



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled



11th October 2020 with **Rev'd John Hebenton tssf**

There is morning tea in the church lounge after the 9.30am Service.

Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

Service: 456 NZPB

Psalm 106:1-6,19-23

NZPB Page 322

Psalm Response: Glory to God – Creator, Word and Spirit

As God always was, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

First Reading: Exodus 32:1-14

Bible Page 58

Second Reading: Phil 4:1-9

Bible Page 955

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Bible Page 803

Sentence: This is our God for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation. *Isaiah 25.9*

Prayer for the Day

Kind and generous God,
you prepare a feast for all people.

May we prepare for your banquet by putting on the garment of love
that springs for a pure heart, a clear conscience, and a genuine faith.
Help us to bring the lost and lonely, the poor and those in need
to your feast where all are fed.

Through Jesus Christ our Liberator,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, in everlasting glory. **Amen.**

All are welcome to receive communion

**Prayers and anointing for healing are available during communion in
the chapel, at the back of the church.**

Theme

The conversation in Matthew (22:1-14) between Jesus and the Chief Priests plus the Jerusalem elite continues. They asked by what authority Jesus did ALL these things: teaching in the temple, healing, forgiving sins, eating with sinners etc..., overturning money changers tables – ALL these things and more. And Jesus links his authority to John's and then tells some stories about sons, and vineyard tenants, and now a wedding feast. All of which are about their lack of authority and abuse of power, and how his authority comes from God.

Luke tells a similar story but with big differences. We normally read this story as Jesus saying "this is what the kingdom of heaven is like." The king then is God. Except this king acts much more like a Herod or a Caesar than the God of the Beatitudes. Is this really what the kingdom of heaven is like?

Some suggest the Greek might be better translated as "The Kingdom of Heaven is being compared to ... Which raises of question of who is comparing the kingdom of heaven to this kind of wedding feast? Is Jesus instead offering a critique of a common way the kingdom of heaven was described – a way implied in how the Chief Priests and Jerusalem elite finished the story about vineyards and acted in their dealings with the poor tenant farmers?

This story finishes with the weeping and gnashing of teeth in the outer darkness – is this where this kind of understanding of the reign of God will lead us? If so, where are our assumptions about the reign of God leading us astray, and what other ways of describing this reign are we able to offer? And how does any of this help us understand by what authority Jesus does all what he does?

Prayers

Our community - We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Pyes Pa, The Lakes and Merivale, especially for those badly affected by Covid-19, either through the death of a loved one, ill-health, or changes to employment. We pray for all those seeking to bring healing and hope, particularly health workers and organisations like Awhina House, Te Tuinga Whanau, and Foodbank.

We pray for those who are dying, sick, in hospital or in any other kind of need, parishioners in rest homes and those who receive home communion.

Our Church: The people of the *Opōtiki Parish*, the tikanga rua relationship with the Te Kaha Rohe, their people and clergy: Bettine Maxwell; Te Hira Paenga, Rangi Davies, Elaine Kasper, Arahia Callaghan,

Wider Church: Today we pray for and give thanks for the many people who committed to and work tirelessly for Anglican Missions, without them we would cease to exist.

Notices:



Tauranga Faiths Come Together to Support World Peace. The Tauranga Moana Interfaith Council (TMIC) invites you to its sixth annual Prayers for World Peace as part of the International Week of Prayer for World Peace (11th to 18th October). This will be held in The Tauranga Historic Village Hall, on Tuesday 13th October, gathering from 6:30pm for a 7pm start followed by light refreshments afterward. Please bring a small plate of food that represents your faith community to share. Koha-donation on entry. For further information contact John Hebenton



AAW Notices: Tuesday 13th October 1.00pm This month Christine Nicholls will be our guest speaker and explain about Indigo Dyeing. We will have the usual Bring and Buy sales table and any contributions gratefully received, raffle and lovely afternoon tea as it is 3 of our members birthdays this month. New members welcome



All Souls Day Remembrance Service, Sunday 1st November, both 8am & 9.30am services. A time to remember those we love, who have died over the last year, especially those we have lost during the Pandemic/Covid-19 lockdowns, when no funeral gatherings were possible. We will give thanks for all they meant to us. We light a candle for them, to represent the light of their life, and our belief we have in the resurrection to eternal life. If unable to attend please forward details, full name, d.o.d, to the Parish Office, admin.gatepa@waiapu.com



Lay Learning Days: The next lay learning days will be early in 2021. The lay learning days previously advertised for August have been cancelled



Giving Envelopes - we have been receiving giving envelopes with no numbers on them. There is no way of tracing who they belong to, so please ensure your envelope is numbered before going in the plate.

Remembering the Battle – Covid stopped our last attempt at this. So at 4pm on October 28th, we are offering a short service to commemorate the Battle of Gate Pa; to remember those who fought and died here as part of the wider conflict; to reflect on the consequences of these military engagements for ngā iwi o Tauranga Moana; and to offer karakia/prayers for the future of Tauranga. October 28th is Te Pūtake o te Riri, He Rā Maumahara; the national day of commemoration of the New Zealand Wars and conflicts. Please invite people to come and bring delicious food so that we can offer hospitality and refreshments in the lounge after.

This week in the Parish: *Week of Prayer for World Peace*

Monday	12 th Oct	– Aphasia Group start 9-week lounge
Tuesday	13 th Oct	9.30am Holy Communion 1.00pm AAW 6.30 Historic Village Tauranga Faiths Come Together
Wednesday	14 th Oct	7.00 Vestry
Friday	16 th Oct	9.30am Prayer Circle
Saturday	17 th Oct	
Sunday	18 th Oct	8.00am and 9.30 Holy Communion Services

Service Next Week 18th Oct (OS29)

Liturgy page 476

Psalm 99

First Reading: Exodus 33: 12-23

Second Reading: 1 Thess 1: 1-10

Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-22



Dates to note in your Diary:

- Week of Prayer for World Peace 11th – 18th October
- An Interfaith Prayer for World Peace, Tuesday 13th October, at 7pm,
- Remembering the Battle of Gate Pa - 28th October at 4pm
- All Souls (All Saints) 1st November
- Carol Service 20th December

Vicar Rev'd John Hebenton 021 679202,

Email: john.hebenton@waiapu.com

Parish Office Patricia Price 578 7916 / 021 0292 1498

Email: admin.gatepa@waiapu.com

Vicar's Warden Clark Houltram 543 2366

People's Warden Faye Mayo 543 3369

Parish Website www.stgeorgesgatepa.com

Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican>

Vicars blog <http://colourfuldreamer.blogspot.co.nz/>

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Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known