



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

21st November 2021

Yr B with The Rev'd John Heberton



**In-person Morning Prayer at 8:30am - don't forget to sign in, mask up,
and keep the 1 metre distance apart.**

There is an Online Service at 9:30am on Zoom and YouTube.

Liturgy Page 456 NZPB

Sentence: Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing. *Revelation 5.12*

Prayer for the Day

Ruler of the everlasting kingdom,
prince of peace, champion of the despised:

you are the king;

you make a cross your throne;

you wear a crown of thorns;

you call your subjects friends.

Help us to take up our cross,

to hunger and thirst for all that is good;

then will your kingdom come on earth as in heaven. Amen.

Psalm 132:1-12, 13-18

NZPB Page 356

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

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

First Reading:

2 Samuel 23:1-7

Bible Page 261

Second Reading:

Revelations 1:4b-8

Bible Page 994

Gospel:

John 18:33-37

Bible Page 881

Theme

This week churches around the world are marking the end of another liturgical year and celebrating Christ the King or the Reign of Christ Sunday. For us it is also Aotearoa Sunday, which really reminds us of how slow we were in this land to live out the reign of Christ with ngā iwi ō Aotearoa and the first Anglican Church in this land. And it is Stir-up Sunday – all of this stirs us up, I hope.

Today we hear the last words of David the King. He wasn't a great king. His son and grandson blew it. He is not a great model of what the "kingship of Christ" is about. And yet his reign is held up as the pinnacle, and his last words are worth reflecting on.

In contrast to this royal image of Christ the King, we hear Pilate's interrogation of Jesus in John's gospel. An interesting choice given how little "king language" appears in this gospel. Here we meet a Jesus who did not accept the traditional understanding of king. He was nothing like David. His kingship is revealed in his crucifixion. His kingship is seen when he washed his disciples' feet. His kingship is shaped by transforming compassion and a persistent commitment to justice and love. It made room for creativity and hope. It looks nothing like Pilate's understanding, or Caesar's, or any other ruler then and now. It is not of this world. Something different is at play. Nor is it just in heaven. The reign of God is here and now.

So, as we grapple with our new normal shaped by a little virus, what future do we imagine in Christ? What values and ways of being will shape that future? How is God stirring us up so that we get on with the work of the kingdom?

Prayers

Our community: We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Pyes Pa, Merivale and The Lakes. We particularly pray for the ministry of Centrepoint, Whanau Aroha Centre, and Merivale Community Centre.

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: Today we pray for the people of the Havelock North Parish & their Clergy, St Luke coordinator, St John's Theological College Tikanga Dean, Faculty & Students.

Our World: Today we pray for the Bishop and the Bishop-elect of the Province in Southeast Asia, Diocesan Bishops, Suffragan Bishops and the Assistant Bishops of West Malaysia, Diocese of Singapore, Diocese of Kuching, Diocese of Sabah, and the NZCMS Mission partners serving in Southeast Asia, their clergy, people, their ministry, missionary deaneries in Nepal, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand,

Vietnam, Laos, and the companion diocese relationship between the Diocese of Waikato and the Diocese of Kuching.

Notices:



Sunday and Mid-week Communion services. Following new advice from the Bishop, vestry has decided to find our new normal. **Starting from Sunday 28 November, Advent 1**, there will be two in person Sunday services; at **8.30am** and **10am** - yes, different times. Communion in one kind (bread only) will be offered at both services. Quiet singing (behind masks) will be offered at the 10am service. Both services will require you to be masked throughout and to maintain a 1 metre distance. Normally the 10am service will be offered online, but not on the 28th. The vicar and his phone will be in Wellington. Rev Deborah Garret will be presiding at both these services.

The mid-week communion service will start on Tuesday 30th November.

We would invite those who are not vaccinated to not attend in order to offer a safe space for those who are more vulnerable. We will NOT be asking for your vaccine status when you arrive.

Those who wish to have morning tea together are invited to go to Mega Mitre 10 after the service. Vestry will revisit this next year.



This Sunday joins us for our Zoom online Sunday service at 9:30am. <https://anglicanchurch-nz.zoom.us/j/4387538725?pwd=US9ibGNncHI3V25oRFI4S0RhWTd3QT09> Meeting ID: 438 753 8725;

Passcode: 1864 Or watch on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCY6aj_VKJYW9YzDy2zZ-EAA/videos.

There will be a "zoom morning tea" after the service.



This Sunday is the last of our quiet in-person service of Morning Prayer at 8:30am. Everyone is asked to maintain the 1 metre distance and to stay masked for the duration of the service.



Carols on the Lawn – Our carol service this year will be a celebration of carols from around the world. It will be shorter and simpler than our usual service, and it will be outside on the back lawn beside the church. It will still include some carols sung by the choir and some by everyone. Bring your own masks (to be worn at all times), blankets and chairs. Some seating will be provided. Sunday 12th December at 4pm. If wet postponed until 19th December.



Our Parish Office Telephone is now back up and running.



If you wish to contribute like poems, a recipe, a book review and etcetera, please email to our Parish Office at admin.gatepa@waiapu.com on or before 21st November.



The Parish Prayer Group. If you would like prayer for yourself or a family member, please contact the Rev'd Joyce Crawford (579 4363) or Shirley Scott (571 2450)



The Parish Office is open from 9:00am to 12:00pm on weekdays. The Lounge and Hall are available for hire under strict Covid-19 Level 2 guidelines.



Tauranga Community Foodbank need donations. With church reopened, your contributions each week are gratefully received. You may also donate online at <https://taurangafoodbank.co.nz/>



Unite against COVID-19 **Get vaccinated-** reduces the risk of the virus to you, your whānau, and your community. The more people that vaccinate the stronger we will be and the sooner we can return to church.



The 'Get one. Give one.' Campaign there so many more of the poorest and most vulnerable that need access to vaccines in developing countries. You can still give at <https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/get-one-give-one>

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Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known