



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

14th May 2023

Easter 6

Year A with The Rev'd John Hebenton



Welcome to worship at St. George's.

There is morning tea after the 10am service. Please join us.

Visitors are very welcome.

Please remember to turn off your phone during the Church Service.

Liturgy 476

Psalm: 66:8-20

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Gospel: John 14:15-21

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Sentence

Those who love me will keep my word, Jesus promises, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. *John 14:23*

Prayer for the Day

God who speaks in silence;
help us wait in quietness.

When you seem absent,
grant us the faith that knows you are there,
bringing to fulfilment all you have started.

Through Jesus Christ our Liberator,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

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

Last week's gospel reading (John 14:1-14) invited us to live the way of Jesus – the way of compassion, generosity, justice and love. Or as one of the commentators puts it “The Way of Jesus is the embodiment of the dream and hope of God...We must be people of the way, being the dream and hope of God, as we participate in abundant life while here on earth together”¹ As we live the way of Jesus we will come to know the truth of God and God's commitment or covenant to restore humanity and renew all creation. In this we are to find the life of God.

This week we continue to read from John 14 as Jesus continues to be the good shepherd for his fearful and grieving disciples as their dreams come to an end. But it is not the end. Jesus has walked beside them, teaching them about God in the way he lived and how he saw and treated people. He is now sending another to accompany them, another advocate, The Spirit, to walk alongside and within each of them that Jesus' way might continue, and the dream and hope of God be fulfilled. We need to hear those words today. For us at St Georges and as an Anglican church the future is uncertain. There are no easy answers. We need to know that the Spirit of God abides in us and accompanies us as we seek to live the Way of Jesus today. And as those disciples today we are invited to be advocates for others – walking alongside them in the same way Jesus showed as he began this talk – by washing feet as one who serves – and giving the commandment to love. And as we do that may we see the divine Spirit already abiding in them.

How do we experience the Spirit accompanying us in our doubts and fears. Who do we walk alongside and are we open to discover God's life already present? Finally, who walks alongside us allowing us to live the way?

Prayer

Our community: We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Pyes Pa, Oropi, the Lakes and Merivale. We particularly pray for the ministry of Centrepont, Whanau Aroha, Hodgson House.

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 and any others you hold in your hearts.

Our Church: We pray for the people & clergy of the Parishes of Whakatane and Edgecumbe-Kawerau; Waiapu Kids St. George's and Growing through Grief.

Wider Church: We pray for Anglican Financial Care (AFC) which has provided financial services for clergy and lay workers for almost 50 years.

¹ (<https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/revised-common-lectionary/fifth-sunday-of-easter/commentary-on-john-141-14-6>)

Notices



The Armed Man - a mass for peace. Tauranga Civic Choir present this powerful work by contemporary Welsh composer Karl Jenkins. Friday 19th May 7.30pm and Saturday 20th May 3pm at St Peter's Spring St Tauranga. Tickets \$22.20 booking through Eventbrite or talk to Bonnie who can book for you.



During June, the Korean Dreamchurch which meets in our Church each Sunday, is fundraising to take their youth on retreat in Australia. They are having three events here at our Church, run by the youth and supervised by adults:

Saturday 3rd June: \$10 to have your car cleaned inside and out – general public

Sunday 4th June: \$10 car clean in and out, just for St. George's parishioners

Saturday 17th June: Korean Food Market in the carpark 10am -2pm.

Please let Charmaine in the office know if you're interested in a car clean 😊



Taizé Service 18th June, 7pm at St George's. Come and join us for a contemplative service based on the music of the Taizé Community.



Building a Climate of Hope –

a series of webinars at 7.30 pm:

June 14 - Hope for an Endangered Planet Dr Jane Goodall

June 21. Hope for Aotearoa NZ, 2050+ Rabbi Shapiro & climate experts

June 28. Hope for our Pacific Region Pacific Climate Warriors

July 5. Hope for our World Rt. Hon Helen Clark

Rod Oram will introduce keynote speakers and facilitate panel discussions

Registration: details later

Our faith traditions call us to act justly, tread gently on the Earth, and care for one another



Food for the Foodbank: Non-perishable items are gratefully accepted, thank you.



The Friday Parish Prayer Circle If you would like prayer for yourself or another, please contact the Rev'd Joyce Crawford (579 4363) or Shirley Scott (571 2450). Please let them know if prayer is no longer needed.

This coming week at St George's

Tuesday 16th May 9.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 17th May Vestry meets

Sunday 21st May 8.30am and 10am Holy Communion Service

Service Next Week 21st May - Easter 7

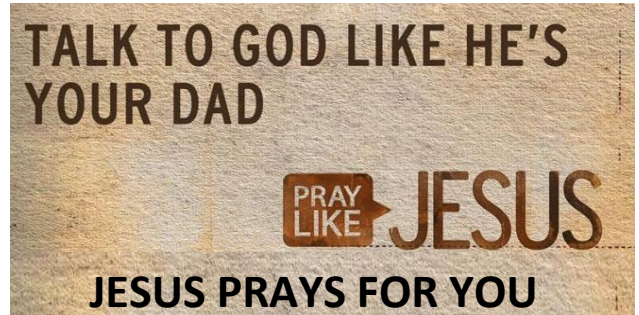
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Psalm - 68:1-10,32-35

First Reading - Acts 1:6-14

Second Reading - 1 Peter 4: 12-14;5:6-11

Gospel - John 17:1-11



Dates to Note in your Diary

Vestry meets 17th May 7pm Church Lounge

Taizé Service Sunday 18th June 7pm

Harvest Festival Sunday 25th June

Vicar	John Hebenton	021 679 202 john.hebenton@waiapu.com
Priest Assistant	Debbie Garrett	021 868 869
Ministers	The Congregation	
Parish Administrator	Charmaine McMEnamin	578 7916 admin.gatepa@waiapu.com
Vicar's Warden	Clark Houltram	543 2366
People's Warden	Faye Mayo	543 3369
Website	https://www.stgeorgesgatepa.com	
Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican	

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St George's Anglican Church, Gate Pa in the Diocese of Waiapu:

Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known