

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday 14 September 2025

Liturgy: p.476

OT 24 /Holy Cross Day

Psalm 98: 1-5

Greetings:

If we didn't have a special guest preacher this morning, we would be looking at the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin. While the *lost coin* story is in a different category for me, it does incorporate women into the narrative in a way that many among Jesus' audience could relate to, but the *lost sheep* is an interesting one ... how many of you would really leave the ninety-nine and go in search of the one? Real world economics and a standard risk assessment approach might encourage us instead, to consider the value of the many, and the possibility of losing more if we aren't there to watch the remainder. But that's not what Jesus is talking about.

Jesus says that the ninety-nine aren't lost and therefore don't need His help, and that He will pursue that one who is lost to recover them to the fold, irrespective of whatever else is going on. I don't know about you, but I find that comforting. Whenever we are lost, dislocated, anxious, afraid, confused, or somehow otherwise out of sorts we become especially important to Him and He will seek us out and bring us home. Thanks be to God!

Grace and peace, *Tony*

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 14 September 2025

Sentence:

We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to us and we to the world.

Galatians 6: 14

Collect:

Jesus, crucified and risen, You have turned a criminal's cross into release and reconciliation. Let us who are marked with the cross be not ashamed to witness to You; for the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.

OT Reading *Numbers 21: 4b-9*

NT Reading *1 Corinthians 1: 18-24*

Gospel *John 3: 13-17*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for Anglican Financial Care and for the people of the Edgecumbe-Kawerau Parish and their Ministry Support Team.

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

Young at Heart Festival

The Young at Heart Festival, 1- 8 October, is a week of community-led events that celebrates Tauranga's older community. The festival wraps around the official International Day of Older Persons on Wednesday, 1 October 2025. From fitness classes, a Musical Festival to workshops, the festival includes great events to get involved with. To see what is on offer visit the [Young at Heart webpage](#)

This Week Beginning: 15 September

Monday 10.00 am Lavender Craft group meet

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

Thursday 7.00 pm Vestry meeting

Friday 9.30 am Senior Chef

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 Thursday, Saturday

Service for Sunday 21 September -

9.30 am Holy Communion

Contact Us

Vicar: The Reverend Tony Kippax

Ph: 576 9923 or 021 0267 1495

Email: tony.kippax@waiapu.com

Parish Office: Erica Orrick Ph: 576 9923

Email: admin.otumoetai@waiapu.com

Website: www.stjohns-tga.org.nz

Administrator: Lynda Wallace Ph: 027 780 3653

Email: admin.otumoetai@waiapu.com

Wardens: Roger Clark 027 683 8466
Angela Stensness 021 040 6748