

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday 24 May 2026

Liturgy: p476

Pentecost Psalm 104:25-35,36b

Greetings:

Today marks the end of Easter. Bosco Peters says, "Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost do not form three seasons. The Easter Season celebrates the three dimensions of the resurrection, ascension, and the sending of the Spirit. These fifty days, a seventh of the year, form our "great "Sunday" of the fifty days of Easter begins with the day of the resurrection and continues through eight Sundays, an octave of Sundays, a "week of weeks."¹ It is a turning point in our church year. We now enter Ordinary Time, a time to stop and pay attention to the work of the Spirit in our lives and the world. Where do we look for this work?

This Pentecost we are given contrasting readings. Acts is the one we know best. Which is not surprising given that's where the timing and the name comes from. It's big and loud, full of fire, wind and drama. We often look for the Spirit in the dramatic. In contrast John's account is quiet and gentle, occurring on Easter Sunday evening. Jesus enters the room offering peace to his terrified followers. He breathes his life, his Spirit, into each one of them, up close and intimate, that they might embody God's compassion, generosity, and aroha, just as he had. He continues to quietly meet us in our fear offering peace that we might embody God's dream for this world today.

How might we bring that peace and compassion into what lies ahead?

John Hebert TSSF.

¹ Bosco Peters, on Easter is 50 Days. < <http://www.facebook.com/events/259012627567219/>>

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 24 May 2026

Sentence:

The disciples were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and spoke of the great things God had done. *Acts 2:4-11*

Collect:

**E te Mātua
you have filled your people with the Spirit
who rested first on your Son
and united us in your Church;
open the channels for your Spirit
that we may freely work together,
and your kingdom and your rule increase;
for the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

OT Reading *Acts 2:1-21*

NT Reading *1 Corinthians 12:3b-13*

Gospel *John 20:19-23*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for Ukraine – we pray for peace, restoration, justice and hope in places scarred by violence and unrest, and for the people of the Turangi Co-operating Parish.

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

Playgroup – Volunteer Needed

Do you have a few hours a fortnight? Playgroup need a volunteer to help in the kitchen between 9am & 11am, once a fortnight on a Wednesday, as one of our long-term helpers is moving away. Please let Erica know if you can help.

Henry Williams

Trader, Peacemaker, Missionary

On **Thursday 25 June** in Tauranga Moana, **bicentenary commemorations** for Henry Williams (Karuwihā) will take place. In partnership with NZCMS, The Elms, and Holy Trinity Tauranga, the programme includes morning karakia and kai at Otamataha Pā, a lecture by Dr Sam Carpenter at The Elms, and a symposium with Sir Joe Williams and Dr Reese at Holy Trinity. For tickets go to: <https://www.waiapuanglicans.org.nz/post/bicentenary-celebrations-for-henry-williams-arrival>

Senior Chef

Don't forget that our church offers the *Senior Chef* cooking and nutrition programme, open to everyone over 60 **including** parishioners. You don't need to be a beginner; the real highlight is the friendship and fun shared each week. Next course starts June 12th.

John on Sick Leave

John is having surgery on May 28 and will be at home recovering until June 16. Rev Gendi Burwell will be presiding at our next two Sunday services and preaching next Sunday. Angela Stensness will be preaching on June 7. Tim Cross will be leading a Service of the Word on June 14 and will also be preaching. John will be back presiding and preaching on June 21.

This Week Beginning: 25 May

Wednesday 10.00 am Mid-week Communion
2.00 pm SAYGo in the hall
7.00 pm Vestry Meeting

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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