



# PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

## 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021



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### Introducing The Rubbish Challenge

#### 10 Steps over 10 Months:

- Step 1) February: Consider
- Step 2) March: Measure
- Step 3) April: Recycling
- Step 4) May: Disposables
- Step 5) June: Food
- Step 6) July: Paper Towels
- Step 7) August: Office
- Step 8) September: Kids
- Step 9) October: Cleaning
- Step 10) November: Celebrate



**The 'Why?'** | We all know that we make too much rubbish. Too much goes in the red bin, off to landfill. Too much stuff is only made for one use before getting chucked. Too much recycling gets contaminated and dumped. Not enough stuff gets composted. This is not just a problem for our city councils. It is a problem for God's creation, and so it is a problem for God and God's people. We all add to landfill waste and so we all get to share in solving the problem. Could this even be a way of serving God? Could it be a face of mission in 2021?

**The 'How?'** | How? By taking small steps. To cut down on our rubbish, we think about what we use and where it goes. We make choices, about what to buy and how to dispose of what we don't want any more. The Rubbish Challenge is a series of little actions, one each month. Together they add up to a big impact.

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#### Step 1) February: Consider

Bible verse: Ephesians 1:22

"And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything."

*'Big Idea': Mission is Gospel in Context*

Christ is Lord of everything, and the Gospel of Christ is good news for everywhere. Mission happens at the points of connection between the eternal truth of salvation and the messy specifics of human life. In our time we face huge environmental issues. Following Jesus takes us wherever he leads, even into the rubbish dumps of the world.

Question - for reflection & discussion

Whose problem is our rubbish? Is it a problem for God?

It's great to throw things in the bin and someone else takes it away ... but where does it go? What impact does it have on the environment? Is it our responsibility?

Is this something our church/group/home would like to address this year?

Action Steps for February: Read and Discuss

1. Download the 'Waste' study guide from A Rocha's 'Rich Living' series:  
[www.arocha.org.nz/resources/rich-living-series](http://www.arocha.org.nz/resources/rich-living-series)
2. Read and talk about it with others.
3. Decide to do the Rubbish Challenge 10 Steps this year.  
For a church this could involve taking a formal proposal to the leadership/Council.

## Transfiguration.

Bible Readings for St Andrew's Service in Rakaia on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

Minister Rev. John Titlow

This resource is taken from Pulpit Resource by William H. Willimon.

Mark 9: 2 - 9; Jesus takes Peter, James and John to the top of a mountain where he is miraculously transfigured before them, causing Peter to exclaim, "It is good for us to be here."

2 Corinthians 4: 3 - 6: Paul proclaims to the church at Corinth the God who, in Jesus, says. "Let light shine out of darkness".

The story of the transfiguration of Christ on the mountaintop is one of those biblical texts that is meant more to be enjoyed, wondered at, and relished with delight rather than picked apart and meticulously interpreted. We are witnessing worship on the mountain with Jesus and the inner circle of his disciples. We are at the heart of our faith. Christianity is a revealed religion. That means it is not something that we have thought up or something that is humanly devised. It is a gift, something that comes to us, a truth shown to us rather than discovered by us,

The transfiguration of Christ on the mountain is thus pure worship, something at the heart of our faith. We cannot fully explain it. We can only proclaim it, relish it, enjoy it, and wonder at the sheer glory of it all.

Many factors are at work in the gathering of any congregation on any Sunday. The folk who listen to the sermons, awaiting a word, are listening for many different messages. Yet one experience unites us all: each of us has been transformed by the worship of the living Christ.

Prayer: Mysterious, wonderful, uncontainable God, you come to us in all of your transforming glory, whether we want you or not. You reveal yourself to us, sometimes in the most unlikely places. You transfigure our humdrum, dull, everyday world into the kingdom of heaven. We do not walk away from encounters with you the same as we were before we met you. You warm our hearts and move our lips to praise you. Therefore, we praise you, shout hallelujah and bend the knee before such glory. Amen



COME THIS SUNDAY at 9.30 am and listen to Rev John's message on these two readings. Most Welcome.

Rev John will be with us again on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 9.30 am

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## St. Andrew's Rakaia

### Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February

10:30 am | Rakaia Fit Kids | A time for friendship, fun, and support. Welcome to all pre-school children.

1:00 pm | Steady As You Go | Balance, strengthening and gentle exercises for senior folk's health and well-being..

2:00 pm | **St. Andrew's Mission Meeting** in the lounge.

**\*Notice:** Contributions for Plains Speaking Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of Feb. If you have any contributions to send, email to Elsa or plainsoffice@gmail and I can forward on. Thank you.

Also note that Arii will be away from the 18<sup>th</sup> Feb – 4<sup>th</sup> March.

February Services			
14 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. John Titlow
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Arii
17 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm	Carew	Led by Robert Jones
21 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. John Titlow
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Neville Burns
28 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. Neville Burns
	10:00 am	Trinity Mayfield	Rev. Arii
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. John Titlow (TBC)

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## Prayer

Almighty Creator, all things come from you. You call us to be responsible stewards.

Jesus Christ, you are in all the world. You call us into mission to all the world.

Life-giving Spirit, give us strength to follow Christ, in the little things and in the big things.

Amen.

