

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday 20 July 2025

Liturgy: p.456

OT 16

Psalm 30

Greetings:

This morning the OT reading has been changed so that we hear the story of Naaman the Syrian, but if we followed the lectionary we would have heard about Abraham receiving three visitors, whom he hosted to an extraordinary degree. He gave them rest in the shade, and had fresh bread made and killed a calf. Then he brought them milk and curds while they waited. Clearly, he had some insight about these visitors that is not revealed in the text ahead of time.

Only after they have been satisfied do we discover that these three visitors have the power of the Lord; they reveal that in a year's time, Abraham's wife Sarah will deliver him a son. Which came first? A child, as a reward for a day of wonderful hospitality? Or a life of faith and service, of immediate and instinctive obedience, and then Isaac?

What I like most about this story is the giggle that Sarah cannot suppress when she overhears the conversation inside the tent, and then the denial of it when challenged by the Lord. There's something very real ... very human in this story ... and something very divine.

Grace and peace, *Tony*

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 20 July 2025

Sentence:

In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be your strength.

Isaiah 30: 16

Collect:

God of all delight, grant us that joy which none can take from us, of having a work to do, a life to live; that joy in believing which will carry us through. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

OT Reading: *2 Kings 5: 1-14*

NT Reading *Galatians 6: 7-16*

Gospel *Luke 10: 1-11; 16-20*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for the people of the Pacific Islands, and for the people of the Gate Pā Parish and their clergy.

We pray also for those in need, especially those who have asked for our prayers: Craig, Viv, Hazel, Lynda, Lawrence.

Holy Trinity Celebrations

Later this year Holy Trinity Church will celebrate its 150th anniversary. The first celebratory event is a free concert by the Harmonic Resonators on 26 July. For tickets use this link:
<https://www.holytrinitytauranga.com/event-details/the-harmonic-resonators>

This Week Beginning: 21 July

Monday 10.00 am Lavender Craft group meet

Wednesday 10.00 am Mid-week Communion
2.00 pm SAYGO in the hall

Op Shop 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Monday to Friday
10.00 am - 1.00 pm Saturday

Playgroup 9.30 - 11.30 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Toy Library 9.30 - 11.30 am Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Service for Sunday 27 July -

9.30 am Holy Communion

Contact Us

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