



Church on the Hill

Sunday 12 August 2018



Theme: Enact the new
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Susan Gill
Readings: Exodus 21:18 – 25, Matthew 5:38 – 42 3

Sentence:

If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles.

- *Matthew 5:41*

Prayer for the day:

Creative, Creator God, your ways are so different from ours. We do things in ways that are workable for us. When we find something, that we think does work, we get stuck in a rut. We want to do it that way forever. That is so, even, perhaps especially, when the world is changing all around us. We want things to stay the same. Help us to seek your ways. Jesus knew the ways in which his world was

changing. He acted in Godly ways, ways that transformed his world and ours. Help us to be daring enough to try new things, prayerfully and lovingly. Take us out of any ruts that reflect badly on you or on us as a church. Fill us anew with the power of your Holy Spirit; that we may live in ways that bring honour to the name of Jesus, and to you our Good, Good Father.

Amen

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Faith and Trust

Have you noticed how easy it is to trust God when everything is going along just fine? I am full of faith at such times. And I am full of faith when I look to the distant future – I find it harder when the distant future becomes the very near future and things are not yet settled.

Recently I was talking to a friend who said he is very worried about something and not sleeping well. What would your advice be to him?

- Trust God and everything will be fine.
- Things always work out.
- Close one door and another always opens.
- Look on the bright side.
- Stop worrying.

Paul wrote in, what has become Philippians 4:6, that we are to not to worry about anything but in everything give thanks to God.

NIV Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

CEV Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God.

Jesus said something similar. It's recorded in Matthew 6, verses 25 and 27

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"

And "Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to their lifespan?"

Anxiety is very prevalent today. And not just the occasional worry but being perpetually anxious –

for some it is a dangerous state. For those people professional help is essential. And understanding from those around them is really important too.

Most people struggle with worry and/or anxiety at some stage of life. Trotting out Scripture or super-spiritual platitudes doesn't help them at all. What that does is shut down honest conversation.

And those verses about not worrying – they annoy me at times. Because not worrying can be difficult. Having faith is not easy quite a lot of the time. Sure the Bible does help. Meditating on a Scripture can change our thought patterns and that is good. Practicing the presence of God in prayer or meditation or through music or relaxation exercises or walking in God's good world helps too.

And when it's hard not to worry, it's important not to get condemned about it. I think the fact that there are so many passages in the Bible about worrying means that it is a normal human tendency.

Nor does having faith mean that we never doubt or worry. It doesn't mean that we never have scary dreams or get anxious. Having faith simply means that we make a choice – moment by moment – to believe that God is for us whatever the circumstances are around us.

Whenever we do get anxious or worry, that is a perfect opportunity to choose to turn again to God. I reckon God loves it when we make that choice. The more we make that choice the better it is for us and him. Sometimes we choose and sometimes we don't – that's life.

Hmmm, maybe doubt and fear and anxiety are simply opportunities in disguise.

Learning together in love,

Susan

Church open for Prayer - The Church is open for prayer each Monday (except public holidays) from 9.00am - 2.00pm. All welcome.

St Albans 150 Years Celebration - Celebrations are on the last weekend of November. If you are interested in helping with or attending the celebrations please contact the office.

Preserves - Thank you for your continued support for our missions partners through buying the preserves. Thanks to some generous donations of fruit there is lemon and lemon and ginger marmalade at the back of the church. If you have any feedback, or special requests do have a word with me. I am happy to make up packs of preserves for gifts! Shiona Frengley

Honey - Building Fundraiser. 500gm \$7.50/1kg \$15.00 /2kg \$25. Contact Anne Askin Ph.542 3284.

Afternoon AAW Group - Our next meeting will be held in the Church on Wednesday, 22 August at 1.30pm. Our guest speaker will be Colin Bright from The Menz Shed. This will be followed by Afternoon Tea. There will be a Sales Table and the box for any items for the Holy Trinity Food Bank. Any new members are most welcome to attend. Enquiries to Jean McConachie 544 6921.

Evening AAW - Meeting on Thursday 23 August at 6.00pm at the back of the church. This will be our BYO tea and film evening. We hope to be ready to show the film at 7.00pm so if you are unable to join us with your meal, do come along for the film. All will be most welcome..Contact Anne Ph 544 7992

Opportunity - Richmond Primary School needs a new chaplain. I'm delighted to report that Jean McConachie is very keen and would like to work with someone else. Jean has teaching experience, great empathy with children and adults and is marvellous to work with. Is God calling you to this amazing ministry? With two people sharing the role, the fun would be expanded and the work load shared. Please contact Susan for more information.



WARNING Burn Hazard

Under seat heaters are on during services. Please do not touch - *they are hot!*

Prayers for the Week

Loving Lord, we give you thanks for always responding to our prayers whether we recognise your response or not so, in faith and trust, we bring to you our concerns for the world and each other.

We pray for relief for those who have lost family friends and their homes in the fires and floods devastating so many places, and in the earthquakes in the Philippines. We ask too for relief from the droughts affecting other parts of the world. Lord, forgive us for being careless with your world. Thank you for all those who are working to repair the damage we have done to it.

We pray for all those who carry responsibility for the well-being of their countries. Give them wisdom and the courage to act for the good of all. In particular we pray for our Prime Minister as she resumes her role. Help her to balance the needs of herself, her family and this country so that all may flourish. We pray too for understanding of those who hold views contrary to ours. Help us to dialogue with them as Jesus taught his disciples to do.

Lord, we thank you for those who carry your message of love to those who do not know it. In particular we thank you for your care for N & R and family and for the support Dawn Daunauda has experienced. Please guide them in all they do and keep them safe.

In this diocese we pray for the Awatere Joint Christian Venture church awaiting a new minister. We pray for their ministry to seasonal workers, and we pray for the local Presbyterian church, their minister Jon Parkes and the congregation who worship there, that they will hear God's voice as they study Colossians, that their new minister and family make good connections and that the Holy Spirit will inspire the work for their new church.

We give you thanks for all who serve in this community. In particular we thank you for all those who enhance our worship; musicians, readers, leaders, flower arrangers, greeters and others often unseen. May each one experience joy in what they do. We ask your blessing on those who are unable to attend the fellowship we enjoy through infirmity or ill health. Be with all those known to us for whom we pray, in particular Paul and Glynis Bevernage, Margaret Silke, Debbie and Dave, Lucelle, Murray and Bev. May each know your loving care for them.

We give you thanks for providing care for us as we age. Please bless all who live or work in the retirement complexes in this area.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus, our friend, our brother our redeemer. **Amen**

This Week...

Monday 13 August

9.00am Church open for Prayer
1.00pm Weekly group (K Peterson)

Tuesday 14 August

10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B Page)
10.00am Fortnightly Bible Study Group (E Erskine)
7.00pm Walking the Camino de Santiago
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S Frengley)

Wednesday 15 August

10.00am Wednesday Service

Thursday 16 August

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W Wilkinson, J Lines)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (J Palmer)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N Pritchard)

Sunday 19 August

10.00am Combined Communion

Coming up...

Tuesday 21 August

11.30am *Lunch on the Hill* - Salvation Army Hall

Sunday 26 August

10.00am Combined Worship & Susan's Farewell
& Shared Lunch

*For more information about services or groups
contact the office Ph. 544 8844.*

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 26 August Combined @ Holy Trinity
Sunday 9 September Holy Communion

If you wish to give financial support to Holy Trinity Church, our bank account number is:
03 0751 0146369 001 Westpac Richmond

Roster for 19 August - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader: 10.00am J South
Reader: 10.00am A Burrough, L Summerfield
Sidesperson 10.00am M Gibson
Welcomer: 10.00am B Page
Chalice: 10.00am J South, N Pritchard, L & T Summerfield
Tea: A Burrough, V Matthews
Flowers: M Brosnahan **Crèche** G Thompson

Theme for Next Sunday: Share Resources
Readings for Next Sunday: 1 Peter 4:7 – 11, Luke 8:1 – 3

Parish Contacts

Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	People's Warden	Dave Pritchard	544 5314
Priest Assistant	Jean Palmer	544 4275	Vicar's Warden	Karl Summerfield	03 970 2438
Senior's Ministry	Yvonne Smyth	542 3957	Friends 'n Fun	Carol Sardella	544 9237
Youth Leader	Joshua Allan-Johns	027 711 6800	Administrator	David Cowdrey	027 499 8684

Holy Trinity Church

27 Dorset Street
PO Box 3013
Richmond

Phone / Fax 03 544 8844

Email church.onhill@xtra.co.nz

Website

www.holytrinityrichmond.org.nz

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm