



St Johns
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
21-Apr-2024

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: John 10:11-18 (New International Version)

The Good Sheperd



¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

Sunday

28-Apr-2024

Scripture reading: John 15:1-8 (New International Version)

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. Col 4:2

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 safe communities.
- For our youth and adult leaders of the holiday programme
- For children and families through the school holidays;
- For support for all those who have lost loved ones, homes and/or livelihoods in natural disasters.



*Christ is Risen
Hallelujah*

Pastoral Reflection

Hello, friends, who love St Johns,

Welcome to our fourth Sunday of Eastertide.

In this week's Gospel, John is using the metaphor of shepherding in a way of talking about the leadership in Israel. The answer to bad leadership is not no leadership. The answer to bad leadership is good leadership. Jesus is the good shepherd that Israel had been hoping for.

In our fourth Sunday in Easter, what is on offer is a different version of leadership different from the one expressed by the leaders in Israel at the time of Jesus. John describes a leader who "lays down his life". A leader who in effect places his body in danger for the sake of those he/she has under their care. This is a leader who display courage and integrity. A leader who is willing to give themselves away for the sake of the people they have under their care. A leader who is not self-interested.

The image of a shepherd tending his/her flock was deeply implanted into the religious imagination of the Israelites; they had a long history with shepherds. Abel was the first shepherd recorded in Genesis. Also, in Genesis 46:34 Joseph instructs his brothers to tell Pharaoh that they are shepherds so that they would be kept apart from the Egyptians. King David started out as a shepherd before becoming the king of Israel. And so, the Israelites were accustomed to the idea of God as the ultimate Shepherd who will care for his people. So, was Jesus in John then equating himself with God, the ultimate Shepherd King?

THIS WEEK

From: 21-Apr-2024

To: 28-Apr-2024

Sunday 21-Apr-2024

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

Monday 22-Apr-2024

N/A

Tuesday 23-Apr-2024

N/A

Wednesday 24-Apr-2024

7:00 pm AA meeting

Thursday 25-Apr-2024

N/A

Friday 26-Apr-2024

10:00am Knitting Group

Sunday 28-Apr-2024

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

Highlights of the holiday programme

The children said.....

"We liked the painting and playing games best"



The young leaders said:

"It was great looking after the children -they were fun to be around, they listened....most of the time."



The Adults said:

"Seeing the caring and loving the young people gave to the children.

This inspires me very much!"



"Great organisation, our numbers were managable."

"The manners of the young leaders... absolutely beautiful manners."

Remember: Ronaldo and Jaque are still taking orders for cupcakes.Let's support them on their mission trip to Fiji.





Songs for Today



1. Morning has broken
2. Seek ye first
3. Give thanks
4. Change my heart, Oh God

Sunday Services:	English 9:30a.m.	
Office Hours:	Wed/Fri 9am-12pm, Thurs 11am-2pm	
Phone: 09 534 2305	Email: office@stjohnsbb.org.nz	
Website:	https://stjohnsbb.org.nz	
Minister	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	022 674 0044
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People's Warden	Ayleen de Vilder	
Minister's Warden	Julie Dickey	
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	021 057 6327
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	
Direct Credit Offerings AC	03-0166-0135407-025	

Youth Group: Contact Jeff minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz

	Today's Helpers 21-Apr-2024	Next Week's Helpers 28-Apr-2024
Preacher/ Service Leader	Jeff Odhiambo	Jeff Odhiambo
Musician/s	Rahil John	Joan Williamson
Projector & Sound Desk		
Reader	Judy McDonald	Natalie Springveldt
Intercessor	Joan Rutherford	Bob Williamson
HC set up	Ayleen de Vilder	N/A
HC Serving team	Judy McDonald	N/A
Prayer ministry	Joan Jones	Joan Rutherford
Sunday School	N/A	N/A
Welcome Desk	With ushering	With ushering
Usher	Judy McDonald	Bob Williamson
Counters	Jeanette Li	Bob Williamson
	Christo John	Albert Ip
Morning Tea	Monita Leung	Miranda Huang
	Jojo Lee	Alison Stanton