



The Blyth Valley  
Team Ministry  
St Mary's Church, Chediston

Service of  
Remembrance & Thanksgiving  
for those who died  
in the RAF Wellington Crash  
Herne Hill Farm  
10 September 1942



Sunday, 9 September 2012

in the Presence of  
George and Ann Munro

We welcome most warmly  
George and Ann Munro  
from New Zealand.  
George is the son of  
Thomas Fraser Munro,  
Pilot of the Wellington  
which crashed at Herne Hill Farm  
on the night of 11/12 September, 1942

## **The Blessing**

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth, and all humankind, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing ✠ of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

***Members of the Congregation  
are invited to join***

*We stand to sing as the Standards are collected.*

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:  
Come ye who hear,  
Brothers and sisters draw near,  
Praise him in glad adoration.
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:  
Hast thou not seen  
All that is needful hath been  
Granted in what he ordaineth?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee;  
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:  
Ponder anew  
All the Almighty can do,  
He who with love doth befriend thee.
- 4 Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding,  
Who when the godless do triumph, all virtue confounding,  
Sheddeth his light,  
Chaseth the horrors of night,  
Saints with his mercy surrounding.
- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen  
Sound from his people again:  
Gladly for ay we adore him.

*The Service begins at the War Memorial in the churchyard.*

Let us remember before God,  
and commend to his sure keeping  
those who have died for their country in war,  
both of this nation and from New Zealand:  
Robert Walter Freeman, Thomas Fraser Munro,  
Andrew Scott Renwick, Jack Foden Stanley,  
Kenneth Hamilton Vigers,  
and all who have lived and died  
in the service of humankind.

*A wreath is laid.*

*A Representative of the Royal British Legion says:*

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: age shall not  
weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning we will remember them.

All respond loudly:

**We will remember them.**

*A few moments of silence follow.*

*All move informally into church and remain standing in their places.*

*The Standards are presented as the RAF March Past is played.*

*We sing the National Anthem of New Zealand.*

**God of Nations at Thy feet,  
In the bonds of love we meet,  
Hear our voices, we entreat,  
God defend our free land.  
Guard Pacific's triple star  
From the shafts of strife and war,  
Make her praises heard afar,  
God defend New Zealand.**

*We continue with the National Anthem common to both New Zealand  
and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.*

**God save our gracious Queen,  
Long live our noble Queen,  
God save The Queen.  
Send her victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us:  
God save The Queen.**

*The Rector welcomes the congregation.*

**I have set the Lord always before me:  
He is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.**

**Show us your mercy, O Lord:  
And grant us your salvation.**

**For with you is the well of life:  
And in your light shall we see light.**

Spirit of justice, Creator Spirit; help us to make and keep this country and the country of New Zealand a home for all its different peoples, and grant to our governments and all their representatives imagination, skill and energy that there may grow amongst us aroha and peace. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God of the British Isles and God of the southern sea and of New Zealand and of all who dwell in our lands; we give you thanks and praise for our countries, and for what we have achieved together. Increase our trust in one another; strengthen our quest for justice, and bring us to unity and a common purpose. You have made us of one blood; make us also of one mind. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God our stronghold and defence; we commend to you those whose task it is to defend us in danger, especially the men and women of the Royal Air Force and the Royal New Zealand Air Force; inspire them in war to serve our countries well; in peace, hold them ready and alert. In their lives may they bring honour to our countries' name. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Draw your Church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love on every continent and island. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God of earth and heaven, the heavens are open wide since Jesus our brother, our Redeemer, has entered through the veil. We thank you for his new and living way, by which we join the unnumbered millions who are with you forever. Amongst those unnumbered millions, we thank you for the lives of Robert Walter Freeman, Thomas Fraser Munro, Andrew Scott Renwick, Jack Foden Stanley, Kenneth Hamilton Vigers, Jane Burroughes and James Aldous. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Grace ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

## The Second Reading

Matthew 5.1 - 12

### The Address

*We stand to sing.*

- 1 **I vow to love my neighbour, whatever race or creed,  
to join her in her suffering, to plead with him in need.  
This love will always question, will search out right and wrong,  
will give itself for justice, for those who don't belong.  
This love will never falter, till every soul is free,  
till nations held in bondage can sing of liberty.**
- 2 **Through scenes of devastation, through famine, drought and war,  
we'll work in ways of gentleness, work hard till we restore  
the vision of the people, the hope of human grace,  
till nations dwell in peacefulness together in this place;  
till all the world together can sing in joyful praise  
till all have found communion together in our days.**

Andrew E. Pratt (born 1948)

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### The Prayers (from the New Zealand Prayer Book)

God, the source of all authority, bless our Queen, Elizabeth, her family and the family of nations she upholds; may she remain a worthy focus of our loyalty, and point us unfailingly to a higher commonwealth, the true humanity to which she and all her subjects owe allegiance; for you are the God of nations; you are our God. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Bidding

Brothers and sisters in Christ and in our common God-given humanity, we gather here to give thanks for the armed forces of the Empire whose bravery and self-sacrifice delivered Europe and the world from enslavement by forces of great evil. We give thanks especially for those men who gave their lives in the fields of this village on the night of the 10th to 11th of September, 1942. We pray for those who, following in their footsteps, take up arms to defend freedom and humanity today in our Commonwealth countries and remember the strong bonds of blood and affection between the peoples of New Zealand and the United Kingdom. We remember also those nations oppressed by tyranny today as, in the words of Chesterton, our earthly rulers falter.

Lastly, as we pray for the peace of the world and the unity of all peoples, we pray that God's kingdom may come on earth as in heaven:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*We stand to sing:*

- 1 For the healing of the nations,  
Lord, we pray with one accord,  
for a just and equal sharing  
of the things that earth affords.  
To a life of love in action  
help us rise and pledge our word.**
- 2 Lead us forward into freedom,  
from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred,  
all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness  
fear will die and hope increase.**
- 3 All that kills abundant living,  
let it from the earth be banned:  
pride of status, race or schooling,  
dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice  
may we hallow life's brief span.**
- 4 You, Creator-God, have written  
your great name on humankind;  
for our growing in your likeness  
bring the life of Christ to mind;  
that by our response and service  
earth its destiny may find.**

Fred Kaan (1929-2009)  
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*Please sit.*

## **The First Reading**

**Isaiah 40.21 - 31**

*We stand to sing:*

- 1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet thy tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King!**
- 2 Praise him for his grace and favour  
to our fathers in distress;  
praise him still the same for ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glorious in his faithfulness!**
- 3 Father-like he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Widely as his mercy flows!**
- 4 Angels, help us to adore him,  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace!**