



# St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

*All who enter here be reconciled*

28th November 2021

with **The Rev'd Debbie Garrett**



**In-person Morning Prayers at 8:30am and 10:00am today.**

**Please sit on a seat with a pew sheet placed on it.**

**Don't forget to sign in, mask up, and keep the 1 metre distance apart.**

**Liturgy Page 476 NZPB**

**Sentence:** Stand up and raise your heads; your redemption is drawing near.

*Luke 21.28*

## **Prayer for the Day**

O God of all the prophets,  
you herald the coming of the Son of Man  
by wondrous signs in the heavens and on the earth.  
Guard our hearts from despair so that we,  
in the company of the faithful  
and by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
may be found ready to raise our heads  
at the coming near of our redemption,  
the day of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Psalm 25:1-10**

NZPB Page 222

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

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

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 33:14-16 Bible Page 645

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Bible Page 960

**Gospel:** Luke 21:25-36 Bible Page 857

**All are welcome to receive communion in one kind**

**Please stay in your seats. The priest will bring the bread to you**

## **Theme:**

Mark Davis<sup>1</sup> writes, “The apocalyptic waiting of the Advent season, is torn between avoiding rudimentary distractions and living with desperate faithfulness in a world where God is at work. And as disparate as those two options sound, they describe perfectly the dynamics of Advent 2015. In a world where environmental destruction is heating the planet and bringing threats of drought to one corner of humanity, we are invited to “Tech the halls” with new and improved gadgets. In a world facing the worst refugee crisis of the modern era, we are invited to focus on a “war on Christmas” over red coffee cups. In a world where terror chills the heart in one moment, pumpkin spice warms the body in the next.”

## **Advent Hope**

Advent Hope is not a static thing. Like the evolution of hope between Jeremiah and Luke, our understanding of hope in God keeps evolving. Advent hope is also the reform of our present ways, the priorities we base our lives on, who and how we share our wealth with, organise our communal life and prepare for the future. And lastly Advent hope is centred on God’s ongoing everlasting love at work in the world and in our lives.

## **Reflection.**

Over the next four weeks you will be invited to reflect on our readings. Each day you are invited to quietly pray and reflect on some questions.

- How has your hope in God changed over your life?
- In what ways might you be invited to reform your life this advent as we prepare for Christ’s coming?
- How are you being changed by love?

## **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 Centrepont, Whanau Aroha Centre, Oropi 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 Anglican Missions National Director, New Zealand Church Missionary Society, Overseas Mission and Diocesan Mission Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.politicaltheology.com/blog/author/markdavis/>

**Our World:** Today we pray for the six NZCMS Mission partners working in Central Asia, South Asia and North Asia and the Christians who live their faith often in the face of persecution.

**Notices:**

*Parish Office Hours 8:30am to 12:30pm*



**Sunday and Mid-week Communion services.** This 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. There will be no online service this week. Rev Deborah Garret will be presiding at both these services. Those who wish to have morning tea together are invited to go to Mega Mitre 10 after the service. The mid-week communion service will start on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November in the main church. We would invite those who are not vaccinated to not attend in order to offer a safe space for those who are more vulnerable.



**Offertory,** please place your offerings in the bowl on the font either as you arrive or as you leave.



**Home Communion meeting** after the 8.30 service on next Sunday, 5th December 2021.



**There will be a Pastoral Care meeting** after the 10:00am service on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2021.



**We are inviting you to join the Mid-week services** starting this Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> December.



**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 12<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm. If wet postponed until 19<sup>th</sup> December.



**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)



**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/>



**Christmas Market** on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 9-12pm, Centrepoint carpark.** Our **Market Day** will be now held in December. This will be our major fundraiser for the year having been postponed following the cancelled Blossom Festival in September. Now is the time to sort out books, bric-a-brac, toys and games, accessories, jewellery, furniture, China, glassware, quality clothing and preserves. These can be dropped off at St Georges during office hours or before/after Sunday services. We are also selling sweets and cakes and produce. Can these be brought to the Lounge on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>. We would like more people to help on the stalls and someone to run the sausage sizzle. Please contact me if you can help. We look forward to a great fundraiser. Thank you in anticipation.



**Parish Social Night,** Oasis Bar & Grill, Cnr Chadwick and Cameron Roads, **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 5pm.** Come for a chat and social drink/meal with your fellow parishioners. Enjoy a drink, share a meal and good conversation. Look forward to seeing you next Friday.

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*Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known*