

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday 6th September 2026

Liturgy: p404

OT 23

Psalm 149

Greetings all:



IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER
Ezekiel 47:9, 12

Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Last Tuesday was 'The Feast of Creation in Christ', an Eastern Orthodox gift. This has long marked the beginning of their new liturgical year,

commemorating the great mystery that everything was created through Christ. In 1989 the Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I offered this day to the wider church as a Day of Prayer for Creation. The World Council of Churches has since extended this celebration to October 4th, the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi in what is now known as The Season of Creation. This ecumenical season calls us as followers of Christ worldwide to reflect on our common role as caretakers of God's creation, to see that our wellbeing is interwoven with its wellbeing, and to unite in prayer and action to care for our common home.

The theme for 2026 is "Living Water," inspired by Ezekiel's vision of God's life-giving river flowing from the temple, urging us to focus on ecological healing, hope, and the deep interdependence of humanity and nature.

This Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 18:15-20) is set within a bigger conversation. It begins with his followers asking who was the greatest and Jesus placing a child on his knee. This whole conversation can be read as Jesus showing profound concern for the vulnerable "little

ones" who are harmed while others profit. Who might be the "little ones" today? Maybe here in Aotearoa we might include children and young people living in poverty, older people unable to afford the basics, and those forced into homelessness.

In this season, that care extends to all the "little ones" who suffer because of pollution, bio-diversity loss, and climate change. This might include both our Pacific neighbours and global communities devastated by climate change, intensifying storms, floods and droughts, and this week collapsing glaciers in Nepal. It also calls us to remember the non-human species threatened by our human actions. May this month be a time for us to grow in faith, affirming that God in Christ loves and sustains all of creation; and to pray for and offer a bold, prophetic response to our growing ecological crisis.

John Hebert TSSF.

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 6th September 2026

Sentence:

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for whoever loves another has fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:8

Collect:

**Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts;
for, as you always resist the powerful
who oppress and dominate Creation,
so you never forsake your creatures
who live in harmony with nature's order;
through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.
Amen**

OT Reading *Exodus 12:1-14*

NT Reading *Romans 13:8-14*

Gospel *Matthew 18:15-20*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for the Anglican Church in Melanesia, which includes Vanuatu, The Solomon Islands, and New Caledonia, and we pray for the people of the Ōtūmoetai parish and their clergy.

We pray also for those in need, especially those who have asked for our prayers: Craig, Viv, Lynda, Lawrence, Reg, Jon, Angela R, Robyn.

Church Working Bee

Saturday 12th September, 10.30am

Thank you to all those who have offered to help with our working bee - many hands make light work. Can you please bring with you cleaning cloths and window cleaner?

Organ

Our new organ has arrived and is in place in our church.



Filled with the Spirit – A Documentary

Filled with the Spirit: The New Zealand Anglican Charismatic Movement explores the history, impact and legacy of charismatic renewal within the Anglican Church from the late 1950s through to the 1980s. **The documentary features Edward Prebble, a former Vicar of St John's.**

7:30pm, Tuesday 8 September

Shine TV – Channel 25 Freeview | Channel 201 Sky TV

The documentary will be available to stream afterwards at [Shine TV](https://www.shinetv.co.nz/).

<https://www.shinetv.co.nz/>

This Week Beginning: 7th September 2026

Tuesday 7:00 pm St John's Women's Fellowship

3:15 pm Communion at Radius Matua

Wednesday 10:00 am Mid-week Communion

2:00 pm SAYGo in the hall

Friday 9:30 am Senior Chef

Saturday 10.30 am Church working bee

Sunday 9:30 am Holy Communion

Op Shop 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday to Friday

10:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday

Playgroup 9:30am – 11:30 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Toy Library 9:30am – 11:30 am Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Contact Us

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Hours: 8:30am – 1:30pm Tuesday - Friday

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