



# St George's



Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

*All who enter here be reconciled*

5<sup>th</sup> April 2020 with **The Rev'd John Hebenton**

LENT 6

## Liturgy 476

Psalm: 118:1-2, 19-29

NZPB Page 336

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

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

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9

Bible Page 594

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Bible Page 954

Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

Bible Page 802

**Sentence:** At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2:10-11*

## Prayer for the Day

Jesus, when you rode into Jerusalem  
the people waved palms  
with shouts of acclamation.

Grant that when the shouting dies  
we may still walk beside you even to a cross.

For your loves sake we pray.

Amen.

## Theme for the Week

How different this Palm Sunday is from every other Palm Sunday we might have been part of. And how different it is from the event itself. No social distancing that day. A small crowd from the country gathered waving branches (no palms in Matthew) on the Monday (Matthew is just playing with us now) before Passover. They are welcoming their “king” who rode a donkey into the city where he is met with confusion and scorn.

As Jesus rode, he was living out the fullness of the meaning of Zechariah's prophecy, and re-enacting what other great kings like Solomon had done. This is not the war-horse which Herod Antipas and Pilate would have ridden as they entered Jerusalem, coming to oversee this troublesome festival, surrounded by cavalry and infantry, with crowds brought out to proclaim their entry. The donkey is both a pack animal and a royal animal ridden in times of peace. This is a peace parade, timed for Passover, the ancient festival celebrating God's act of bringing Israel out of slavery from a foreign empire. The crowd respond by singing the Passover psalms which proclaim God's liberation of these enslaved people.

This king, Jesus, has come to redefine royal power – found not in violent grandeur but on a cross, bringing God's healing and compassion to all. This week we join in this walk from this peace parade to Golgotha. And we join in our homes, apart from those we would normally walk with.

This week take time to learn to what makes for peace, in your life, in this lockdown. Take time to be still, to experience something of God's compassion and healing. Take time to know hope love, and joy.

## **Prayer**

**Our community** - We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Pyes Pa and Merivale. We pray for those who live without hope, and all those who seek to bring your hope. We particularly pray for the ministry of Centrepont, 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. We especially pray for any others you hold in your hearts.

**Our Church:** Today we pray for the people of the Gate Pa Parish & their clergy: John Heberton (Vicar), Retired: Joyce Crawford, Adrienne Malcolmson

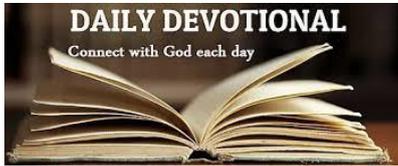
**Wider Church:** Today we pray for Anglicare Polynesia.

## **Notices.**

Patricia is still working from home during these weeks of lock down. You can ring the parish office and leave a message. Or you can email her at [admin.gatepa@waiapu.com](mailto:admin.gatepa@waiapu.com). Her personal mobile is 021 0292 1498. If you want to simply call, to talk, I am happy to hear from you.

John is also working from home. You can contact him on 021679202, or by emailing <mailto:john.hebenton@waiapu.com>.

**Phone contact** - Hopefully everyone has been rung now. If you would like more regular communication, please contact John.



**Together in Prayer** - Even though we can no longer physically gather, we can pray together. You are invited to join John in praying at 9.30 each morning in our own places, knowing that although we are apart, we are together in prayer. We are using the Daily Devotions for the day from A New Zealand Prayer Book | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa. You can find these starting at p. 104 in the Prayer Book, or on the internet at <https://anglicanprayerbook.nz/104.html>. Or you can email Patricia for the Service Booklet of Daily Devotions.

**Together in Prayer on Sunday.** At 9.30 each Sunday morning we will livestream a service on our [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican/). Go to <https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican/>. You do not need to be a Facebook member to watch this. It is just like a normal webpage. We will use the service starting at p. 476 in the prayer book. This can be found at <https://anglicanprayerbook.nz/476e>. Or you can email Patricia for the Service Booklet. I will provide some notes for the sermon each week. The sermon will also go up as a separate podcast.

This Sunday is Palm Sunday. Please bring your home-made palm crosses. There is a video showing how to make these on our Facebook page.

**Praying with our Province.** The Archbishops and bishops have asked us all to join them in prayer at 7pm every Sunday that worship services are suspended. Please light a candle in your home and pray with and for others. Pray for your families, your neighbours, our country, and those ill with the virus. Pray for our health professionals and all those on the frontline who are working tirelessly to care for our community. Pray for the lonely and the frightened. Pray for the courage and grace to be a comfort and a light to the world.

In light of this Bishop Andrew Hedge invites you to join him on Zoom each Sunday and Wednesday night for Night Prayer. (Zoom is an online way of holding meetings and teleconferencing). People can feel free to join him in the ZOOM meeting from 6:50pm onwards, or to follow us on Facebook on either the Bishop Andrew Hedge page <https://www.facebook.com/BishopAndrewHedge/> or the Diocese of Waiapu page (<https://www.facebook.com/Anglican-Diocese-of-Waiapu-1412385835721850/>). Please feel free to circulate to your family and friends. Join Zoom Meeting - <https://zoom.us/j/494425649>, Meeting ID: 494 425 649

*“I roto i te pōuri te mārama e whiti ana; heoi kihai i mau i te pōuri / The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.” John 1:5*

**Holy Week** – John will offer a reflection each day at 9am on our Facebook page with some kind of action you can do at home. The notes will come out in time for the 9.30 am service. We will try to use our Facebook page to offer some kind Tenebrae service at 7pm on Thursday night, Good Friday reflection at 9.00 am on Friday, and then Easter Sunday service at 9.30 am on the Sunday morning. And after the service on the Sunday you are invited to join us for a Zoom morning tea over the internet.

**Connecting via the internet.** John invites you to a zoom chat for Easter Sunday morning tea, after our service, using our computers or phones. Here is the link for any that might want to join - Zoom Meeting <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/670186877>  
Meeting ID: 670 186 877.

Once you click on the link, follow the prompts to join the zoom group. Make sure your camera (or video it maybe called) is open and your mike is not on mute.

**Being Church differently** - John has also been joining with ADJust: Diocese of Auckland Young Anglicans for Social Justice who are livestreaming The Daily Offices at 7.30am, 12.30pm and 8.30pm. I am joining them for Night Prayer at 8.30pm – a nice way to finish the day. As Anglicans of the Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, these offices will be sourced from A New Zealand Prayer Book He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa, which is available online at <http://anglicanprayerbook.nz>.

#### **For more information about the COVID-19 Alert Level 4**

For updates on council services during COVID-19 Alert Level 4 please visit:

Tauranga City Council: <https://www.tauranga.govt.nz/business/health-and-safety/covid-19>

Western Bay of Plenty District Council:

<https://www.westernbay.govt.nz/community/covid-19>

For official advice on essential services, self-isolation, looking after your mental wellbeing, vulnerable communities and other information visit the NZ Government [website -https://covid19.govt.nz/](https://covid19.govt.nz/)

If you are unable to find what you need, and are not sure who to contact for help, call the free government helpline on 0800 779 997 or on 0800 22 66 57 (8am–1am, 7 days a week).

**For more resources from the Diocese** – go to the [Facebook page](#) or the Waiapu Diocesan [website](http://www.waiapu.com/) at <http://www.waiapu.com/>

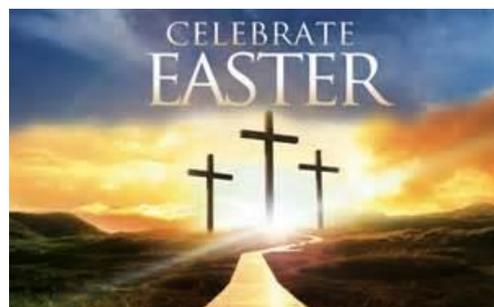
## Readings for the next week are:

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April - John 12:1-11  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April - John 12:20-36  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April - John 8:31-42  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April - John 13: 1-17, 31b-35  
**Good Friday** 10<sup>th</sup> April - John 18: 1-19:42

**Holy Saturday** 11<sup>th</sup> April – Matt 27: 57-66 or John 19:38-42

**Easter Day/Te Rā o te Aranga/Tucake Tale (Fijian)** 12<sup>th</sup> April -

- ❖ Jer 31: 1-6
- ❖ Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24
- ❖ Acts 10: 34-43
- ❖ John 20: 1-18 or Matt 28: 1-10



## Collect for Easter Day

Living God, long ago faithful women  
proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection,  
and the world was changed forever.

Teach us to keep faith with them,  
that our witness may be as bold,  
our love as deep,  
and our faith as true.

Amen.

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Vicar's Warden	Clark Houltram	543 2366
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St George's Anglican Church, Gate Pa in the Diocese of Waiapu

