

CHURCH OF TE HEPARA PAI

Friday 06 February 2015

Waitangi Day
JUSTICE



SENTENCE OF THE DAY:

How good and pleasant a thing it is when God's people live together in unity. (Psalm 133:1)

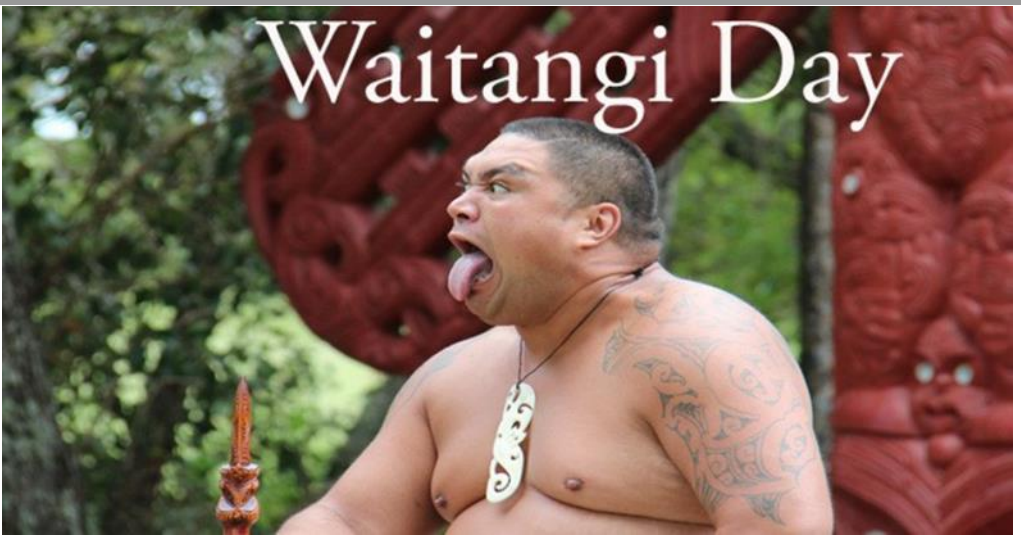
COLLECT OF THE DAY – Let us pray:

God of our nation, you have called us to care for one another; cleanse our eyes to see each other clearly; open our hearts to know our own mistakes; build in us respect for each other's taonga; help us to do justice to one another and to hope together. **Amen.**

The Treaty of
Waitangi

Te Tiriti O
Waitangi

Waitangi Day



TE TIRITI | THE TREATY
WAITANGI





The Old Testament Reading: 1 Kings 8:55-61

A reading from 1 Kings chapter 8 beginning at verse 55.

⁵⁵ He stood in front of the whole community of Israel. He blessed them with a loud voice. He said, ⁵⁶ "I praise the LORD. He has given peace and rest to his people Israel. That's exactly what he promised to do. He gave his people good promises through his servant Moses. Every single word of those promises has come true. ⁵⁷ May the LORD our God be with us, just as he was with our people who lived long ago. May he never leave us. May he never desert us. ⁵⁸ May he turn our hearts to him. Then we will live the way he wants us to. We'll obey the commands, rules and directions he gave our people of long ago. ⁵⁹ I've prayed these words to the LORD our God. May he keep them close to him day and night. May he stand up for me. May he also stand up for his people Israel. May he give us what we need every day. ⁶⁰ Then all the nations on earth will know that the LORD is God. They'll know that there isn't any other god. ⁶¹ And may you commit your lives completely to the LORD our God. May you live by his rules. May you obey his commands. May you always do as you are doing now."

Let us all say together in te reo Māori the reading below from 1 Kings chapter 8 beginning at verse 55. Kia pānui tātou.

⁵⁵ A ka tu ia, ka manaaki i te huihui katoa o Iharaira, he nui te reo, a ka mea, ⁵⁶ kia whakapaingia a Ihowa nana nei i homai te okiokinga ki tana iwi, ki a Iharaira, rite tonu ki nga mea katoa i korerotia e ia: hore rawa tetahi kupu i taka o ana mea pai katoa i korerotia e ia, ara e tana pononga, e mohi.

⁵⁷ Hei hoa mo tatou a Ihowa, to tatou Atua, kia pera ano me ia i o tatau matua; kua ia e whakarere i a tatou, kua hoki e mawehe atu i a tatou:

⁵⁸ Mana e whakaanga o tatou ngakau ki a ia, kia haere i ana ara katoa, kia pupuri i ana whakahau, i ana tikanga, i ana whakaritenga, i whakahaua e ia ki o tatou matua.

⁵⁹ Na kia tata ki a Ihowa, ki to tatou Atua, i te ao, i te po, enei kupu aku i karanga nei ahau ki a Ihowa, kia whakatikaia ai e ia ta tana pononga, ta tana iwi hoki, ta Iharaira e tohe ai, i nga meatanga o tenei ra, o tenei ra:

⁶⁰ Kia mohio ai nga iwi katoa o te whenua ki a Ihowa, ko ia te Atua; kahore ke atu.

⁶¹ Na kia tapatahi o koutou ngakau ki a Ihowa ki to tatou Atua, kia haere i runga i ana tikanga, kia puritia ana whakahau, kia rite ki to tenei ra.

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



The Epistle Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18

A reading from Ephesians chapter 2 beginning at verse 13.

¹³ At one time you were far away from God. But now you belong to Christ Jesus. He spilled his blood for you. This has brought you near to God.

¹⁴ Christ himself is our peace. He has made Jews and Gentiles into one group of people. He has destroyed the hatred that was like a wall between us. ¹⁵ Through his body on the cross, Christ set aside the law with all its commands and rules. He planned to create one new people out of Jews and Gentiles. He wanted to make peace between them. ¹⁶ He planned to bring both Jews and Gentiles back to God as one body. He planned to do this through the cross. On that cross, Christ put to death their hatred toward one another. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away. He also preached peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ Through Christ we both come to the Father by the power of one Holy Spirit.

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

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

*The Holy Gospel according to Matthew chapter 18 beginning at verse 35.
Praise and Glory to God.*

The Servant Who Had No Mercy

²¹ Peter came to Jesus. He asked, "Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but 77 times.

²³ "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to collect all the money his servants owed him. ²⁴ As the king began to do it, a man who owed him 10,000 bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ The man was not able to pay. So his master gave an order. The man, his wife, his children, and all he owned had to be sold to pay back what he owed.

²⁶ "Then the servant fell on his knees in front of him. 'Give me time,' he begged. 'I'll pay everything back.' ²⁷ His master felt sorry for him. He forgave him what he owed and let him go.

²⁸ "But then that servant went out and found one of the other servants who owed him 100 silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he said.

²⁹ "The other servant fell on his knees. 'Give me time,' he begged him. 'I'll pay it back.'

³⁰ "But the first servant refused. Instead, he went and had the man thrown into prison. The man would be held there until he could pay back what he owed.

³¹ The other servants saw what had happened and were very angry. They went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² "Then the master called the first servant in. 'You evil servant,' he said. 'I forgave all that you owed me because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on the other servant just as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers. He would be punished until he paid back everything he owed.

³⁵ "This is how my Father in heaven will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

This is the Gospel of Christ. Praise to Christ, the Word.