



# Liturgy of the Word for Individuals, Families & Communities

## 18th Sunday Ordinary Time *Caring Sunday*

*Prepare a prayer focus and light a candle.*

**SIGN OF THE CROSS: Ki te ingoa...**

**READER:** Kia noho te Ariki ki a koutou -- The Lord be with you

**ALL:** Ki tōu wairua anō hoki -- And also with you

**READER:**

Tēnā Koutou Katoa -Hello and welcome. Today is the 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time and in the Auckland Diocese, it is Caring Sunday. Today, we are called to imitate the generosity we have received and so lay up treasures in heaven. Let's sing!

**Where Your Treasure Is**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkuRdRkckjU>

**READER:** Jesus, you invite us to lay up treasure in heaven, to be rich in what matters to God

You teach us to number our days that we may gain wisdom of heart

Lord have mercy

**(All)** Lord have mercy

You fill us with your kindness that we might praise you

Christ have mercy

**(All)** Christ have mercy

In you, we are made new

Lord have mercy

**All)** Lord have mercy

**OPENING PRAYER:** Ka inoi tatou – let us pray. *In this time of silence, we bring to mind all the things we want to pray for, those things which weigh heavily on our hearts. (Allow silence, 1 minute)*

God who calls us to yourself and shares your life with us, teach us to lay up treasure in heaven, that we might imitate Christ in all we do, and be with you always. Through Jesus our Lord and in the unity of the Holy Spirit we pray.

**ALL: Amen**

**FIRST READING Ecclesiastes 1:2,2:21-23**

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

Vanity of vanities, says the teacher,  
vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!

Here is one who has laboured with wisdom and knowledge and skill,  
and yet to another who has not laboured over it,  
he must leave property.

This also is vanity and a great misfortune.

For what profit comes to man from all the toil and anxiety of heart  
with which he has laboured under the sun?

All his days sorrow and grief are his occupation;  
even at night his mind is not at rest.

This also is vanity

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord

**ALL:** Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

**Silence – Let's be quiet for a few moments and let God's Word find a place to rest inside us.**

**Discuss -** What are your thoughts about these words from the book of Ecclesiastes?

**PSALM:** Psalm 90  
Children

*If today you hear God's voice, harden not your heart.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzCDuohedUs>

Youth  
Adults

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zg6rsCw2aHc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agrbrtENNsE>

### Second Reading Colossians 3:1-5,9-11

A reading from the book of Colossians

Brothers and sisters:

If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,  
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.

For you have died,  
and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ your life appears,  
then you too will appear with him in glory.

Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly:  
immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire,  
and the greed that is idolatry.

Stop lying to one another,  
since you have taken off the old self with its practices  
and have put on the new self,  
which is being renewed, for knowledge,  
in the image of its creator.

Here there is not Greek and Jew,  
circumcision and uncircumcision,  
barbarian, Scythian, slave, free;  
but Christ is all and in all.

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord

**ALL:** Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

**Silence** - *Follow the reading with quiet thinking time.*

**Discussion starter** – Paul encourages us to let go of distinctions; ‘*there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave.*’ Are there distinctions you find it more or less difficult to let go of?

**GOSPEL:** Luke 12:13-21

**Reader** Kia noho te Ariki - The Lord be with you

**All** Ki tōu wairua anō hoki – And also with you

**Reader** A reading from the Gospel of Luke

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus,

“Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me.”

He replied to him,

“Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?”

Then he said to the crowd,

“Take care to guard against all greed,

for though one may be rich,

one’s life does not consist of possessions.”

Then he told them a parable.

“There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest.

He asked himself, ‘What shall I do,

for I do not have space to store my harvest?’

And he said, ‘This is what I shall do:

I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones.

There I shall store all my grain and other goods

and I shall say to myself, “Now as for you,

you have so many good things stored up for many years,

rest, eat, drink, be merry!”

But God said to him,

‘You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you;  
and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?’

Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves  
but are not rich in what matters to God.”

**Reader** Ko te rongopai a te Ariki – The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL:** Kia whakanuia rā koe, e te Ariki, e Hēhu Karaiti –  
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

*After the reading - Silence.*

→ **Children’s Reflection on the Gospel** – Listen to the Gospel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syYixa4ZRPY>  
What does this parable make you think about?

→ **Adults – Youth: Reflection / Discussion** – What do you find yourself thinking about as you listen to this reading?

**Prayer of the Faithful: As God’s people we pray for the needs of the whole world.**

**For the Church** – that we listen to the suffering of the poor, and work tirelessly to alleviate pain and offer the outstretched hand of compassion.

**(Silence) Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For leaders of wealthy nations** – that they do not aspire solely to meet their own nation’s needs, but extend care to other nations, especially those in need.

**(Silence) Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For business leaders** – that they will do good for neighbour and be generous in their contribution to communities.

**(Silence) Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For the Caring Foundation** – that it will be generously supported by the parishes of the Auckland Diocese.

**(Silence) Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For shoppers** – that we learn to live simply, caring for what we have, acquiring only what we need, buying only what we will use and passing to others what we no longer require.

**(Silence) Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For our neighbourhood** – that we connect with our neighbours, give to the poor, speak out for those who live in poverty, and value all people regardless of wealth or position.

**(Silence) Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**Concluding Prayer**

O God, the giver of every gift that endures, only by your grace can we rightly understand the wonder of life and why it is given. By the word of your Son challenge our foolishness, confront our greed, and shape our lives to the wisdom of the Gospel. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

**Reader:** *This Sunday is Caring Sunday, a day on which, in the Auckland Diocese, we pause to reflect on and support the work of the Caring Foundation. For more information about the Caring Foundation, follow this link <https://caringfoundation.org.nz/> and for the Foundations latest newsletter, follow this link <https://caringfoundation.org.nz/newsletter/>.*

**A Prayer in support of the work of the Caring Foundation**

Gracious and generous God,

Thank you for the work of the Caring foundation.

Thank you for the many stories that tell of the wonderful work of the Foundation.

Thank you for the difference the Foundation makes to people’s lives.

Thank you for people and organisations who are generous and contribute to the work of the Foundation with monetary donations, making it possible for so many people to be supported and cared for in very practical ways, enabled to live fulfilling and meaningful lives. May the Caring Foundation continue to have many generous donors.

We ask your blessing on donors, volunteers and their families.  
We ask your blessing on workers who enable the work of the Foundation.  
We ask your blessing on the Caring Foundation.  
May it continue to grow and be fruitful in Auckland and beyond.  
**Amen.**

**READER:** Let's pray the Lord's prayer together. The Lord's Prayer in Te Reo Māori.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oU1GNEVohYY>

*Or the Lord's Prayer in English.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

**READER:** Thank you for your participation in this Liturgy of the Word, thank you for your kindness and presence. We are one body, the Body of Christ. May your dwelling place and comfort be in the heart of God, the heart of love without end. May we be messengers of God's love, peace and forgiveness in the world today.

Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you.

Let us go in peace, loving and serving God in all we do.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Song St Theresa's Prayer** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wUbxOli4Hcl>