

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Morrinsville

November 5th, 2023

Learning Leaders

Website: stmatthewsmorrinsville.org.nz

Readings: Joshua 3:7–17

Psalm 107:1–7, 33–37

Matthew 23:1–12

Sentence: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 107:1

Collect: Community-creating God, may we slow down enough to allow our actions to proclaim your teaching in our words and deeds. Amen.

Preparation for Sunday.

Joshua 3:7–17

Question: What have been the critical moments in your life and faith? Who was involved? Where were you? What happened?

Prayer: Gracious God, thank you for saving my ancestors in times of trouble.

Psalm 107:1–7, 33–37

Question: Which of the distressing situations in the psalm have you or someone close to you experienced? What happened?

Prayer: Lord God, strengthened by fellowship with your saints, may I live faithfully and well today.

Matthew 23:1–12

Question: Why over the years, have many teachers taught in the style of the scribes and pharisees? What does it take for a teacher to follow Jesus' approach?

Prayer: Gracious God, I pray for humility to listen, the willingness to learn, and the courage to follow you.

SPECIFIC PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

- We pray courage to follow Jesus' teachings, and to reach out to others with love and peace to give them your blessings.
- We pray for Northland, Auckland, the Coromandel, and East Cape, as once again they have to deal with flooding and road closures.
- We pray for those who are sick, especially Noeline, Stuart, Lynda, Dulcie and others we may know.
- Pray for all families mourning the death of a loved one, especially Hugh Vercoe's family.

GIVE THANKS

- For St Matthew's Fair, and the great work Melanie and others have done.
- For all the people who made/baked/produce things to sell at the fair.
- For the saints in our lives who have shown us how to live a faithful life.
- For the Women's Leadership Hui that has been happening over this weekend.

Focus.

Leadership matters. Following Moses' death, Joshua's leadership becomes significant in the lives of the Israelites as they enter the new land. In the Psalm we hear praise for God's constant, loving presence even when the people turn away and forget to trust.

The final major section of Matthew is addressed to Jesus' disciples and potential disciples rather than to Jesus' opponents. The message seems to be to do as the pharisees teach, but not as they do, as they don't practice what they teach. We are to be servant leaders and not worry about status or being "seen" to be doing the right thing.

The final reading in Thessalonians tells how the leaders that brought the good news to Thessalonica were successful in teaching the Thessalonians how to live as children of God.

What qualities do you look for in your community of faith leaders?

How do we learn from each other and also teach and encourage each other in faith?

Prayer: We are each called to lead and serve with the gifts we have been given. Grant that we might do it with authenticity and honesty, so that the glory is yours O God. Amen.

Next Sunday: November 12th, 8.30am & 10am

Wholehearted

Wednesday 10am

Readings – Joshua 24:1–3a, 14–25; Psalm 78:1–7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18; Matthew 25:1–13

12 th Nov	Sides people Anne M	Welcome Melanie	Data Chris H	MOW Lynne	Reader Charlee Anne M	Intercessions Angela	Morning Tea Rachael & Anne T
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Our Parish Fair total is \$6144.80 (slightly up from last year) and we still have a few things to sell wider afield!! CONGRATULATIONS everyone, a great team of steady work ... 😊 still a few things to sell if you are interested ...

Stalls - White elephant \$908.40, cakes \$838.80, plants \$317.80, produce \$607.00, Christmas \$338.20, Books \$101.00, toys \$667.60, Handcraft \$361.70, Raffles \$476.40, Jewelry \$163, Morning tea \$304.50, Sausages \$78.50, Lucky Dip \$120, Op Shop \$109, Silent Auction \$299, Donations \$150, Quick Fire Raffles (frozen chickens) \$303.90

Next event – “Guess who’s coming for dinner?” – Saturday 18th



CONGRATULATIONS



Raewyn excelled at the Waikato Show Photographic section with 2 firsts and a third!!!
Fantastic

Anyone want a lift to service at Matamata this afternoon (Sunday) please contact Val
Vicar: Val Riches 078880878 or 0274448286, Lance 0275553286 Email val@wtanglican.nz