



“Empowering people to be Christ’s followers in the world.”

SUNDAY SERVICE, 22 February

10.00am

“Lent Sermon Series - Finding Hope in Lament”

SPEAKER: Jeremy Woods

READINGS: Lamentations 1:1-7; Hebrews 5:7-9; Luke 19:41-44

VERSE OF THE DAY: **Lamentations 1:16**; “For all these things I weep; tears flow down my cheeks. No one is here to comfort me; any who might encourage me are far away. My children have no future, for the enemy has conquered us.”

<p>Wednesday Morning 10am Service</p>		<p>WEDNESDAY SERVICE, 25 February - 10.00am SPEAKER: Judy Carey “Judah and Tamar” Genesis 38</p>
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NEXT SUNDAY, 1 March- 10.00am

SPEAKER: Josh Jones

“Lent Sermon Series - Finding Hope in Lament”

VISITORS ... It's great to have you worshipping with us today. We hope you feel at home, and please join us in hall after service for morning tea.

Reflection from the Rev. Josh Jones

Welcome to St George's this morning as we begin our journey of Lent to the Cross through the lens of the book of Lamentations. Our sense is that this is an important biblical and spiritual resource for such a time as this.

The Book of Lamentations it's a unique book in the Old Testament containing five poems from an anonymous author reflecting back on the devastation caused by Babylonian siege of Jerusalem. This is undoubtedly the biggest psychological trauma of their Jewish history and the author expresses the full range of raw human emotions this has caused.

The pain and confusion expressed here are also found in the Psalms, Jeremiah and Job. It is important to remember that Jesus Himself lamented. Even Jesus asked, Why? **My God, my God, why did you abandon me?** In Gethsemane Jesus prayed to His Father to ask if there was another way.

Lament in scripture expresses 3 main human responses to the suffering of the world.

A Form of Protest

They're a way of drawing everybody's attention including God's attention to the horrible things that happen in this world that should not be tolerated.

A Way to Voice our Confusion

Through our honest and authentic lament, we are allowed to voice our confusions in the midst of suffering that can often make us ask questions about God's character.

A Way of Processing our Emotions

In these poems God's people vent their anger and dismay at the suffering caused by people's sin and selfishness and at the inexplicable reality of bad things happening to good people.

The reassurance of Lamentations is that none of this is looked down on in the Bible in fact it's just the opposite: **these poems of lament give a sacred dignity to human suffering** which is why they are included in Holy Scripture as God's Word for you and I today.

Our sincere prayer is that this exploration will be helpful to you in your own tears of lament. Most importantly the reminder throughout this series – **is that all of this takes place in the Eternal Truth of our Resurrection Hope in Jesus Christ.**

GIVING

- **DONATION BOX: In the Church.**
- **EFTPOS: Available at the back of the Church**
- **INTERNET BANKING: Bank A/c**
St Georges Church Epsom : 03-0104-0109844-01

***To get a giving number for tax receipt purposes, email lisad@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz**

Hello and welcome to our service this morning
We look forward to seeing you all in the hall for
kids church today



Jess, Hayley and the team



Life-giving conversation



**St G's men with the men resident at
Elizabeth Knox Home**

FIRST ONE FOR 2026

This Friday 27th February, 2pm

(4th Friday of the Month)

Join other St G's men in conversation Liz Knox men. Just bring yourself and a few life stories to share. For catering purposes, email or phone your availability to Steve Barnett

Steve.Barnett.clear@gmail.com, 021 672107



A CELEBRATION OF ORIGINAL KIWI MUSIC

**On Saturday February 28th in the
St George's Hall.**

Featuring the Andrew Healey Band with
Gray Paterson on keys and two amazing
support acts!! The Mollymawks, and our
very own Millie Eaton.

**Get your tickets now or at the venue.
It will be a fun night of kiwi music!!**

TICKETS@UNDER THE RADAR

City Mission Needs Our Help!!

Families are struggling to make ends meet.

On a Sunday, if you are able to bring a can of spaghetti, tomatoes,
vegetables, soup, fruit, meat, fish, sauces, creamed rice, etc. for the

City Mission to help Aucklanders in desperate need!

A huge thank you to all who support this wonderful cause.



Please Join Us For Morning Tea

You are invited to stay for morning tea in the Hall after the service.

Everyone welcome

A CELEBRATION OF CREATIVE ARTS

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH EPSOM
16-17 OCTOBER 2026



Glen Candy, Mark Eaton, and Bex & Mike Sanders are all participating in

The Push-Up Challenge

in an effort to complete 2,000 push-ups between 5-27 February,
raising funds for The Mental Health Foundation as they do so.



You can search for their names at the link below, check their daily progress,
cheer them on and provide financial support as the toughest part of the
challenge looms late in the month.

On the penultimate day they must do 200 reps!

<https://www.thepushupchallenge.co.nz>



World Day of Prayer

Friday 6th March 2026 10.30am

You are invited to join in the worship
and fellowship at St Andrew's Church
100 St Andrew's Road, Epsom

SAVE THE DATE

AGM 2026

Wednesday 18th March

7.30pm

Opportunities for Prayer at St George's

Saturday Morning Prayer: Weekly prayer meeting in the
Pastoral Care Room. 8.30am – 9.30am. Contact Malcolm Taylor
taylor_mnz@xtra.co.nz for more information. All welcome.

Prayer Ministry: After every service there are always people available to pray with you.
All those offering prayer have been trained to pray with others.

Confidential Prayer Chain: Contact: Lynette Wood dandwood@gmail.com or phone 021 208 3561

