

Call for Workshops

Tuning Our Hearts to the Psalms

How the Bible's Songbook Can Shape Worship and Witness in Aotearoa

Conference Date & Location

July 17-19th, 2024, Waipuna Hotel, Auckland

Conference Theme

Our conference will gather biblical scholars, pastors, songwriters, theologians, worship leaders, creatives, and students to explore how the Psalms might shape the songs, prayers, and witness of Christian communities in Aotearoa New Zealand. The program will include presentations on the psalms by academics, creative workshops for songwriters and church leaders, corporate worship, and more. Expected outcomes of the conference include:

- An edited volume based on conference proceedings
- New recorded music inspired by the psalms and embodying the languages and cultures of Māori, Pasifika, and Pakeha peoples
- Pastoral and liturgical practices reflective of the rich content of the psalter

Call for Workshop Proposals

Are you a pastoral leader, worship leader, musician, liturgist, spiritual director, counsellor, artist or poet who has used the Psalms in your ministry and have experiences and ideas to share? We wish to provide a platform to share your experience and insights into using the Psalms with other practitioners from around Aotearoa and beyond. Examples of possible topic areas would include:

- Contextual rewriting/ translating of Psalms for corporate or personal use
- Incorporating the Psalms into liturgy
- Use of the Psalms in corporate Prayer
- Use of the Psalms in a therapeutic context
- Traditional uses of the Psalms in worshipping communities
- Improvisatory worship using the Psalms

Proposals should be for workshops clearly related to the conference theme; of 45 minutes long; and should be interactive and contain explanation and demonstration of your topic and opportunities for audience feedback/exploration. We hope to feature a wide variety of workshops so please see the above list as indicative rather than exhaustive.

Proposals should contain your name, contact details, institutional affiliation (if applicable) and an outline/description of your proposed workshop in 300 words or less. This should be emailed to Jonathan.robinson@carey.ac.nz by 15th February 2024 (early proposals will be appreciated). We will be happy to discuss possible proposals with you in advance if you have any questions or concerns. Contact by email in the first instance.

Plenary Speakers

- Brent Strawn, Professor of Old Testament at Duke Divinity School, North Carolina
- Jill Firth, Lecturer in Hebrew and Old Testament at Ridley College, Melbourne
- Te Hira Paenga, Tikanga Māori Dean at St John's Theological College, Auckland
- Anameka Paenga, Co-Principal of Te Wānanga Ihorangi formerly Oati
- Michael Rhodes, Lecturer in Old Testament at Carey Baptist College, Auckland. Michael will be speaking alongside other Carey faculty members.

Call for Papers

Please note there is a separate call for papers for those wishing to present academic material on the Psalms.