



St Johns
Being the Gospel to all People

**Sunday
22 May 2022**

A very warm welcome is extended to all visitors to St Johns. Morning tea is offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy.

Together in Ministry

Scripture readings: Acts 16: 9-15 NIV



⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

¹¹ From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. ¹² From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.

¹³ On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. ¹⁵ When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

Next Sunday: 29 May 2022

Theme: Liberating Love

Scripture readings: Acts 16:16-34

Prayer points for: peace in Ukraine; good health for Brenda; for a full recovery for those in hospital and all in our community testing positive for Covid.

Connecting with life

Reflect on the “place(s) of prayer” where you will gather on what is Sabbath for you.

Q What elements or symbols draw you to this place of holy encounter?

Q What do you find most welcoming about this place and the “news” you find here?

Q In what ways have you welcomed another to share this place with you?

Scripture

Acts 16:9–15 The journey of Paul and his companions takes a decisive turn due to a “vision.” Paul’s life had earlier taken a decisive turn as the result of another vision (Acts 9:1–18).

- **How might a mission growing out of a vision shape the church’s work today?**

Paul and Lydia meet at the river outside the gates of Philippi. Lydia opens her home and her heart to the new community of faith. Imagine how the encounter must have come about. Imagine some of the theological conversations that Paul and Lydia might have had.

- **What questions might they have asked of one another?**
- **What conversion occurs for Lydia in this story? What conversion occurs for Paul?**
- **How do you, individually and as a church, cross cultural, gender, religious, and economic boundaries to welcome others’ wisdom and insight into your faith experience? In what ways is this sharing mutual?**

Though Paul is at the centre of the passage as it opens, Lydia becomes the central actor.

- **What implications for the church’s life stem from having the first convert in Europe being 1) a woman from Asia; 2) the head of her household; and 3) a dealer in purple cloth, a commodity usually associated with the privileged?**
- **Lydia “listened eagerly” to Paul. What might listening have to do with hospitality and welcome?**

THIS WEEK 22 May – 29 May

Sunday 22 May

9.30 am Service in English and Mandarin

Monday 23 May

10 am Space programme (Worship Room)

Thursday 26 May

3.15 pm MusiqHub (foyer)

Friday 27 May

9.15 am – noon Knitting Group (gallery)

7 pm Youth Group (upstairs community hall) 6 - Words

Sunday 29 May

9.30 am Baptism and Communion Service in English and Mandarin

In the sharing of story and hospitality, Lydia and Paul become disciples together.

- **How do you nurture a spirit of interdependence between members of your community and between your community and your neighbourhood?**

Connecting scripture and life

In Acts 16, everything begins with a vision that eventuates in news that is welcomed and in actions that extend welcome.

- **What “vision” of faith moves you to “listen eagerly” and welcome graciously?**
- **Who might be your, or your church’s, “person of Macedonia” calling for help that moves you individually and as a congregation beyond boundaries and stereotypes into actions of mission and hospitality?**

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Covid is still present in the community. Please remain vigilant for symptoms.

Wear masks when attending church.

Stay at home if you are unwell. If you or a member of your household tests positive for Covid and you need to self-isolate, let Alison at the Parish Office know if you need assistance.



Tax Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2022 are available for collection on Sundays from a box on the table in the foyer.

BAPTISM SERVICE – Sunday 29 May

There will be a baptism for Isabella Ralph during the service on Sunday 29th May. Contributions to make morning tea extra special would be welcome.



YOUTH GROUP

term 2 2022

13th May

Movie Night

20th May

Becoming

27th May

6- Words

3rd June

Mural

10th June

Leadership

17th June

Hangout + Vibe

24th June

Willow Park Camp

- Friday 10am to Sunday 2pm*
- \$190 for registration

1st July

Escape Room

- Meet at 'Breakout' in Botany*
- Pickup at Maccas Botany

8th July

Community Night

- Outdoor Movie and Hangout*

**Speak to a leader for more information*



245 Bucklands Beach Road
office@stjohnsbb.org.nz
(09) 534 2305

| | This Week's Helpers (22 May) | Next Week's Helpers (29 May) |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Preacher | Rev Jeff Odhiambo | Rev Jeff Odhiambo |
| Musician | Joan Williamson | Winnie Wong |
| Projector | Daniel Smart | Alison Stanton |
| Sound Desk | Trevor Haigh | Daniel Smart |
| Reader | Alison Stanton | Alison Stanton |
| Intercessor | Bob Williamson | Julie Dickey |
| HC set up | N/A | Alison Stanton |
| HC Serving team | N/A | Jeff Odhiambo, Alison Stanton |
| Prayer ministry | Joan Jones | Could this be you? |
| Welcome Desk | Joan Rutherford | An opportunity to serve here. |
| Ushers | Trevor and Mavis Haigh | Alison Stanton plus one |
| Counters | Bob Williamson, Jeanette Li | Nessie Crawford, David Hall |
| Morning Tea | Nessie Crawford, Alison Stanton | Julie Dickey, Alison Stanton |