

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday, 8 December 2024

Liturgy: p.404

Advent 2

Luke 1:68-79

Greetings:

The title of this year's Advent Study is 'The Waiting Time'; the premise is that we're not only waiting for Christmas, but because we live in-between Christ's first coming and His second, we have some waiting to do. How do you normally fill in the time you spend waiting? Is *waiting* a pleasant experience for you, or not so? Is it stressful? How might we deal with that stress in this most important of tasks?

For me waiting can be a blessing, but it can also be filled with dread, especially if I don't like the idea of what is coming. As a control freak, I have often been tempted to try and prepare myself as best I can by trying to anticipate all possible options and second guess what might or could possibly happen ... so that I can be as prepared as possible for any eventuality. But is that always the best answer? What if instead, I used that energy to be hyper-vigilant to all the things happening around me *in each moment*, to get as many others as ready as we can be for *the idea* of what is to come ... even if we don't know all the details?

Grace and peace, *Tony*

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 8 December 2024

Sentence:

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 1:78-79*

Collect:

Praise and honour to You living God for John the Baptist, and for all those voices crying in the wilderness who prepare Your way. May we listen when a prophet speaks Your Word, and obey, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

OT Reading *Malachi 3: 1-4*

NT Reading *Philippians 1: 3-11*

Gospel *Luke 3: 1-6*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for the continued development of the Anglican Alliance Partners in Risk and Resilience (PiRR) tool, and for the people of the Mount Maunganui Parish and their clergy.

We pray also for those in need, especially those who have asked for our prayers: Craig, Viv, James F, Hazel, Lynda, Lawrence, Adam, Sheryl T.

Lavender Craft Sales Table

Lavender Craft will have a sales table this Sunday (8 December) so that you can buy last minute gifts and small moist Xmas fruit cakes - please bring some money with you to Church.

Thank You

Many thanks to everyone who gave to the Mission to Seafarers collection. Your gifts were grateful received.

Remembrance Tree of Light

Sponsor a light in memory of a departed loved one and support *St John New Zealand (Ambulance Services)* and *St John's Anglican Church Community Outreach*. A beautiful, lighted tree will stand in church from Advent Sunday 1 December and through the Christmas period. Names of loved ones remembered will be displayed around the Tree. *Application forms are available in the foyer. Please phone or email names of those to be remembered to Lynda.*

Advent Study

Advent Study will be held at 11am and 7pm on Wednesday 4th, 11th and 18th December. All welcome. A sign up sheet is at the back of the church.

Foodbank

Christmas is a particularly hard time for families in need so we ask that you give generously to our Foodbank collection as we lead up to Christmas. Treats for Christmas will be most welcome. In the last 12 months the Tauranga Foodbank has assisted 7,862 households, including 12,000 children. Sadly the need in our community is great - any assistance is much appreciated.

This Week Beginning: 9 December

- Tuesday** 11.30 am St John's Women's Fellowship lunch
- Wednesday** 10.00 am Mid-week Eucharist
11.00 am Advent Study
3.15 pm Service at Radius Matua
7.00 pm Advent Study
- Op Shop** 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Monday to Friday
10.00 am - 1.00 pm Saturday
- Playgroup** 9.30 - 11.30 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
- Toy Library** 9.30 - 11.30 am Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Service for Sunday 15 December –

9.30 am Holy Communion

Contact Us

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