



When we read the gospel accounts of the life of Christ, we find that the first 30 years of his life are almost skipped over. Next, we race at great speed from one dramatic incident to another, through the three years of his dynamic and compassionate ministry on earth. Then we reach Palm Sunday. And we put the brakes on. **Around 40 percent of the record of the gospels is set aside to deal with what happened in just Christ's last week. The focus of the gospels is the betrayal, arrest, death and resurrection of our Lord. These are the central events of the Christian faith.** Andrew Gamman



ST DAVID'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OTOROHANGA

APRIL 2023

Ranfurly St
Otorohanga

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Linked together as disciples of Christ to share our faith with
and give loving service to the community.



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That wonderful Easter Hymn:

“Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes, where thy body lay.
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son
Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won”.*

was written by Edmond Louis Budry in 1884. (Budry lived in Switzerland 1854-1932). He was a Swiss hymn writer most famous for these words set to music of the chorus “See, the conquering hero comes” from Handel’s Oratorio ‘Judas Macabaeus.’ The hero in this case being Joshua.

Handel wrote this oratorio in 3 acts in 1747 whilst living in London. He had been born in Halle, Germany, but moved to London in 1712.

Budry is said to have taken his inspiration for this hymn from the 1st book of the Maccabees – one of several books removed from the Bible by the Protestants in the 1880s.

Richard Birch Hoyle, born in Lancashire in 1875, and died in Surrey in 1938, is credited with the translation from the original French in 1923. He was commissioned to translate this by the World Student Christian Federation after permission was granted by Budry.

JM

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Copy for the May newsletter is requested by Monday 24 April.

The Editor

Calendar for April

Sat 1	4.00pm	Beattie Home service
Sun 2	10.00am	Morning Worship
Thurs 6	7.00pm	Maundy Communion
Fri 7		Good Friday
Sat 8	4.00pm	Beattie Home service
Sun 9	10.00am	Easter service
Wed 12	2.00pm	Managers
Sun 16	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wed 19	9.30am	Session
Sun 23	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sun 30	10.00am	Morning Worship

Every Friday 9am Prayer meeting at St David's

We will not be holding a service on Good Friday. Please see the King Country News for details of services at the other denominations.

Update from the moderator of the PCANZ.

You will see that our churches have responded amazingly well given the conditions and limitations they are under. Some are better resourced than others, yet all are responding as much as they can, in ways that they can. And warmth and hospitality are to the fore.

Mangapapa Union Church are dealing with terrible flood conditions, their foodbank has been overwhelmed with requests for assistance, yet they persevere overcoming numerous obstacles to make deliveries to isolated homes

Wairoa Union Parish also face terrible flood conditions in an isolated community. Their halls have sheltered rest home residents and a play centre. They are supporting many in their community who have no insurance.

St John's Presbyterian Church in Hastings continue their commitment to their community care ministry; buying groceries and cooking them to provide frozen meals to those in the community who need them most.

St Columba's Presbyterian Church in Taradale continues to provide a warm welcoming space to talk and have a free cup of tea and coffee. Those without power can cook their food at the church, and they have also provided free meat and hot meals including dietary options.

St Columba's Church, Havelock North have also provided a warm welcoming space, a place to talk, and for those without power a place to charge devices. They gathered blankets, clothing and other necessities on behalf of Civil Defence who distributed the goods within the first few days of the cyclone.

Please continue to remember those who have lost lives, family and friends, homes and livelihoods. Continue to pray for strength and resilience for the people and churches and church leaders in the most impacted areas; they are being called upon to give so much, often while contending with their own difficult situations.

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**We do thank our sponsors,
who make our newsletter
possible.**

Please support them!

A church key, one with a green tag, is missing. It opens the storage cupboard where the tables are kept. If you know where it is, please phone Nina. ☞ ☞ ☞

Preaching Roster

April 2	Terry Cowland
April 9	Keith Budge
April 16	Dawn Phillips
April 23	Terry Cowland
April 30	Keith Budge

Session report

We have an on-line presence!

Thanks to Ann Roberts and KSDesign, we now have a website. You will find us at

saintdavid's.org.nz

Ann has been working on this even while on leave of absence. To our sorrow, Ann has made the decision to retire from Session.

We are looking for a volunteer to update the website regularly. Training for this is available. If you are interested, please ring me, Dawn Phillips, 873 8735.

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Cuppa & Chat

On March 3rd, we had 17 people: - nice to see you all.

Our next meeting will be on 14 April, to avoid Good Friday.

As we have closed our bank account, the money we had in there has gone to local St John's, \$75.53. We also were holding \$60 and have put that into St David's welfare fund to be used where there is a need.



Thank you for your generosity.

Nina

Psalm 146: 6—9

The Lord remains faithful for ever.

He brings about justice for those who are oppressed

He gives food to those who are hungry..

The Lord sets prisoners free.

The Lord gives sight to blind people.

The Lord straightens the backs of those who are bent over.

The Lord protects foreigners.

The Lord gives relief to orphans and widows.