



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

31st July 2022

Ordinary Sunday 18

Year C with **The Rev'd Deborah Broome**



Welcome to worship at St. George's.

Don't forget to mask up. Please keep your nose covered.

Please join us for morning tea after the 10am service.

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Psalm 107:1-9, 43

NZPB Page 325

First Reading: Hosea 11:1-11

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Second Reading: Col 3:1-11

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Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

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Sentence: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. *Colossians 3:1*

Prayer for the Day

Generous God,
you give us many gifts
to lead us into the fullness of life;
keep us from clinging to what is fleeting,
and help us to hold firm to all that lasts;
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.**

Intercessory Prayers:

To the phrase: Generous God, in your mercy,
Please pray: **hear our prayer.**

Theme

The rich man in Jesus' parable would probably have regarded himself as someone who believed in God. The way he acted however ran counter to that. He shows no signs of gratitude to God – or, for that matter, to the workers in his fields – for the plentiful harvest. He's not about to share his extra crops with the members of his community, but wants to keep it all for himself, building bigger barns in which to store it. He relies for his security on what he has in those barns, in his possessions. He has left God out of the picture. Do we do that? In spite of what we say about our faith in God, do we actually live as if everything depends on us and on the things we can accumulate? Where do we find our security? Are we living as if God isn't there (that is, as "Christian atheists")?

The prophet Hosea (8th Century BCE) gives us an image of God as a frustrated and rejected parent, angry and anguished because the people have turned away. God had called God's people "out of Egypt" in the Exodus, rescuing them from a life of slavery and leading them to the promised land. Almost as soon as the Israelites had left Egypt, however, they began complaining and wanting to go back there. Their perennial temptation: wanting to go back to Egypt. They also showed little gratitude, and they kept forgetting that the God who saved them then was still around and wanting to look after them. Again, do we do the same thing – living as if God isn't there?

The reading from Colossians calls us to "seek the things that are above." This is a reminder to live in a way that is congruent with the faith we profess, an invitation to strip off dysfunctional practises and clothe ourselves with our new identity in Christ. It's also an invitation to remember that we are part of a community, and to help each other to live out, and live into, our membership of Christ.

Prayer

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

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 at this time.

Our Church: Today we pray for our Ecumenical Bodies including World Council of Churches, the Uniting Church of ANZ and the Inter-church Hospital Chaplaincy.

Our World: Today we pray for all people in crisis who have been affected by war or disasters and give thanks for those who have helped in recovery efforts. We continue to pray for the Ukraine.

Notices



All services are 'no vaccine pass required'. The Covid scanning posters will remain on display for those still using them.

Need assistance when Rev'd John is away? Call Charmaine in the office in the mornings 07 5787916 or Rev'd Debbie Garrett 021 868 869.



Where in the world is John? Keep in touch by reading "This week in the Parish".



Rosters: Thank you for offering to serve on Sundays. The roster for August is out in the foyer now. Please fill in the blank spaces if you can serve in this way. Hard copies available for 8.30 team.



We're looking for pot plants to make the linkway look and feel a bit more welcoming. Do you have any you would like to donate?



The Friday Parish Prayer Circle: 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).



Parish Pub Night Friday, 12th August at 5pm, Oasis Bar & Grill, corner of Chadwick Rd and Cameron Road, Greerton

Sunday the 14th August has several events happening:

- **Sea Sunday One service only at 9.30am.**
- **A Meeting** to organise the St. George's Day service after the 9.30 service. **Help needed!**
- **Taizé Service** will be on **at 7pm.** This is a quiet candle-lit service of song and prayer with silence to reflect.



Simple lunch: 21st August after 10am service. Come along and enjoy some relaxed time together.

This week in the Parish

Monday 1 Aug
Tuesday 2 Aug 9.30am Mid-Week Communion Service. John: in Euston
Wednesday 3 Aug John: Meeting of the Central Fund, Sprituality Centre.
Thursday 4 Aug John: Meeting with Bishops Protector - evening
Friday 5 Aug John: John visits Aunt

Saturday 6 Aug John: overnight with Sisters, Pocock Street
Sunday 7 Aug 8.30am and 10am Holy Communion
John: Flight, Heathrow. Safe journey, Pax et bonum.

Service Next Week 7th August - Ordinary Sunday 19

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Ps 50:1-8,22-23

Isa 1:1,10-20

Heb 11:1-3,8-16

Luke 12:32-40

Dates to note in your Diary

Rev'd John away: back Tuesday 9th August

Next Sunday 7th Aug: Rev'd Debbie Garrett is taking both services

Parish Pub Night: Friday, 12th August at 5pm

Sea Sunday: 14th August Planning meeting for St. Georges day celebrations

Planning meeting: for St. Georges Day after 9.30 service on 14th August

Taizé Service: Sunday 14th August 7pm

Simple lunch: 21st August after 10am service

St. George's Day Festivities: 11th September (note change of date)

Rev John's Collation: Saturday 17th September 11am RSVP to Office

SPCA Animal Blessing Sunday: 9th October

Peace Pole Installation Ceremony: Saturday 15th October

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Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known