

Worship Resource for the parish of St Luke

5th Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2020.

This week's readings: Acts 7:55-60
Ps 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Pet 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

Sentence: 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life,' says the Lord.
'No one comes to the Father except through me.'

John 14:6

**Collect: Eternal God,
your Son Jesus Christ
is the way, the truth and the life for all creation;
grant us grace to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Reflection on the Gospel

"Happy Easter!" "Thank you for ordering from us." "You are the best!" These are messages written by a local supplier, placed inside boxes delivered to us over the past few weeks of lockdown. They encourage people to continue ordering online and supporting local business. It is a choice they have made: to foster a climate of good humour and to be friendly. It echoes the encouragement that we have received as a nation - as our Prime Minister, Jacinda, reminds us to be kind and keep safe.

Long before our meat delivery and Jacinda Ardern, Jesus preached a way – not just a way to God, but a way of being. It is the way of kindness, the way of goodness, the way of encouragement, the way of peace.

How in these strange coronavirus times are you expressing Jesus' way? Some of your usual frameworks have been lost: there are no services at St Luke's, no AAW meeting or Op Shop; no chance to gather as community.

- How are you nurturing your love of God? What do prayer and worship look like for you now? How do you encounter Jesus?
- What is love of neighbour for you? A phone call to a friend or a cheery wave to a neighbour? Or something else?
- And what does love of self, supporting your inner life, seem like? How do you care for your own needs at this time?

Take a moment to ponder your answers to these questions.

Jesus, the way, the truth and the life, directs and guides us at all times and in all places. Sometimes we just need to stop, notice and be aware of the life of God around and inside us.

Then turn to prayer: for the world as it faces this deadly virus; for those struggling, for the sick and dying; for our church community and those who live nearby; our families and friends; our own needs.

May Jesus, the way, the truth and the life, sustain you and bless you. Amen.

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Parish Morning Prayer by Zoom: Rev Anne will lead a service for St Luke's on Wednesday 13 May at 10 am. Join by this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84059373956>

Diocesan Prayer:

If you have not already, do try +Andrew's diocesan prayer:

Topic: Bishop Andrew Sunday Night Prayer

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/986454499>

Topic: Bishop Andrew Wednesday Evening Prayer

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/162180462>

The New Zealand Prayer Book is a great resource, offering morning and evening prayer as services and less formal devotions for each night of the week.

Try them, alongside the readings for the week:

Monday 11 May: Ps 145; Num 9:15-end; 10:33-end Luke 4:38-end

Tuesday 12 May: Ps 19,(147:1-12) Num 11:1-33; Luke 5:1-11

Wednesday 13 May: Ps 30,(147:13-end) Num 12; Luke 5:12-26

Thursday 14 May: Ps 16;147:1-12 ; 1 Sam 2:27-35; Acts 2:37-47

Friday 15 May: Ps 138,(149); Num 14:1-25; Luke 6:1-11

Saturday 16 May: Ps 146,(150) Num 14:26-45; Luke 6:12-26

Sunday 17 May: Ps 73:21-28 ; Job 14:1-2,7-15; 19:23-27; 1 Thess 4:13-18

I AM THE Way,
THE Truth,
AND THE Life. 
NO ONE COMES
TO THE *Father*
EXCEPT THROUGH ME.
JOHN 14:6