

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Morrinsville

September 13th, 2020

When you come to church please 'sign in', disinfect and sit at least 2m apart.

Stay kind, stay safe.

If you don't feel well stay home

Theme for Sunday: Land Sunday



Readings: Genesis 3:14–19; 4:8–16,
Psalm 139:7-12 Matthew 12:38–40

Sentence: Then God said, "I give you every seed bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food." *Genesis 1:29*

Collect: Creator God, we come before you today as creatures of the land you created. Earth, our home, cares for us and witnesses our actions, as you do. We pray to be grounded and guided as people who are earthly and joyful, practicing our oneness with the earth. Amen

From Love to the World

Monday September 7th

Exodus 14:19-31

Introduction to Prayer: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good.

Response to Scripture: I bless the Lord, who counsels me.

Q: What transforming experiences have you had, which reflect the impact of the grace of God?

Prayer– God of past, present, and future, help me to trust you at all times.

Tuesday September 8th

Romans 14:1-12

Q: Paul assumed that diet was a personal issue for Christians and not something to argue about. What, the, are practices that go beyond the legitimate diversity embraced by the church today?

Prayer– Lord Jesus Christ, I vow to honour you in my life today.

Wednesday September 9th

Romans 14:13-23

Q: Do you find self judgement difficult? Or are you inclined to be overly self-critical? How has Jesus helped you to see yourself?

Prayer– Gracious God, inspire me as I judge myself and encourage others.

Thursday September 10th

Romans 15:1-6

Q: What trials have you endured, or are enduring, as a follower of Jesus? What light do the scriptures throw on this?

Prayer – Risen Christ, may your presence create and sustain genuine harmony in my relationships with others.

Friday September 11th

Romans 15:7-13

Q: How have you experienced the multicultural dimension of the church's life?

Prayer – Lord God, in all of today's circumstances, may I continue to live with the hope that you alone can do.

Saturday September 12th

Matthew 18:21-35

Q: Do you have a straight talking friend like the one mentioned in Saturday's commentary? How does he/she help you?

Prayer – Forgiving God, inspire me to live with the grace to forgive and the humility to discern my own need of forgiveness.

Sunday September 13th

Exodus 15:1b-11,20-21

Q: Given what you know of God through Jesus' teaching, can you enthusiastically sing Moses' song celebrating the destruction of Pharaoh's people?

SPECIFIC PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

- **Pray for** the continuing of us all to follow the rules of level 2 and to get used to wearing face masks.
- **Pray for** the lead up to this year's elections and to make informed decisions when we vote.
- **Pray for** our communities and all who hold places of authority.
- **Pray for** those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

GIVE THANKS

- **For** the speakers at our referendum evening – for their passion and commitment, and willingness to share it with us.
- **For** our families and all who care for us.
- **For** the response from our community to our Art day – and especially the generosity and skills of our artists
- **For** technology which allows us to attend meetings by Zoom when we are unable to get out to go to meetings.

Focus

This week we will look at our relationship with the land. Adam and Eve learned that their relationship with the land changed when they were removed from the Garden of Eden. As earth-beings, we are grounded in the land, God's building surface. The land is a witness, a mother, and a character in the human story that cannot be ignored.

What would a truly just and repaired relationship with the land look like?

How can we better respect the holiness of the land?

Prayer: May we be grounded and guided as earth-beings to be joyful and to practice our oneness with the earth. Amen

Next Sunday: Wilderness/Outback Sunday

Readings: September 20: Joel 1:8-10,17-20; Psalm 18:6-19; Romans 8:18-27, Matt 3:13-4:2

20 th Sept	Sidespeople	Welcomer	Data	MOW	1 st reading	2 nd reading	Intercessions	Morning Tea
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We are not allowed to serve drinks or food under the umbrella of the church. Thus, all events that revolve around hospitality have been cancelled until we are back in Level one.

Until we return to level one Raewyn is prepared to meet families at the Op Shop if they need to buy some clothes. She has made her phone number available on the door.

Coming Up:

September 20th Concert – United Youth Orchestra from Hamilton with Conductor Yoshiki Tatsumi.

<https://www.facebook.com/United-Youth-Orchestra-132518860157640/>

Contact Val Riches 027 4448286 if you have any questions or concerns or simply need a chat.

A thought for the day:

Barbara said she used her art to find her voice and to speak for those who are silenced (by violence in their lives). This reminds me of the powerful words of one of our hymns:

We shall go out with hope of resurrection
 We shall go out, from strength to strength go on.
 We shall go out and tell our stories boldly,
 Tales of a love that will not let us go
 We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted
 We'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed
 We'll weave a cloth of all the world united
 Within the vision of a Christ who sets us free.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken,
 We'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed,
 We'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer
 Vibrating love alive in every heart.
 We'll share our joy with those who are still weeping,
 Chant hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
 We'll leap and dance the resurrection story
 Including all within the circles of our love. (by Joyce Boyce-Tillman)

May these words speak to your heart today