



St John's
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
16-Jun-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: Mark 4:26-34 (New International Version)

The Kingdom of God is like....



The Parable of the Growing Seed

²⁶ He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. ²⁷ Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. ²⁸ All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. ²⁹ As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

³⁰ Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. ³² Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

³³ With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. ³⁴ He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

Sunday

23-Jun-2024

Scripture reading: Mark 4:35-41 (New International Version)

Prayer points:

- Bring peace to places of conflict, within ourselves, in families, communities, within and between nations;
- For Jane's health;
- For Felicity's recovery;
- For safer communities;
- For our youth and adult leaders;
- For support for all those who have lost loved ones;
- For our friends at CYC;
- For families facing financial challenges and impacts of poverty;
- For Jeff and all those attending the Anglican Ministry Conference this coming week



Pastoral Reflection

Hello, friends, who love St Johns,

This week's gospel reading describes what the kingdom of God is like. The kingdom of God is like a man scattering seeds on the ground and then goes to sleep. Or the kingdom of God like a mustard seed. In this kingdom strange things happen for instance, all by itself the soil produces grain. And in this kingdom the mustard seed has the potential to grow into a huge tree and the birds perch in its shades. Is this for real or is it just a big joke?

It is in the small, insignificant and somehow annoying things. That grow by themselves, while the gardener is asleep. Things that are pervasive and hard to get rid of. These are the things that extend hospitality and generosity. Again, is this for real or is it just a big joke? In the kingdom of God what we find is that the transformative things are found in the tiny, insignificant things of life. And our obsession with the big deal has blinded us to this fact. The fact that the kingdom of God is hidden in the seed, and treif things like mustard seed and unwelcomed guest like birds puts us at odds with our ideals. Our ideals have nothing to do with the kingdom of God. Grace as it turns out is the central reality of the kingdom of God.



Looking Forward and Getting Involved

This Week

Sunday 16-June-2024

9:30 am Sunday Service in English (Chinese subtitle) 3:30 pm Christian Youth Church

Monday 17-June-2024

N/A

Tuesday 18-June-2024

N/A

Wednesday 19-June-2024

Office Closed
7:00 pm AA meeting

Thursday 20-June-2024

N/A

Friday 21-June-2024

10:00am Knitting
Youth Group

Saturday 22-June-2024

N/A

Sunday 23-June-2024 9:30 am

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



Volunteer Month June 2024

This week our big Shout out is to Jeanette who has volunteered her time as part of the finance team for 10 years, with the last four years as St Johns church treasurer and chair of the Finance Team.

Many thanks Jeanette

*Office closed
Wednesday
19th June*

Thanks to everyone who provided mattresses for the YWAM team.

Please come and collect the remaining mattresses as soon as possible.

The group from YWAM appreciated the comfort provided for them as they adjusted back to Aotearoa following their overseas trip to Papua New Guinea.



Songs for Today

Morning Has Broken
Great is Thy Faithfulness
Beautiful Things
How Great is Our God



Sunday Services:	English 9:30 am	
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
Administrator	Anne Purcell	
Property Manager	Charles de Vilder	
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 16-Jun-2024	Next Week's Helpers 23-Jun-2024
Preacher/Service Leader	Jeff / Judy	Anne
Musician/s	Rahil, Ronaldo	Joan W
Projector & Sound Desk	Collin	Michael
Reader	Olga	Natalie
Intercessor	Liz	Joan R
HC set up	Alison	N/A
HC Serving team	Joan R	N/A
Prayer ministry	Judy	Joan J
Sunday School	N/A	N/A
Welcome Desk	With ushering	With ushering
Usher	Olga	Bob
Counters	Nessie	Nessie
	Alicia	Bob
Morning Tea	Alison	Monita
	Andy	Jojo