



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

24th October 2021

Yr B with The Rev'd John Hebenton

Give God a hand

Get Vaccinated



<https://www.stgeorgesgatepa.com/>

**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 476 NZPB

Sentence: The redeemed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads. *Isaiah 51.11*

Prayer for the Day:

O Jesus Christ, teacher and healer,
you heard the cry of the blind beggar
when others would have silenced him.
Teach us to be attentive
to the voices others ignore,
that we might respond
through the power of the spirit
to heal the afflicted
and to welcome the abandoned
for your sake and the sake of the gospel. **Amen.**

Psalm 34:1-8

NZPB Page 233

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

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

First Reading: Job 42:1-17

Bible Page 424

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Bible Page 974

Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

Bible Page 823

Theme:

Last week I asked, “what do we think God was up to in Jesus?” and “what does that say about God?” These are the questions at the heart of each of the gospels, and the whole New Testament really. This week our readings remind us that we often need to let go of our old answers before we can

begin to grasp what is really being offered. Too often our old answers get in the way.

They got in the way of Job and his friends. Job knew God to be righteous, and as such rewarded the upright and punished the sinner. And Job was as upright as they came! And yet calamity had come upon him. His friends came to comfort him and ended up trying to fix his theology and pleading with him to confess his obviously many sins to end the calamity. Not great pastoral practice by the way. Job wanted none of it and demanded his time in court with God; and got it. But instead of being the prosecutor, he found himself on the end of God's questions about creation and the meaning of life. He could not answer – he did not know how the universe runs. And then he responds... well how does he respond? Job 42:6 is probably the most contested verse to translate in the Hebrew Bible. Translators continue to struggle with it, in part because the old understandings keep popping up. Have a look in your bible. Some translations offered by commentators include, "I retract my words and repent of dust and ashes." Or "I withdraw my case and am comforted." Letting go is hard work.

Mark knew that when he began his gospel, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Let that blow your mind and change your hearts and lives. And trust this good news!" (Mark 1:15). The rest of the beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, God's Son, (Mark's Gospel) is about the disciples having their minds blown and that changing their hearts and lives. But first they too needed to let go of so much they knew and expected of God. The central section of Mark, (8:22 – 10:52) between the two stories of blind men being healed is symbolic of this. The disciples, and we, are being healed of our blindness so that we, like Bartimaeus, might do what the rich man could not, cast off all that is precious and holds us back and follow.

So, what do we need to let go of/cast off, so that we might join Job trusting God despite the evidence, and with Bartimaeus follow on the way as disciples in these uncertain times?

Prayer:

Our community: We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Pyes Pa, Merivale and Oropi. We particularly pray for the ministry of Centrepont, Whanau Aroha Centre, Hodgson House, Pyes Pa Country Lodge 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 Reporoa Co-operating Parish & their minister, the people of the Taupō Parish & their clergy, the people of the Turangi Co-operating Parish, their Ministry support Team & visiting clergy support.

Our World: Today we pray for the continued growth of the Anglican Church of Tanzania through the work of local evangelists and clergy and for its relationship with the Church in New Zealand.

Notices:



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.



Please join the Church Service starting this Sunday, 24th October at 8:30am. This is a non-eucharistic service, no communion, no singing, no morning tea, everyone must maintain the 1 metre distance apart and need to stay masked for the duration of the service. Please contact the Parish Office to book your place at 07-5787916 or at email admin.gatepa@waiapu.com



Join us for our online Sunday service at 9:30am on Zoom. Meeting ID: 438 753 8725; Passcode: 1864 or by clicking on this link <https://anglicanchurch-nz.zoom.us/j/4387538725?pwd=US9ibGNncHI3V25oRFI4S0RhWTd3QT09> or watch the YouTube live stream https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCY6aj_VKJYW9YzDy2zZ-EAA/videos. There will be a "zoom morning tea" after the service.



The Parish Prayer Group meet each Friday at 9:30am. 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)



Tauranga Community Foodbank need donations. Please donate online at <https://taurangafoodbank.co.nz/> The foodbank is still operating during Covid-19 Level 2



Tauranga Interfaith Prayers for World Peace can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/TaurangaMoanaInterfaith/>



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. **Book online at www.BookMyVaccine.nz or call the Covid Vaccination on 0800**

28 29 26 to book your vaccination. For more details, please log-on to <https://www.health.govt.nz/>



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>



Waipuna Hospice have created Give Up to Give Back, an online shop that allows you to donate your lockdown savings towards the ongoing work of the hospice. Due to the recent alert level changes, Waipuna Hospice has a potentially devastating loss of income and need to raise over \$94,000 per week to make up the \$4.9 million shortfall in our operating costs. Please click here to donate <https://www.waipunahospice.org.nz/donation-shop/>

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CWS appeals for Afghanistan - Afghanis urgently need food, non-food items like hygiene materials, shelter materials and healthcare. The [Afghanistan Emergency Appeal](#) will fund

mobile phone cash transfers to some of the neediest families who have fled their homes. Donations to the Afghanistan Emergency Appeal can be made by phone: 0800 74 73 72 or at <https://cws.org.nz/donate-now-afghanistan/>

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| People's Warden | Faye Mayo 543 3369 |
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St George's Anglican Church, Gate Pa in the Diocese of Waiapu
Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known