

Last week the theme was **Witness to the Resurrection.**

Once upon a time, this sounds like a fairy tale, but there was a time when people knew why they came to church, why they got involved and why they took responsibility of their church. It was clear to them that the bible stated that salvation was not only to the Jewish community but also theirs! Today, this is not so! Why do you think this is not clear? One perspective is that as a church we do not clearly define who we serve, what we stand for and are we prepared to own it. Do we teach the gospel effectively and do people understand what it all means? In the gospel reading, it tells us that there was a group of men who were witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Coming to church and hearing this should not be just an information session for you and I, this should be the most fantastic news you've ever heard! No matter what happens in life, if we turn to God and repent of our sins, they are forgiven and we will receive salvation with our ultimate goal of inheriting eternal life through Jesus Christ. I am not denying the existence of God outside of the church but I do wonder sometimes what the church stands for! When people join an organization or a group, they usually know why they are in it. If you belong to a rugby club or a golf club it's usually because you love the sport. But when it comes to the church, aw churr! It's something that old people do, you go to church when you can't play rugby anymore or you can't swing a golf club. It's something you do when you get in trouble and you need God to help you out of a jam. Go to church to pray for help and if

things work out your way, I might hang around but if it doesn't, oh well, I knew this stuff is all fairytales. Why get involved if God doesn't help me out? You see, this is never about what God can do for you and I, but it's about what you and I doing for God? The church is here for others, it is here to provide shelter for those seeking to find love in the world.



Prayful Paths

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

- Shay King 19 Apr 2001
- Bob Tairaoa 24 Apr 2008
- Richard Bristowe 22 Apr 2009
- Eru Kaukau 19 April 2010

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Alison Robertson Ivan Maheno
Kath Pene Raymond Farrell
Sandy Kew Paul Trainor
Ang Crawford Neisha Hura
Tipia Ahipene Nancy Baker
Kilahn Hura-Manuera
Kereama Wiwarena
Trillene Hawea

[LITURGICAL COLOUR IS WHITE]

Sunday 25 April 2010
CHURCH OF TE WAIRUA TAPU

www.tewairuatapu.com.au



Weekly Quote:

*Like a shepherd He will tend His flock, In His arm He will gather the lambs And carry them in His bosom; He will gently lead the nursing ewes. **Isaiah 40:11***

Rarangī:

*Ko Ihowa toku hepara; e kore ahau e hapa; ki tonu te whenua i te atawhai a Ihowa. Na te kupu a Ihowa nga rangi i hanga; ko nga mano katoa hoki o reira na te ha o tona mangai. **Waiata 23.1; 33:5-6***

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Today's Service

PIHOPA: Robert Forsyth
ATIRIKONA: Kaio Karipa

HYMNS:

Opening Hymn: 24
Gradual Hymn: 47
Offertory Hymn: 32
Communion: 38
Closing Hymn: 111

SENTENCE:

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the Lord's breath. **Psalm 23.1; 33:5-6**

COLLECT:

Good and gracious God, be our shepherd and our guide: lead us out of darkness and death and into life and light eternal; deliver us from all evil, guide us into the ways of goodness and peace, and when we wander bring us back to you and your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

1ST READING:

Acts 9:36-43

Peter in Lydda and Joppa

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room

upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

2ND READING:

Revelation 7:9-17

The Multitude from Every Nation

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever!

Amen.' Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING:

**The Holy Gospel According to
John 10:22-30**

Praise and Glory to God

Jesus is Rejected by the Jews

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is

greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

This is the Gospel of Christ
Praise to Christ the Word



Money Matters

Kia ora everyone!!!

If you want to make an automatic payment or a donation, our **Westpac Bank** account details are as follows:
**The Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship
Number 2 Account**
BSB: 032082
Account Number: **15-5562**

LAST WEEKS CONTRIBUTION

Church Attendance: 40 t 12 tamariki
Communicants : 24

Our Weekly Target is \$2500.
Direct Debit: **\$705.00**
AP: **\$110.00**
Congregation: **\$119.60**
Donations: **\$600.00**
Fundraising: **\$412.50**

Attendance at Wollongong 14
Communicants: 4
Wollongong: **\$281.40**

Total: **\$2228.50**



TWT Groups

NGA KUPU TAPU I ROTO I TE REO

Tinana - Hinengaro - Wairua. Nga Kupu starts at 7.30am - 9.30am each Sunday Morning. Kaumatua/Kuia & Rangatahi all welcome. Haere mai! Call Wara **0406-585-575**

TWT PRAYER GROUP

Contact Christine Adams - **0404-556-563** for more info.

TWT CHOIR SMAC

Choir practice is every Sunday at 10am.

CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

Thanks to all those whanau and church members that cleaned our church this year and it's that time again to ask for cleaners for 2010. if you would like to help out you can put your name on the roster in the Church!



Upcoming Events

KAHUI WAHINE

Become a FAN of 'Kahui Wahine - Sydney - Church of Te Wairua Tapu' on Facebook. Search for our PAGE and then click the link to 'Become a Fan'.

The next Kahui Wahine service will be held on Sunday 9th May 2010 at 10:30am. Everyone is welcome so please come along and support our Women's Ministry.