

Whare Karakia

Home prayers

29 August 2021

1 Samuel 17

...the battle is
the LORD's

1 Samuel 17:47

Opening Prayer

Don't hold back, bring all of yourself. For God loves us just as we are.
Thankyou God that all of us are welcome in your presence— with our scars and fears,
depression and doubt, hope and joy, light and laughter.
Thankyou God that you are with us in this worship space.
Let us worship the almighty God of love.

Song

Be still and know that I am God, be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God.

I am the God who healeth thee, I am the God who healeth thee,
I am the God who healeth thee.

In thee O Lord do I put my trust, in thee O Lord do I put my trust,
I thee O Lord do I put my trust.

Confession

God of all power and healing,
God of strength and wholeness,
We offer to you this day, our sins, our failings, our brokenness and the times we forget
that you are Almighty God.

*Let us take a moment to bring to mind those things that we have said and done that
have separated us from God.*

Absolution

The God of love brings us back to himself,
Forgives us our sins,
And assures us of his eternal love
In Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Scriptures

1 Samuel 17

If you are in need of support (prayer or otherwise) please contact us:
Rev. Learnie 021 984 002 or office@northwestanglican.org.nz



CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Northwest Anglican

Reflection: From Learné

The story from 1 Samuel 17 is the story of David, the shepherd boy going out to fight Goliath. Goliath was a 9 foot giant of a man from the Philistine army who was in battle with the Israelites. No-one in the Israelite army had the courage to fight him but David saw this beast of a man taunting the army of God and as one preacher said—David saw Goliath as just a big target. Saul, the king, tried to give David his armour to wear but David's response shows us that when we try to wear another person's protection it can be ill-fitting and at best a hindrance and at worst useless. As an Israelite boy David would have known the stories of God delivering Israel out of various tight spaces. He would have heard about the deliverance from Egypt and the defeat of various armies over the generations. He obviously had a strong belief that God was the Almighty One who could deliver them again. He goes out to fight Goliath with what he would have used before—perhaps to fight off a bear or a lion as he tended his flock of sheep. He takes five smooth stones and a sling and kills Goliath and the Israelite army defeats the Philistines. I don't know about you but I feel like we are in a war against this virus covid. As we fight it in lockdown I feel like we are fighting other enemies as well. Perhaps despair, or loneliness or anxiety. Whatever it is let's remember that we worship the God who defeated the final enemy death and that God has given us weapons with which to fight—prayer, fellowship with others, the scriptures for eg and you may be able to think of others.

Intercessions

We spend some time praying in the quietness for the various needs we see around us in the world and our community.

A special prayer for Afghanistan and Haiti

In your eternal kindness, See now and save the vulnerable! Whether in Kabul, or in rural Afghanistan, or in the rubble of Haiti's towns, protect all who need a safe place. Preserve life. May all who need protection, resources, comfort, medical attention, courage --escape- find what they need supplied for them even in unexpected places.

God of justice, thwart the plans of all who exploit their power over the vulnerable. Cause them to fall into their own traps. Bring chaos to their plans and subvert their schemes. May those who live by the sword find their weapons of warfare insufficient and ineffective to bring about the change they seek. Help them pursue better ways of being and doing in the world.

God of comfort, bring comfort and your courage to those who are shattered and in shock. Whether in Afghanistan, or Haiti, or in countries around the world hurting for their sisters and brothers, may your Holy Spirit pray and intercede when there are no words left to say. In the name of the One who came so there could be life everlasting, Amen

Questions to ponder

1. Allow yourself to name the giants that you are facing at the moment and bring them before the Almighty God who loves.
2. What are the weapons that you have that could fight these enemies? You might like to look back at Ephesians 6:10-20 from last week to see what weapons and armour God has given to his church.

Closing Prayer

Lord, thank You for Your unwavering support you give in these troubled times.

And thank You for those who act as Your instruments of your deep love.

Help me to fulfil my role in also caring for the people You have placed in my life. To the glory of your name I pray, Amen.

If you are in need of support (prayer or otherwise) please contact us:
Rev. Learné 021 984 002 or office@northwestanglican.org.nz



CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Northwest Anglican