same spelling as 'atone', and if you believe in Jesus, your sins have been atoned for, and you are at one with God yourself. That means that everything that it is in Christ is yours evermore. Thank you, Jesus, for those seven words of life. We know that You died to give us life. Thanks be to God for His unspeakable Gift.

Your brother, David

**The Story behind the Hymns – [Credit Link](#)**  
**History of Hymns: 'Christ the Lord is Risen Today'**  
**BY C. MICHAEL HAWN**

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

For many in the English-speaking world, Easter Day is inextricably associated with singing “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” by Charles Wesley (1707–1788). Of the original eleven stanzas published under the title “Hymn for Easter Day” in *Hymns and Sacred Poems* (1739), most hymnals use only four, or sometimes as many as seven. This hymn is a tour de force of exuberant, expressive, and ecstatic language on the Resurrection. Wesley’s hymn was inspired by “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today,” an anonymous translation from *Lyra Davidica* (1708) of part of a Latin hymn “Surrexit Christus hodie.” (See Fenner, 2021, for a detailed discussion.) Charles maintained the same 7.7.7.7 meter. Thus, both texts may be sung to the same tunes (with or without “Alleluias”). To avoid the similarity of the opening phrases of both hymns, Church of England hymnals begin with Wesley’s second stanza, “Love’s redeeming work is done.”



The reference to “sons of men and angels” is a declaration that Christ’s resurrection is a cause for a cosmic celebration on earth and in heaven. For reasons of inclusive language, this line has been adapted several ways, most preserving or even enhancing its cosmic character: “all on earth and [or “with”] angels say”; “earth and heaven in chorus say”; “all creation, join to say”; “Saints on earth and angels say.”

While truly a “Hymn for Easter Day,” this is also a hymn about humanity’s relationship with the Eternal One. It is about humanity’s full transformation into the image of Christ – imago Christi – and the ultimate consummation of our perfection in Christ.

**Use our digital edition to listen to...Link is hyperlinked.**

Sing along with this hymn [here](#)  
Or this version from [BBC Songs of Praise](#)

**Missing your fix of Hour of Power? Never fear! Weekly episodes screen most Sunday mornings on Prime TV at 7.30am. You can also watch past episodes online at this address:**

<https://hourofpower.org/episode/>

**You can also watch the services LIVE at this address:**

<https://hourofpower.org/watch-live/>

## **JOHN WESLEY'S ADVICE TO HIS FOLLOWERS**

Do all the good you can.  
By all the means you can  
In all the ways you can  
In all the places you can  
At all the times you can  
To all the people you can  
As long as ever you can.

## **PRAYER AT EASTER**

God of new beginnings,  
free us from the fear of change.  
May our experience of Easter  
so change our lives  
that they express your boundless love.

*(Joy Tetley)*

## **The Grace**

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
The love of God  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit'  
Is with us all.  
Amen.**

## Spotlight on the Bible at Easter

### Before the reading:

In the beginning was the word.

**And the Word was with God.**

**And the Word was God.**

28 After the Sabbath, as Sunday morning was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. 2 Suddenly there was a violent earthquake; an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled the stone away, and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid that they trembled and became like dead men.

5 The angel spoke to the women. "You must not be afraid," he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has been raised, just as he said. Come here and see the place where he was lying. 7 Go quickly now, and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from death, and now he is going to Galilee ahead of you; there you will see him!' Remember what I have told you."

8 So they left the tomb in a hurry, afraid and yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

9 Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Peace be with you." They came up to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10 "Do not be afraid," Jesus said to them. "Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

### After the reading:

For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us; **Thanks be to God.** (*'Word of God'*- page 21. *A Wee Worship Book*)

You are warmly invited to the...

# Inter-Church Good Friday Service



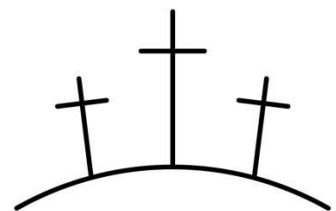
This will be held on the **7<sup>th</sup>** of  
**April**, at our normal time of  
**9.45am.**

*We look forward to seeing you then!*

*Bring a friend too if you like.  
Everyone is welcome!*



**GOOD  
FRIDAY**



*Good Friday*

## The Preaching Plan for April 2023:

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	Multimedia, Rheychille Reguyal
<b>7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY Inter Church service,</b> <b>9:45am at the Co-operating Church</b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> Rev David Balchin
<b>16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Will Balchin
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	Rev David Balchin
<b>30<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Ann Clegg (Wesley Sunday)

### **Wellsford Duty Schedule for April Duty Stewards**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> April</b>
Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke	Ann Clegg/ Maria Harrison	Eryl Nolan	Jocelyn Daken	Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke

### **Wellsford Morning Tea Schedule**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> April</b>
Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke	Ann Clegg / Maria Harrison	Eryl Nolan	Jocelyn Daken	Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke

**Parish Directory** for Ministry, please contact a member of the Parish Council. **Church Centre Office: 253 Rodney Street, Wellsford 0900.**  
**Phone: 09 423-8076**

**Minister:** Rev David Balchin 423 7150  
**Secretary:** Ann Clegg - email: [annclegg@proton.me](mailto:annclegg@proton.me)  
**Treasurer:** Willis MacGillivray

### **Other Members of Parish Council:**

Rheychille Reguyal 021 1796 158, Eulene Goddard  
Parish Bulletin/Website Admin: Mark Lorenzen [marklorenzen73@gmail.com](mailto:marklorenzen73@gmail.com)