



Sunday  
26-Nov-2023

## Christ the King Sunday

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.

**Scripture reading: Matthew 25:31-46 (New International Version)**



### The Sheep and the Goats

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

<sup>34</sup> “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

<sup>37</sup> “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

<sup>40</sup> “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

<sup>41</sup> “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

<sup>44</sup> “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

<sup>45</sup> “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

<sup>46</sup> “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

**Sunday**

**3-Dec-2023**

**THIS WEEK**

**Theme: From Moab to Bethlehem**

**Scripture readings: Ruth 1:1-22**

**From: 26-Nov-2023**

**To: 3-Dec-2023**

**Prayer points:**

- For peace and restoration of stability in Israel, Ukraine and other regions experiencing unrest;
- For Jane's health;
- For Brenda's health;
- For Felicity's recovery;
- For violence and crime to be subdued in our country.
- For those who have had major surgery and are recovering;
- For support for all those who have lost loved ones, homes and/or livelihoods in the recent natural disasters.

**Pastoral Reflection**

Hello, friends, who love St Johns,

Welcome to our last Sunday of the year. Did you know that? Liturgically this is the last day of the year, which is also known as Christ the King or the Reign of Christ Sunday. The church year revolves around two major seasons, that is Christmas and Easter. Both of these seasons are preceded by seasons of preparations and anticipation – i.e., Advent and Lent.

These seasons of preparation help us undermine the contemporary narratives of consumption and productions. We are not merely this thing called consumer; we are people created in the image of God, and so we need practices that enable us to reclaim our identity as disciples of Jesus Christ. Advent and Lent are the seasons of preparation that remind us that we are made to worship and we are made for relationship with each other.

Advent and Lent invites us to create space to recognize God's participation with us in our lives. The invitation is not that we stop consuming or producing, but we are invited to consume and produce in a way that Jesus Christ is honoured as King. Jesus the King did come in power but not in the way we are conditioned to think of power. In our contemporary understanding of power, power is usually marked by violence, domination, fear and coercion. Jesus reign is not self-focused by other focused. With Jesus' reign power is self-effacing and self-donating. That is power is used to empower.

The gospel reading this week puts the Christ the King figure in among the outcast and the lowly. The outcast and the lowly become his designated representatives, so that in serving them we serve the Christ the King figure. To be involved with the outcast and the lowly means to be implicated in their predicament, to be incriminatingly linked to their situation, and no doubt to be guilty by association. The gospel reading demands something more profound than altruistic endeavour.

It invites us to join the Christ the king figure in creating a new world. Because one day we will stand before him and talk in terms of the things we've done or not done. We will say to the King that we built huge bridges to span the seas. We built gigantic buildings that kiss the skies. We made submarines that penetrates oceanic depths. But we will hear the King say to us: "that was not enough! because I was hungry, and you did not feed me. I was naked and you did not clothe me. I was devoid of sanitary housing to live in and you did not provide me shelter. And so, you cannot enter the kingdom of greatness because you did not do it to the least of these – you did not do for me."

**Sunday 26-Nov-2023**

9.30 am Sunday Service in English  
(Chinese subtitle)  
3:30 pm Christian Youth Church

**Tuesday 28-Nov-2023**

N/A

**Wednesday 29-Nov-2023**

7:00 pm AA meeting

**Thursday 30-Nov-2023**

3:10 pm Musiqhub

**Friday 1-Dec-2023**

10:00 am Knitting Group  
6:45 pm Youth Group

**Saturday 2-Dec-2023**

N/A

**Sunday 3-Dec-2023**

9.30 am Sunday Holy Communion  
Service in English (Chinese subtitle)  
3:30 pm Christian Youth Church

## Coffee & Chat

Save the Day

5 Dec (Tue)

10:00am till noon

Bring a friend and/or families

Christmas carols singing

&

Games



## Phone Book Update

Annual exercise to update the phone book.

A copy is placed on the welcome desk.

**Need your Support**

Deadline



Target to complete the exercise on 30 November 2023

*Thank You*



## Thanksgiving **\$5,006 collected**

**as on 23 Nov**

Express thankfulness by giving back!

**Collection Period: Nov - Dec 2023**

Whether you give online or through envelopes, please use the remark "Thanksgiving."



This year's Thanksgiving donation will support:

- 90% for general repair and maintenance fund
- 5% for the Breakfast Club
- 5% for a local charity in East Auckland (to be determined)

Bank account: 03-0166-0135407-025 (Bucklands Beach Co-op Parish)

**Join us in spreading gratitude and helping those in need!**



"For more than 100 years we've stood with Aucklanders who need it most"

**TE TĀPUI ATAWHAI  
AUCKLAND  
CITY MISSION**



### How you can support us

Ways you can donate, become a volunteer, find our Op shops, fundraise for us, donate food, ASB marathon, Feed It forward.

### Discover what we do

(Refer the web site)



63,638 food parcels distributed to families & individuals in greatest need



432 people helped into emergency and transitional housing



9,552 medical consultations at Calder Health Centre



1,314 alcohol and other drugs assessments



39,625 meals at Haeata, our community centre

Source: <https://www.aucklandcitymission.org.nz/>

## Friday evening Youth Group - 6:45 p.m.



### Songs for Today

1. Let there be love
2. Open the eyes of my heart
3. Brother, Sister let me serve you
4. What a friend we have in Jesus

Sunday Services:	English 9:30a.m.	
Office Hours:	Tues - Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon	
Phone: 09 534 2305	Email: <a href="mailto:office@stjohnsbb.org.nz">office@stjohnsbb.org.nz</a>	
Website:	<a href="https://stjohnsbb.org.nz">https://stjohnsbb.org.nz</a>	
Minister	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	022 674 0044
Administrator	Winnie Wong	
Property Manager	Charles de Vilder	
People's Warden	Ayleen de Vilder	
Minister's Warden	Julie Dickey	
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	
Direct Credit Offerings AC	03-0166-0135407-025	

**Youth Group:** Contact Jeff [minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz](mailto:minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz)

	Today's Helpers 26-Nov-2023	Next Week's Helpers 3-Dec-2023
Preacher	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
Musician/s	Joan Williamson Winnie Wong	Rahil John Albert Ip
Projector & Sound Desk	Alicia Odhiambo	Collin Franke
Reader	Judy McDonald	Olga Ferreira
Intercessor	Bob Williamson	Julie Dickey
HC set up	N/A	Mavis Haigh
HC Serving team	N/A	Judy McDonald
Prayer ministry	Joan Jones	Joan Rutherford
Sunday School	An opportunity to serve here	An opportunity to serve here
Welcome Desk	Ayleen de Vilder	An opportunity to serve here
Usher	Charles de Vilder	Judy McDonald
Counters	Charles de Vilder Bob Williamson	Christo John Trevor Haigh
Morning Tea	Miranda Huang Grace Tay	Julie Dickey Jeanette Li Dimock