

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Morrinsville

August 30th, 2020

DON'T MISS This Saturday September 5th Art Display and Art sale in the church, alongside Devonshire teas in the Hub.

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:
Forest Sunday**



Readings: Genesis 2:4b–22

Psalm 139:13–16

John 3:1–16

Sentence:

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands
Isaiah 55:12

Collect: God, the forests teach us that you have spoken, from the dawn of time, through many voices. We hear you in the wind, ferns, mosses, and forest canopies, speaking to us from Eden. Your wisdom and presence grow roots of love across Earth. We listen. Amen.

From Love to the World

Monday August 31st

Exodus 12:1-14

Introduction to Prayer: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart.

Response to Scripture: Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord.

Q: In what sense does participation in Holy Communion/the Eucharist have a future dimension?

Prayer– Eternal God, guide me through my pilgrimage as a humble witness to Jesus.

Tuesday September 1st

Exodus 12:29-36

Q: What did Paul have in mind when he wrote of the experience of having nothing yet having everything? To what extent does this ring true for you?

Prayer–Help me, God, whatever my circumstances, to be your faithful witness today.

Wednesday September 2nd

Exodus 13:17-14:18

Q: Why are destructive addictions so hard to break, even when a new future is within grasp?

Prayer– God of freedom, lead me into the new future that awaits me, with the gift of unflinching trust

and hope.

Thursday September 3rd

Romans 13:1-7

Q: Are there circumstances under which you would demonstrate against a lawful authority? Have you ever done this, and why?

Prayer – Eternally wise God, help me to discern a Christian stance towards authority in the light of the claims of the gospel.

Friday September 4th

Romans 13:8-14

Q: Describe ways in which you can express your love towards others? Are there some which you haven't previously identified?

Prayer – Loving Jesus, in response to your love may I act out of love for others today.

Saturday September 5th

Matthew 18:15-20

Q: Have you ever suffered an offence by a fellow Christian? Was it resolved? Why can conflict in the church be so hard to deal with?

Prayer – God of peace, in times of conflict help me to seek resolutions that are consistent with Jesus' way and purpose.

Sunday September 6th

Psalms 149

Q: How would you explain, account for, or dismiss the images of violence in this psalm, especially to a person who is not a Christian?

SPECIFIC PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

- **Pray for** everyone to think of others when they are in the company of friends, family or people shopping, etc, and to take precautions like distancing or wearing a face mask and not going out if they are unwell.
- **Pray for** everyone to have patience and trust God during these difficult times of restrictions.
- **Pray for** farmers as they work with calving and lambing.
- **Pray for** those who mourn the loss of a loved one.
- **Pray for** our elderly who usually come to Selwyn Care and are missing the company of others.

GIVE THANKS

- **For the** lovely blossoms and green on trees as we come in to Spring.
- **For** Junne and for the lovely lot of face masks she has made for everyone.
- **For our** caring people keeping in touch with others who are unable to get out at present.
- **For opportunities** that arise when we can't go about life as "normal"!

Focus

The texts for this first week of the Season of Creation ask us to find God's majesty, mystery, and voice, in nature especially in the areas where trees live and are home for so many of God's creatures.

If you took a walk in a forest, either really or virtually, what do you think you would see, hear, smell?

How might the trees in a forest reflect the image of God / your image of God?

Prayer: God of the forest, may the winds in the trees, the depth of the roots, and the beauty of their majesty draw us in to the wonder that is you. Amen

Next Sunday: Land Sunday

Readings: September 13: Genesis 3:14-19; 4:8-16, Psalm 139:7-12, Romans 5:12-17, Matt 12:38-40

13 th Sept	Sidespeople Shona and family	Welcomer Melanie	Data Barbara	MOW Lynnley	1 st reading Amber	2 nd reading Greer	Intercessions Mary	Morning Tea Singh family
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This week:

The referendum evening we are hosting will be this Wednesday Sep 9th. Chairperson Mayor Ash Tanner, four top speakers. Opportunity for you to bring your neighbours and friends to something our church is doing for the whole community. This will go ahead if we are in Level Two.

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.

Our magazine Loaves and Fishes has been printed and distributed – if you are happy with an email version in future, rather than a printed one, please let us know asap – by emailing janicegthorne@gmail.com
WE have tended to use emails rather than magazines this year as the year has changed per week!!!

If you did not receive a copy please email the church stmattmorr@xtra.co.nz or Janice

Coming Up:

September 20th Concert

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