

*Welcome! Haere mai!*

## **St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai**



**Sunday 16 November 2025**

*Liturgy: p.456*

*OT 33*

*Psalm 98*

### *Greetings:*

You know Christmas is coming near:

- when you check the Advent Candle box and discover that you forgot to order some before you put the box away last year;
- when the number of services you need to prepare in advance multiplies by a factor of four (thank goodness we keep copies from last year);
- when you attend the Women's Fellowship AGM;
- when you still haven't received the Advent Study Guide, but find it hidden on the Diocesan Website;
- when you spend too long wondering whether you've got enough (or too much) in the programme; and
- when people ring you wanting to know when the *Nine Lessons and Carols* is, and by the way what's this *Blue Christmas* thing all about.

All these things are quite normal ... and are lovely reminders that it's time to get on with it ... so that I can enjoy the season as it arrives, rather than having to panic in another few weeks.

(How can you tell that I was late getting this to Erica this week?)

Grace and peace, *Tony*

## **WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 16 November 2025**

### **Sentence:**

May the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in all ways.

*2 Thessalonians 3:16*

### **Collect:**

**Almighty God, You alone can bring order to our unruly wills and affections; give us grace to love what You command and desire what You promise, that in all the changes and chances of this uncertain world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**OT Reading**     *Malachi 4: 1-2a*

**NT Reading**     *2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13*

**Gospel**             *Luke 21: 5-19*

### **Prayers of the People**

Today we pray for the local church in Aotearoa, for those who lead the Anglican Church in our Province, and the three Archbishops of Aotearoa and Polynesia.

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

### **Taizé Service**

All are invited to a contemplative service based on the music of the Taizé Community – at 7pm on Sunday 30 December at St George's.

### **Advent Study**

Advent Study will be held on Wednesday's at 11am from 26 November to 17 December. If you wish to attend please put your name on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

### **Foodbank**

Foodbank will be putting together their special Christmas parcels in the first week of December so donations of goodies for Christmas will be much appreciated. Thank you for support of Foodbank.

### **Lavender Craft Morning Tea**

Lavender Craft Group will be holding their annual Christmas Devonshire tea in the lounge from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon on Friday 28 November. Admission will be \$5. There will be a sales table with wonderful gifts for Christmas, and raffles.

All welcome – and bring a friend.

### **This Week Beginning: 17 November**

**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

**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 23 November -**

9:30 am Holy Communion

## **Contact Us**

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