

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Morrinsville

November 7th, 2021

How Then Shall We Give?

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

Highly recommended – listen to an excellent Charge (address) from our Bishop, given at our synod last Saturday [Bishop Philip - Charge to Synod 2021 \(Oct\) - YouTube](#)

Check this out [A Pilgrim's Guide | Waikato and Taranaki Anglicans \(wtanglican.nz\)](#) Over the course of nine booklets, ++David touches on key aspects of our bi-cultural faith journey in Aotearoa New Zealand. These highly accessible resources are carefully researched and referenced. [A Pilgrim's Way](#), offers a pathway to our past - to help us discover our future. It can be downloaded for yourself. Ngaa mihi nui!

THIS SUNDAY

Readings: Ruth 3:1–5; 4:13–17

Psalm 127

Mark 12:38–44

Sentence: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. *Psalm 127:4*

Collect: God of truth and grace, I give you thanks for opportunities to give. Teach me not only where my gifts may best be used, but how I might give wholly of myself to you and to others. Amen.

Preparation for Sunday from “Love to the World”

Ruth 3:1–5; 4:13–17

Question: Read all of Ruth 3, and then compare it with Ezekiel 16:1-21, especially verse 8. How may this help you interpret the text of Ruth?

Prayer: Pray for those who are socially and emotionally isolated.

Psalm 127

Question: What are the things in life for which you are most grateful?

Prayer: Give thanks for those you love, and who love you without reserve.

Mark 12:38-44

Question: Tell someone a story about a surprising act of generosity.

Prayer: Loving, generous God, may I learn to resist comparing myself and my resources with others, but rejoice in the gift of a generous heart. Amen.

SPECIFIC PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

- **Pray for** the COP26 climate change talks in Scotland this week, that through the talks some agreement on climate change among the nations will be agreed on and acted on.
- **Pray for** our own efforts in NZ to take more care on how we look after our own land and waterways as caretakers of creation.
- **Pray for** drivers on our roads at the moment and respect that we need to share our roads with contractors and milk tankers.
- **Pray for** those who are sick, especially Lindsay, Sandra (Presbyterian minister), Norm, Lynda, and Caleb and others we may know.
- **Pray for** those who are mourning the loss of a loved one, especially David Moxon and family in the loss of his mother.

GIVE THANKS

- **For** the crops that will grow in the newly ploughed land the warmer weather and sun and rain.
- **For** the way we can do church and communion in this covid world.
- **For the** increasing numbers of people receiving the vaccination
- **For the** sports that is starting to resume world wide.
- **For** the Vestry, Ministry Team, and our clergy who keep St Matt's going.

Focus

The focus scripture warns us to be real and to be careful of the leaders we choose, that they too are real and not just putting on a show for appearances only. The second admonition sets a challenging standard for us to consider in our own giving.

In the old testament readings we hear of the demand to care for widows and learn once again of the blessings that come to those that live justly.

In Hebrews once again it is affirmed that Christ's offering is sufficient to provide salvation for all who live in trust.

What is happening in our communities and neighbourhoods when it comes to justice and peace?

How does our giving and purchasing reflect our faith and our understanding of living in God's way?

Prayer: May our giving and our living be a reflection of our trust in your provision and your love of justice, peace and love for all creation. Amen

Next Sunday: November 14th (What Lasts?).

Readings: 1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8

14 th Nov	Sides people Welcomer Anne Murfitt and Emily	Data Barbara	MOW Val	1 st reading Charlee	Intercessions Val	Morning tea Olwyn and Melanie
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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 vriches@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
Lance 027 555 3286**