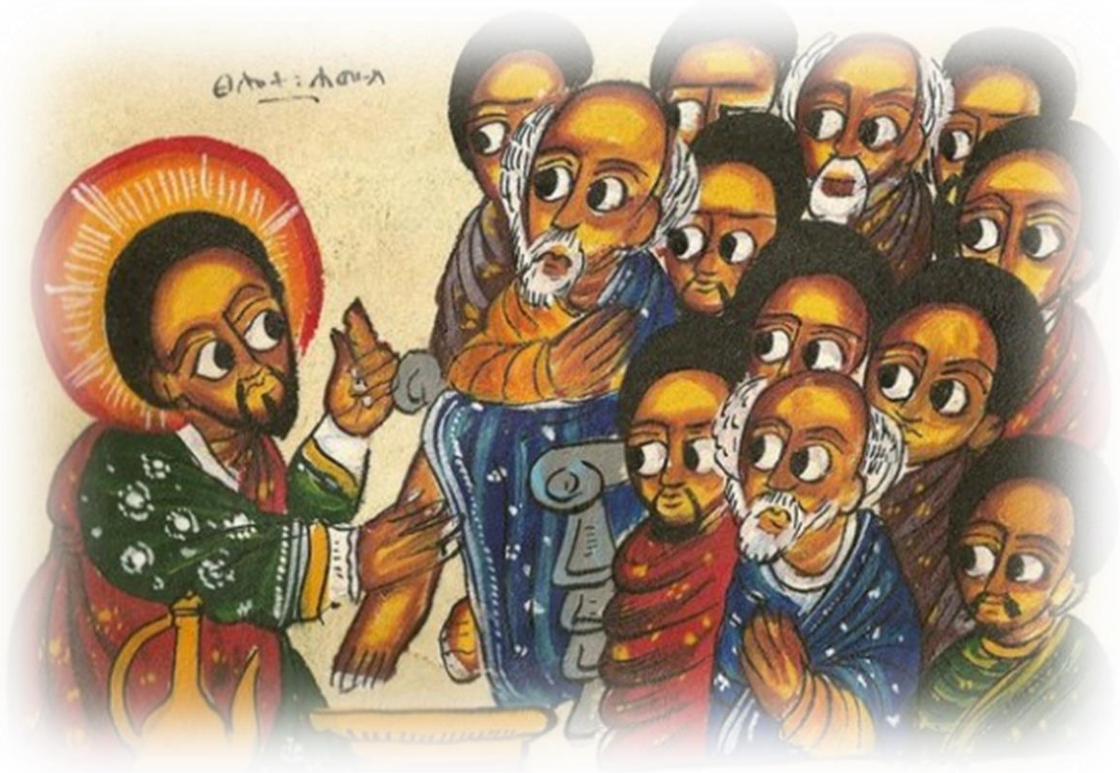




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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



'17th Ordinary time

11th Aug 2024

Notes from Yukiko's Desk

Dear AGAC friends

This year, which is year B of the liturgical cycle, we have been looking at Mark's Gospel most Sundays. As you know, Mark's Gospel is significantly shorter than Matthew's and Luke's. It goes at breakneck speed - that the word "immediately" appears 42 times in this short book!

Largely for this reason, it is augmented with passages from John for five weeks (from 17th to 21st Ordinary time). During this time, the Discourse on the **Bread of Life** from John 6 is used as the Sunday gospel. For a month or so we reflect on what it might mean if Jesus is "the bread of life." Bread is a staple food which sustains life, but the '**bread of life**' points to something more than physical existence. It may be worth reflecting that bread is not a staple food in all parts of the world, so this phrase is often contextualised. In my Japanese context, it may be more appropriate to say "the **rice of life**." In the Māori translations of scripture, **taro** has thus been given the literal meaning of "bread", as well as being used in contexts where "bread" is employed in a metaphorical or symbolic sense.

These translations point to an understanding of this phrase as meaning that Jesus is that which is essential to sustain life in all its fulness. What does it mean for Jesus to be the bread, rice, taro (or whatever essential to you) of life? I am inviting you to explore this important topic together.

P. S. On this Sunday, I will take an annual leave as we want to celebrate our son, Yohane's 16th Birthday. I am deeply grateful that Les will take services in both St. Michael's and Holy Cross.

Trusting in his care,

Yukiko

News & upcoming events

Diocesan Consolidated Accounts

As you may be aware our Church financial accounts get bundled up with all the other ministry units in the Diocese into one big (consolidated) set of financial accounts which are then audited and submitted to the Charities Commission each year. The 2023 Diocese of Auckland accounts have now been submitted, and they, together with an annual report, are available to read [here](#).



To reflect on how we have been doing so far and improve our programme, we have asked mums to give us feedback, Here are some of them.

- *Space has given me more freedom, better understanding of how to care for my child, safe space to share ups and downs and a great group for support....*
- *I love our sessions!*
- *It's a welcoming inclusive environment..*
- *It's great to have the opportunity to discuss and socialise with other mums.*

It is great to hear everyone who attend finds it very valuable and enjoys coming to the group.



Settler's Morning Tea:

Coffee Fellowship

Next meeting: **21st Aug Wednesday at 10 am** at Settler's Lounge.

Creative gifts Sunday-1st September

On the 1st September, we will celebrate our creative gifts (poetry, painting, embroidery or whatever). It does not have to be yours; it could be something your family member has done.

If you have something to present, please fill in the form (available from this Sunday) and pass it to In Cheol so that we can arrange the exhibits. If you are not sure, please feel free to talk to Yukiko or In Cheol.

Video News

Last week Bishop Ross was in Melbourne where he was part of some work relating to the Anglican Science Commission, looking at the relationship between science and faith.

[click here now](#) to go to the YouTube page where the video will play.

We pray for:

- The health system in the wake of further cuts to governance and ongoing staff shortages.
- peace during UK rioting and unrest
- peace and stability in Bangladesh

This Week's Question

In John 6, who began to grumble about Jesus when He referred to Himself as the "bread that came down from heaven"?

A: The disciple B: The religious leaders C: The Jews D: Pharisees

Readings

	<u>11th August</u>	<u>18th August</u>
1 st Reading:	2 Sam 18:5-9,15,31-33	Prov 9:1-6
Psalm	Ps 130	Ps 34:9-14
2 nd Reading:	Eph 4:25-5:2	Eph 5:15-20
Gospel:	John 6:35,41-51	John 6:51-58

This week's summary:

- 1st Reading: David's son, Absalom, has rebelled against his father. The news of Absalom's defeat and death in battle is guardedly passed on to David.
- 2nd Reading: Being a member of Christ and his church means living a new and moral life.
- Gospel: John again gives us a meditative, theological reflection on Jesus as the bread of life.

Sentence

Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. Ephesians 5:1-2

Collect of the Day

Merciful God,
you gave your only Son
to be a sacrifice for sin and an example of godly life;
help us gladly to receive
all that he has done for us
and follow in his footsteps;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

This Week's Service Songs

Opening:	Praise my soul the wondrous beauty
Gospel:	When we are living
Offertory:	Be still and know
Recession:	Thine be the glory

Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>11th August</u>	<u>18th August</u>
Sacristan	Dorothy Shultz	Karenne West
Welcomer	Ria Gormley	Dorothy Shultz
1 Readings	Bernadette	Alison Thompson
2 Readings	Dorothy Meyer	Trish Duncan
Presiding	Les	Yukiko
Prayers	Rhona Stace	Dorothy Meyer
TV Setup & Slides	Gary Wells	InCheol Kim
Morning Tea	Dorothy & Ria	Alison T & Trish
Flowers	Ria Gormley	Diana Harris

St Michaels

	<u>11th August</u>	<u>18th August</u>
Welcomer & Prayers	Bruce Goertz	Bruce Goertz
Readings	Bruce Goertz	Brian Simpson
Presiding	Les	Bruce Goertz

This Week's Answer:

C

Liturgical Colour: Green

Liturgical Colour for this week is; Green

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Feedback welcome: If you have feedback on any aspect of our church activities, please do contact the wardens, Beatrix & Trish – contacts as above – or via the office at the email above.

Albany Greenhithe Anglican Church

www.agac.org.nz

Bank details: ASB – 12-3136-0041622-00

11th August – 19th Ordinary Sunday Year B

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life.
Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and
whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.



*Where to get bread? An ever-pressing question
That trembles on the lips of anxious mothers,
Bread for their families, bread for all these others;
A whole world on the margin of exhaustion.
And where that hunger has been satisfied
Where to get bread? The question still returns
In our abundance something starves and yearns
We crave fulfillment, crave and are denied.
And then comes One who speaks into our needs
Who opens out the secret hopes we cherish
Whose presence calls our hidden hearts to flourish
Whose words unfold in us like living seeds
Come to me, broken, hungry, incomplete,
I Am the Bread of Life, break Me and eat.*

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