



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

SUNDAY SERVICE, 12 July
Fully Human Fully Alive - Sloth

SPEAKER: Josh Jones

READINGS: Hebrews 12:1-6; John 15:8-17

VERSE OF THE DAY: Philippians 4:8

“Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.”



WEDNESDAY SERVICE, 15 July - 10.00am

SPEAKER: Stan Thorburn

“Endurance”

NEXT SUNDAY, 19 July - 10.00am

SPEAKER - Charmaine Braatvedt

Fully Human Fully Alive - Gluttony

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 Jeremy

Good morning and a very warm welcome to you this winter morning.

On Friday night we had our annual **Matariki** gathering and celebration, and I am trusting that it was another wonderful gathering, a time to remember those who have gone before us, to be present with one another, and to cultivate a sense of awe and wonder at God's good creation.

One of the gifts of this new holiday is that it reminds that we are creatures, and to live in sync with the natural rhythms of creation. Our modern society has flattened time, and we feel the pressure to squeeze as much out of a short winter day as we do a long summer one. When we pause to consider our place in the universe, and what really matters, we realise that we need to find our peace within our place as creatures within the created world. Matariki reminds us to slow down in these darker winter days rather than trying to stuff them full.

This leads nicely into what Josh is sharing on this morning as we continue our exploration of the 'Seven Deadly Sins' and how they rob us of living **Fully Alive**. This morning Josh is looking at **sloth**, or better termed **acedia**. Naming these as 'sin' is not to make a virtue out of being busy. On the contrary, much of our busy-ness (and our drive to be efficient as Josh will explore) is actually a withdrawal from doing the inner soul-work God invites to so that we might live fully alive. Counter-intuitively, true soul-restoring **rest** can counteract the temptation to acedia. It clarifies what God is actually calling us to do and what is just busy-ness.

Several weeks ago, we shared our missional vision—**Catching the Wind**. None of this is about producing more busy-work, we do not want to be 'chasing the wind.' We want to do only what God is asking us to do. Jesus modelled this when he said in John 5:19 that he "can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing." I understand this to mean he was constantly discerning what God was inviting him to do. Hence he can show up to the pool of Bethesda and only heal one man, and walk away (John 5:1-15). As you'll hear Pete Greig say, the Messiah was the only one who didn't have a Messiah-complex!

So may you lean into the wisdom of this season, to embrace limitation, rest and the acceptance that we cannot do everything. Pray also for all the ministries of St Georges, that we only do what we feel God is calling us to, and leave the rest to God.

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 office@stgeorgeseepsom.org.nz**

Welcome to our service this morning!



It's the school holidays so there's no kids church today, please feel free to use the activities in the creche room.



Jess, Hayley and the team

***If this is not a place where tears
are understood,
where do I go to cry?***

***If this is not a place where my
spirits can take wing,
where do I go to fly?***

***If this is not a place where my
questions can be asked,
where do I go to seek?***

***If this is not a place where my
feelings can be heard,
where do I go to speak?***

***If this is not a place where you'll
accept me as I am,
where do I go to be me?***

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.**



GOLD CARD HOLDERS

Perhaps the Winter Energy Payment is superfluous to your needs.

(In total Singles: \$450.12. Couples: \$700.04)

Would you please consider donating
some or all of it to

Auckland City Mission

12 3011 0520064 00



Please Join Us For Morning Tea

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

Everyone welcome



SUNDAY JULY 19th after the service

New here and keen to get connected?

Scan the QR code and fill out the form to let us know how we can best support you in getting connected.





SEP 4-6, Flaxmill Bay

Calling all men...

This is a great opportunity to get to know others more deeply. Talk to Steve if you have any questions.

Who am I, REALLY, in the world?

Men's Retreat

All men ages 13 to 93 welcome

steve.barnett.clear@gmail.com

Price: Food & luxury shared accommodation	Early	Late (after 4 August)
Earner	\$260	\$290
Non-earner	\$205	\$230
Student	\$160	\$180

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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, taylors_nz@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 dandlwood@gmail.com