

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Morrinsville

November 14th, 2021

What Lasts?

This Sunday 8.30am and 10am services.

Great to see people starting to come back to church services.

If you are not feeling well, please stay home.

Please wear masks.

Please sign in, or use the QR code, sanitize as you arrive and leave.

There will be no singing, no physical contact in sharing of the peace (not even elbows!!).

Communion on an individual level.

However refreshments WILL be served at the church hub afterwards. Please enter the hub and go straight to a table and sit down. You will be served your cuppa while you wait. You need to stay seated at the table.

FAIR HAS been POSTPONED – we will now plan for a fair for MARCH 5th – hopefully we will be in Level One and the Market Days will have resumed. Some things can't wait until March:

- Rachel is taking orders for Christmas cakes
- Margie has some tomato plants to sell
- Junne has some sewing that people might like to buy for Christmas presents....
- – give them a phone call or talk to them on a Sunday

A Virtual Fair

an idea has been suggested “As we could not have the fair & there is no guarantee we can hold it in the New Year, how about people giving the equivalent of their usual spend in cash to St Matts - so whatever they would have paid out for ingredients, materials, time and the amount they normally spend at the fair as a gift. In case our funds are running low - I know not everyone can manage this but I am sure a few of us could. Just an idea (Our parish really relies upon the fair to balance our budget each year)

THIS SUNDAY

Readings: 1 Samuel 1:4-20

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Mark 13:1-8

Sentence: There is no Holy One like the LORD, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.
1 Samuel 2:2.

Collect: Eternal God, help us to discern and hold fast to your presence in the midst of every changing circumstance, that we may live with hope and love with courage at all times.
Amen.

Preparation for Sunday from “Love to the World”

1 Samuel 1:4-20

Question: “Remember the grief....” What should be our response(s) to the widespread suffering of people across the planet?

Prayer: Pray for those grieving the death of a child or the loss of hope.

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Question: “The Lord makes poor and makes rich” (v7). What do you think of the idea that the raising up of the least involves the “bringing low” of others?

Prayer: Pray for leaders with faith and integrity, strength and courage.

Mark 13:1-8

Question: How do you respond to texts about the end of the world?

Prayer: Pray for those whose lives have been traumatised by constant threats to their safety.

SPECIFIC PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

- **Pray for** family of Connor Whitehead as they deal with the senseless murder of their son.
- **Pray for** our own church families who are “over the border” and can’t join us for worship.
- **Pray for** people struggling with loneliness, and others who resort to unhealthy alternatives during these stressful times.
- **Pray for** those who are sick, especially Lindsay, Sandra, Norm, Lynda, Caleb and Isabel and others we may know.
- **Pray for** those who are mourning the loss of a loved one.

GIVE THANKS

- **For** the caregivers who work with the elderly and infirm in the community.
- **For** the people who work with the police and courts and those struggling to get a fair trial through all these time delays with lockdowns.
- **For the** fun day the Selwyn Centre had with the horses and dogs at an outdoor picnic.
- **For God** who is with us even in the dark and lonely times.
- **For** the volunteers who do lots of little jobs around St Matthew’s to keep everything running smoothly.

Focus

This particular set of passages is timely as we continue to struggle with a global pandemic, the climate crisis, and unjust political systems. Hannah was in despair and fear and finds relief and hope when she discovered God waiting to respond in the sanctuary. That theme also is echoed in Hebrews...God is faithful.

The focus passage in Mark is also about trust in God's ways. Jesus knew his call was to heal, to preach, and to encourage trust in God, love for neighbour and following in God's way as change would always be with us.

What can we do to promote hope and calm over fear and worry?

Who do we choose to follow when life is tough, chaotic and unsure?

Prayer: May we choose this week to see God in our midst and take action to help make the world reflect the kingdom of God. Amen

Next Sunday: November 21st (Christ The King Sunday).

Readings: 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12 (13-19); Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

21st Nov	Sides people Welcomer Vince	Data Janice	MOW Margie	1st reading Jacky	Intercessions Margie	Morning tea Miers
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Please contact Margie if you would like to take part in the Sunday services.

If you would be willing to share in the services in any way (morning tea, sidesperson,) please talk to Margie Thomas or drop an email to Val viriches@outlook.com

If you have a key to the church or Hub, please let Chris Hutching know so he can update the register hutch5@xtra.co.nz or 889 7170

Vicar, Val Riches 078880878 or 027 444 8286
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