

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Morrinsville

November 8th, 2020

Theme for Sunday:

Door Shut or Open?



Readings: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Psalm 78:1-7

Matthew 25:1-13

Sentence: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

Psalm 78:1

Collect: Spirit of liberation, you have called us to be witnesses to your compassion and justice. Yet, we grow impatient and discouraged because so little seems to change, and our efforts feel inconsequential. Help us maintain the joy, enthusiasm, and commitment required so that we might always be ready to reflect your love when the opportunity comes our way. Amen.

From Love to the World

Monday November 2nd All Souls Day

Hebrews 11:29-40

Introduction to Prayer: Lord, may your word live in me and bring me to eternal life.

Response to Scripture: All my hope on God is founded, all my trust he will renew (Joachim Neander).

Q: Make a list of people of faith whose lives were/are a source of encouragement for you.

Prayer– Lord, may I be among your saints in faith and perseverance in difficult times.

Tuesday November 3rd

Romans 6:3-9

Q: What role does baptism have in your Christian experience? How do you express Paul's teaching in your daily life?

Prayer–God of salvation, help me, in Christ, to walk today in newness of life.

Wednesday November 4th

Joshua 24:1-3,14-25

Q: What challenge do Joshua's words, "Whom do you worship," have for today's church?

Prayer– Covenanting God, thank you for your faithfulness to your people through all generations. May my life express my thanks in faithful worship and service.

Thursday October 29th

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Q: Make a list of the signs in your community of faith that the love of Jesus moves within and among them?

Prayer – Thank you, God, for those whom you have given me as sisters and brothers in the fellowship of Jesus Christ.

Friday November 6th

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Q: How would you express your source of comfort in the face of death to another person?

Prayer – Lord Jesus Christ, crucified and risen: in the face of death give me confidence to trust that you, who have walked the way of death, will bring me to where you are.

Saturday November 7th

Matthew 25:1-13

Q: What evidence of faith and hope at the prospect of the coming of Jesus in glory do you see in people of faith today?

Prayer – Jesus Christ, Lord of time and space, teach me how to live in faith, hope, and love until your kingdom comes.

Sunday November 8th

Psalms 78:1-8 (1-7*)

Q: When you were younger, where did the teaching of the stories of faith take place? Where does it happen now? If there is a gap, what could your congregation do about it?

Pray for our own land and people, Aotearoa New Zealand, and Australia.

SPECIFIC PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

- **Pray for** teachers and students facing exams as the year is closing, especially those who have missed valuable time at school because of covid 19 and lockdowns.
- **Pray for** the sun to shine on Saturday and we have a great Fair day!
- **Pray for** us to care for each other and reach out to those in need as we enter the Christmas season.
- **Pray for** our friends and family who are unwell, especially Lynda.
- **Pray for** those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

GIVE THANKS

- **For the blessings we receive each day, and may we bless others around us.**
- **For all the freedom we often take for granted here.**
- Let us learn to enjoy all that we have.
- **For the great day we will have at our Fair!**
- **For the team of leaders preparing for Cursillo**
- **For all your saints - the people that have supported and inspired you in your life**
- **For the enjoyment of working with all the other churches in offering sausages, sweets and live music on Sat night the 31st**

Focus

This week we take a hard look at our personal commitment to witness to the light, to be ready for transformation and justice work. When the disciples are preaching about the transformational power of the resurrection 30 to 40 years later, there is little to no change visible. The Roman Empire is still in power and the poor are still being exploited and life is not "Realm of God" like.

Are we doing the hard work that lets everyone feel welcome in our churches?

Are we witnessing to the light or is there a possibility we are just going through the motions?

Prayer: Help us maintain the joy, enthusiasm, and commitment required so that we might always be ready to reflect your love when the opportunity comes our way. Amen.

Next Sunday: Rejecting Fear – Embracing Joy

Readings: Nov 15: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

15 th Nov	Sidespeople Hutchings	Welcomer	Data Janice	MOW Margie	1 st reading Kate M	2 nd reading Colin	Intercessions Margie	Morning Tea Singh family
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Coming up...

The Morrinsville Christmas Music Festival

Sunday 29th November 2020 beginning at 4pm.



For more information phone Ariel McCracken on 027 2945139 or email arielmcc@slingshot.co.nz

Cursillo Three-Day Weekend 14 – 17 January 2021 Falloon House, Otorohanga College

The Waikato Taranaki Anglican Diocese Cursillo is hosting three-day residential weekend enjoyed in the name of Jesus Christ. It is a short course in Christian living to support anyone involved in Christian Ministry.

Join us for a weekend of fun, learning and fellowship.

If you would like more information, please contact Jan Lockett-Kay
Waikato Taranaki Lay Director, jlk@xtra.co.nz or 027 222 3053.

Margie Thomas and Lance's and Val's daughter Heather are both on team 😊

The organisers hope to finalize numbers attending by 10 December.

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