

# CHURCH OF TE HEPARA PAI

Sunday 22 March 2015

Te Rātapu Tuarima o Rēneti: te Rātapu Mamaetanga / 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent: Passion Sunday

## THE COST OF OUR NEW LIFE



# Jesus PAID it all

[ Isaiah 53:5 ]

THE COST  
OF OUR NEW LIFE

### SENTENCE OF THE DAY:

‘This is the covenant I will make with them,’ says the Lord: ‘I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.’ (Jeremiah 31:33)

### COLLECT OF THE DAY – *Let us pray:*

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour’s blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



“And I, when I am lifted up from the earth,  
will draw all people to myself.”

[ John 12:32 ]





Across the country today Anglican churches are celebrating **Passion Sunday** as a festival in the Church calendar. Passion Sunday is a name that is used for the fifth Sunday of Lent. Why is this Sunday called Passion Sunday? This name represents the passion or desire with which Jesus willingly suffered and died to pay for the sins of all mankind; and this is what we remember on Passion Sunday. The kaupapa for this Passion Sunday is **The Cost of Our New Life**, with the focus on what our new life cost Jesus rather than on what our new life cost us.

In the Old Testament passage for today from Jeremiah 31, the covenant or agreement referred to in verse 32 that the Lord previously made with the people of Israel was made at Mount Sinai. He told them that they were his special people. Then the people agreed that they would obey him. They said that they would obey his laws. But the people in Israel had not obeyed that covenant. They had worshipped false gods and they did not obey the Lord. They behaved badly towards other people. So the prophet Jeremiah foretells in the Old Testament passage from Jeremiah 31 that there would be a time when the Lord would make a new covenant or agreement with the nation of Israel (Jer. 31:31). The new covenant that the Lord would make would be different. The Lord wrote the old covenant on two stones. The new covenant would be in people's hearts. That means that the Lord's laws would be deep in their minds (Jer. 31:33). They would not obey the Lord's commands just because they were afraid of his punishment. Instead, the people would desire to obey the Lord. The Lord would forgive their past behaviour. The Lord would forget about all their sins.

Jesus' death on the cross was the sacrifice that made the new covenant, which is now with all people, possible (Jn. 12:32) and brought it into being. He had to receive the punishment that we all deserve to pay the price for our sins. That price was death. This was the cost to him and showed how much he loved us. Also he had to show that he had power over death. His rising again from the dead proved that he had eternal life. He gives this eternal life to everybody who puts trust in him.

When God raised him from the dead, Jesus became the source of new life. Jesus gives people this new life, when they put their trust in him by inviting him into their heart to obey him. This is the life of the world to come. It begins in us now and will go on forever (Heb. 5:9). So this new and eternal life for those who put their trust in Jesus under the new covenant cost Jesus his life.

The new covenant comes to be in people's hearts and the Lord's laws deep in their minds because Jesus is in their hearts, when they individually invite him into their hearts. Have you invited Jesus into your heart to obey him so that you have the new and eternal life? Jesus died on the cross to make this possible for you. Tomorrow may be too late! Now is the day of salvation!

In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit - amen.



## The Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

*A reading from Jeremiah chapter 31 beginning at verse 31.*

<sup>31</sup> “The days are coming,” announces the LORD. “I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel. I will also make it with the people of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant I made with their people of long ago. That was when I took them by the hand. I led them out of Egypt. But they broke my covenant. They did it even though I was like a husband to them,” announces the LORD. <sup>33</sup> ***“This is the covenant I will make with Israel after that time,” announces the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds. I will write it on their hearts. I will be their God. And they will be my people.”*** <sup>34</sup> They will not need to teach their neighbour anymore. And they will not need to teach one another anymore. They will not need to say, ‘Know the LORD.’ That’s because everyone will know me. From the least important of them to the most important, all of them will know me,” announces the LORD. “I will forgive their evil ways. I will not remember their sins anymore.”

*Let us all say together in te reo Māori the reading below from Jeremiah chapter 31 beginning at verse 31. Kia pānui tātou.*

<sup>31</sup> Nana, kei te haere mai nga ra, e ai ta Ihowa, e whakaritea ai e ahau he kawenata hou ki te whare o Iharaira, ki te whare hoki o hura:

<sup>32</sup> e kore ano ia e rite ki te kawenata i whakaritea e ahau ki o ratou matua i te ra i pupuri ai ahau ki o ratou ringa, a kawea mai ana ratou i te whenua o Ihipa; whakataka ana e ratou taua kawenata aku, ahakoa i waiho ahau hei tahu marena ma ratou, e ai ta Ihowa.

<sup>33</sup> Engari ko te kawenata tenei e whakaritea e ahau ki te whare o Iharaira i muri i aua ra, e ai ta Ihowa; ka hoatu e ahau taku ture ki o ratou wahi i roto, ka tuhi-tuhia ano ki to ratou ngakau; a ko ahau hei Atua mo ratou, ko ratou hei iwi ma-ku.

<sup>34</sup> I muri nei kahore he whakaako a tetahi i tona hoa tata, a tetahi i tona teina, kahore he ki atu, kia mohio ki a Ihowa; ka mohio hoki ratou katoa ki ahau, i te iti o ratou tae noa ki te mea rahi rawa, e ai ta Ihowa: no te mea ka whakarerea noatia e ahau to ratou kino, a heoi ano oku mahara ki to ratou hara.

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



## The Epistle Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

*A reading from Hebrews chapter 5 beginning at verse 5.*

<sup>5</sup> It was the same for Christ. He did not take for himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son. Today I have become your Father.” (Psalm 2:7) <sup>6</sup> In another place God said, “You are a priest forever, just like Melchizedek.” (Psalm 110:4)

[ CONTINUED OVER PAGE ]

<sup>7</sup> Jesus prayed while he lived on earth. He made his appeal with sincere cries and tears. He prayed to the God who could save him from death. God answered Jesus because he truly honoured God. <sup>8</sup> Jesus was God's Son. But by suffering he learned what it means to obey. <sup>9</sup> In this way he was made perfect. *Eternal salvation comes from him. He saves all those who obey him.* <sup>10</sup> God appointed him to be the high priest, just like Melchizedek.

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

## The Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33

*The Holy Gospel according to John chapter 12 beginning at verse 20. Praise and Glory to God.*

### Jesus Tells About His Coming Death

<sup>20</sup> There were some Greeks among the people who went up to worship during the feast. <sup>21</sup> They came to ask Philip for a favour. Philip was from Bethsaida in Galilee. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip went to tell Andrew. Then Andrew and Philip told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "The time has come for the Son of Man to receive glory. <sup>24</sup> What I'm about to tell you is true. Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only one seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who loves their life will lose it. But anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it and have eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Anyone who serves me must follow me. And where I am, my servant will also be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.

<sup>27</sup> "My soul is troubled. What should I say? 'Father, keep me from having to go through with this'? No. This is the very reason I have come to this point in my life. <sup>28</sup> Father, bring glory to your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven. It said, "I have brought glory to my name. I will bring glory to it again." <sup>29</sup> The crowd there heard the voice. Some said it was thunder. Others said an angel had spoken to Jesus.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup> Now it is time for the world to be judged. Now the prince of this world will be thrown out. <sup>32</sup> *And I am going to be lifted up from the earth. When I am, I will bring all people to myself.*"

<sup>33</sup> He said this to show them how he was going to die.

*This is the Gospel of Christ. Praise to Christ, the Word.*



**PALM CROSSES:** HELP NEEDED TO MAKE PALM CROSSES FOR PALM SUNDAY SERVICE. PLEASE TURN UP TO CHAPEL AT 5:30PM ON THURSDAY, 26 MARCH, 2015.

**CHAPEL SERVICES**  
LENT TERM  
HOLY WEEK AND EASTER  
**2015**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP:** 7:00PM,  
THURSDAY, 02 APRIL, 2015.

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE:** 9:00AM, FRIDAY, 03  
APRIL, 2015.

**EASTER DAY SERVICE:** 10:15AM, SUNDAY, 05 APRIL, 2015.