



St. Peter's Caversham  
**The Pebble**

7 December, 2014

Advent 2

**Lachrimae Amantis**

What is there in my heart that you should sue  
so fiercely for its love? What kind of care  
brings you as though a stranger to my door  
through the long night and in the icy dew

seeking the heart that will not harbour you,  
that keeps itself religiously secure?  
At this dark solstice filled with frost and fire  
your passion's ancient wounds must bleed anew.

So many nights the angel of my house  
has fed such urgent comfort through a dream  
whispered "your lord is coming, he is close"

that I have drowsed half-faithful for a time  
bathed in pure tones of promise and remorse:  
"tomorrow I shall wake to welcome him."

*Geoffrey Hill*

*From Lachrimae, or Seven Tears figured in seven passionate Pavans*

**A Warm Welcome**

to all who are sharing with us in worship today. The Ministry of Healing and Wholeness is offered in the Lady Chapel during Communion. Everyone is warmly invited to Morning Tea in the Parish Lounge after the Solemn Eucharist.

**The Liturgy for Today:**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

10:30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist

**HYMNS:**

- 12 On Jordan's bank
- 407 Lord, thy word abideth
- 7 Hills of the north rejoice
- 6 Hark the glad sound!
- 3 Come, thou long expected Jesus

**READINGS FOR TODAY**

[Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11](#)

[2 Peter 3: 8-14](#)

[Mark 1: 1-18](#)

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

[Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11](#)

[1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24](#)

[John 1: 6-8, 19-28](#)

**Parish News**

**Christian World Service Appeal** This morning's Pebble contains an appeal envelope and explanatory literature about the CWS Christmas appeal, which this parish supports. It is commended to you for your generous support.

**Why we should be relieved that the End hasn't come yet** There is strand of theological opinion that considers talk of Christ's second coming as a mythological left over from a time when the Church was a marginalised and persecuted group,

which leaves one wondering if Christ was mistaken or misreported in his gospel warnings about what comes next. Today's sermon offers the perspective that the gospel is based around the notion that the Kingdom of God was breaking in through the ministry of Jesus, and that God will bring the human story to an end through a decisive intervention in history. However, rather than idly wondering why God hasn't got around to doing this the Church should get down on its knees and thank God that he hasn't done so, for in its present compromised state it would be unprepared for such a disturbing encounter. But there is still time to sort itself out, the time God graciously provides for repentance and amendment of life.

**Wardens meeting** The Vicar will meet with the Wardens tomorrow. If there are any matters you want raised at that meeting please mention them to Tubby Hopkins or Kate Paterson.

**Next Frances Hodgkin's housegroup** The final meeting for the year of the Frances Hodgkin's housegroup will be tomorrow Monday at 2 pm in the Garden Lounge.

**Brass cleaning** There will be brass cleaning at 10.30 am on Friday 19 December in the Parish Lounge – helpers most welcome.

## Christmas at St Peter's.

**Sunday 21 December, 7 pm.** Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

**Wednesday December 24, Christmas Eve, 11 pm:** Carols, Midnight Mass of the Nativity and blessing of the Crib by Candlelight.

**Thursday December 25, Christmas Day:**  
8 am Holy Eucharist (1662)  
10.30 am Sung Solemn Eucharist and Carols.

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm** Claire Johnson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, Juen Miyagi, Shirley Menzies, George and Nonie Connor and Denise Walker.

**Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time**

David MacGill, Douglas Earwaker, John Carruthers, William Forrest and Allan Paterson.

**Wedding next week** Please pray for Maureen Baker and Dale Roberts who are to be married at St Peters on Friday.

**Our recent Sunday's Concert** raised \$700 towards the cost of the new church sound system. The concert was very well attended and our thanks to all concerned for the wonderful programme.

**New Year's Eve Watchnight Service** The poster advertising our Christmas Services has gone up on the Hillside Rd public noticeboard. You will see listed there the Watchnight Service on New Year's Eve starting at 10.30 pm, and timed to conclude close to the Midnight seeing in of the New Year. The Service consists of a Vigil of Readings and accompanying prayers, together with suitable hymns. It concludes with a celebration of the Eucharist according to the Liturgy of St Basil, which we use on special occasions. This is a wonderful and most appropriate way to see out the old year and see in the new.

**Rock** The deadline for copy for the end of year Rock edition is 14 December.

**St Barnabas weekly Service** Please note that the weekly Eucharist celebrated by the Vicar has now moved from Tuesday at 11 am to Wednesday 11 am at the request of the regular communicants there.

## **Parish Contacts**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Hugh Bowron – 455- 3961

**Vicar's Warden:** Tubby Hopkins – 454-2399

**People's Warden:** Kate Paterson – 455-5384

**[www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz](http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz)**