



# St George's

**Anglican Parish of Gate Pa**

*All who enter here be reconciled*

15<sup>th</sup> November 2020

with **Rev'd John Hebenton tssf**

**OS33**



There is morning tea in the church lounge after this Service.

Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

## **Service: 456 NZPB**

Psalm 123

NZPB Page 351

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

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

First Reading: Judges 4:1-7

Bible Page 191

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Bible Page 960

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Bible Page 807

**Sentence:** God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other. *Thessalonians 5:9,11*

**Prayer for the Day** - Collect for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

God our creator,

you entrust each of us with great treasure.

Help us to be responsible stewards of the gifts and skills you have given us.

May we honour the trust you have in us

and use our talents as generously as you have given them.

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 for the week

Last week we heard the story of 10 virgins/bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom. Some were streetwise and had spare oil. They were ready to wait. Some were not ready and missed out on the party. There is more to waiting than sitting around.

Then Jesus tells the well-known parable of the talents. We all know that it is about being a good and faithful servant to God by using our natural abilities in the service of the Kingdom. We see the “Lord” as a kind of Jesus figure – not a very nice Jesus figure though. And to be honest most of us are not so keen on the ending with all that outer darkness and the wailing and gnashing of teeth. But we just get on with it.

Like most of the Biblical stories it helps to put this story back: back into its place in Matthew’s gospel, and back into the world it came out of. When we do that, we find some other ways of understanding what Jesus was talking about. Some ask where this story fits with the beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount. At the Ascension Jesus will promise to be with us until the end of the age, not in some far-off place. How does all that alter how we might read this story? A talent is an absurd amount of money, about 20 years income, or about a lifetime’s pay for poor day labourers. Maybe this is about allowing the life and absurd generosity of God to flow through us – that we might live the beatitudes, and join and advocate for the poor in spirit, the peacemakers, those persecuted for living God’s justice.

There are other ways to read this parable that warn the hearers about the ways of the foolish bridesmaids. They speak about how to live in the gap between the “now” of the reign of God, and the “what will be” of the reign of God.

How does this parable help us be street wise bridesmaids actively waiting for the world of the beatitudes to come into being? What might this mean to how we live in the presence of God?

## Prayer

**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, Merivale Community Centre, 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, and any others you hold in your hearts.

**Our Church:** The people and clergy of the *Taupo Parish* - Jenny Chalmers (Vicar);  
The people and Ministry Support Team of the *Turangi Co-operating Parish*  
The people of the *Reporoa Co-operating Parish* – Kevin Finlay

**Wider Church:** Today we pray for the Anglican Indigenous Network (AIN) and its work in development, training and resource sharing of its international members: Maori, Native Americans, indigenous Alaskans, Hawaiians, First Nation Canadians, Australian Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders.

## Notices:



**Duty Rosters for 9.30am services** – We need people who are willing to fulfil a range of ministries in our Sunday services. John is willing to help you with what the roles entail. Please talk to John or fill in the roster.



**Home Communion Meeting** Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November after the 8am service. If you would like to be involved please talk to John



**Pastoral Care Meeting** Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November after the 9.30am service for all involved in offering pastoral care.



After the 9.30am service on the 22<sup>nd</sup> there is a **meeting to organise the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month**, November 29<sup>th</sup>, service.



Bonnie would appreciate you **saving cardboard rolls and small boxes** for her class. There will be a box in the foyer.



Calling all carol singers! The **St George's Singers need you**. We started practicing this week for our Carol Service on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December. We would love to welcome some new singers. Rehearsals on Thursday nights at 7pm. Contact Bonnie 027 575 9199 if you would like to give it a go.



**Excess Wine FOR SALE:** Purchase your Christmas supplies now.  
\$15 A BOTTLE: Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Chardonnay, Pinot Gris. First in, first served. Available from the Parish Office (8.30am - 12.30pm). \$15 each or \$80 for 6 bottles (mixed is fine).

**Tauranga Community Foodbank** need donations. The weekly offerings in the basket have been very small. Please consider putting an extra item in your shopping basket and bring to church.



**Volunteer Banking Assistant Required:** Patricia requires help once a week (preferably on Monday morning), to count and bank that Sundays giving. It takes about an hour. Please let Patricia know asap if you can help



**Parish Coffee Meet: (Last for this year)** November 24th, at 10.30am Meeting in Zest Café, 187 Chadwick Road, Greerton, (opposite Centrepont). All welcome.



**Arias and Lieder** – a Concert of Handel, Mozart, Rameau, Purcell and Schumann. Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm, at St. Peter’s Anglican Church. Mount Maunganui. Entry by koha

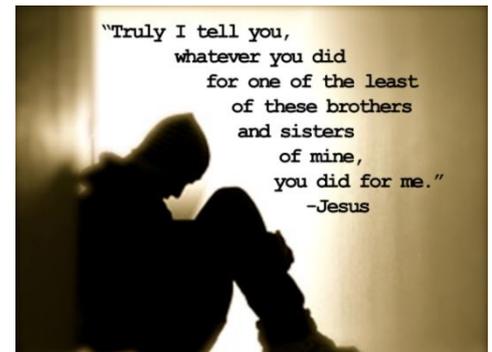
### This week in the Parish:

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November Vestry @ 7.00pm  
 Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November **St. George’s Singers Practice** 7pm at Church  
 Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am Prayer Circle  
 Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 8.00am and 9.30am Holy Communion Service

- **meeting to organise the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, November 29<sup>th</sup>, service**

### Service Next Week 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov (OS34)

Christ the King - Liturgy page 476  
 Psalm 100  
 First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
 Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23  
 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46



“Truly I tell you,  
 whatever you did  
 for one of the least  
 of these brothers  
 and sisters  
 of mine,  
 you did for me.”  
 -Jesus

### Dates to note in your Diary:

- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November** Parish Coffee Meet 10.30am
- **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November** Taize service 7pm
- **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December** Carol Service at 6pm

Vicar	Rev’d John Hebenton	021 679202,	
		Email: john.hebenton@waiapu.com	
Parish Office	Patricia Price	578 7916	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*