



## Liturgy of the Word for Individuals, Families & Communities 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

*Prepare a prayer focus and light a candle.*

**SIGN OF THE CROSS: Ki te ingoa...**

**READER:** Kia noho te Ariki ki a koutou -- The Lord be with you

**ALL:** Ki tōu wairua anō hoki -- And also with you

**READER:**

Tēnā Koutou Katoa welcome. Having squandered his wealth, the prodigal son returned to his Father who was merciful, forgiving and flowing with love. We come together in the presence of God, who is merciful, forgiving and flowing with love. We come as one body, Christ's Body through whom God wants show mercy, forgive and love all people. Today is the 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary time, the beginning of Māori language week and the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the Season of Creation. Let's sing.

**E Te Ariki**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxG\\_SZG93Ag](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxG_SZG93Ag)

**READER:** Loving Lord, we turn to you as your children. Lead us in the way of humility, that we might love and see you in all things.

Compassionately, you wipe out our offences	Lord have mercy	<b>(All)</b> Lord have mercy
Your create for us a clean heart	Christ have mercy	<b>(All)</b> Christ have mercy
You put a new spirit within us	Lord have mercy	<b>All)</b> Lord have mercy

**OPENING PRAYER:** Ka inoi tatou – let us pray. *In this time of silence, we bring to mind all the things we want to pray for, those things which weigh heavily on our hearts. (Allow silence, 1 minute)*

God, how you delight in us, your children. Allow us, your children to rejoice in your love. And by your love and grace, may we be instruments of love, communion and peace. Through Jesus our Lord and in the unity of the Holy Spirit we pray.

**ALL: Amen**

**FIRST READING** Exodus 32:7-11,13-14

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses,

"Go down at once to your people,  
whom you brought out of the land of Egypt,  
for they have become depraved.

They have soon turned aside from the way I pointed out to them,  
making for themselves a molten calf and worshipping it,  
sacrificing to it and crying out,

'This is your God, O Israel,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt!'

"I see how stiff-necked this people is," continued the Lord to Moses.

Let me alone, then,  
that my wrath may blaze up against them to consume them.  
Then I will make of you a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord, his God, saying,

"Why, O Lord, should your wrath blaze up against your own people,  
whom you brought out of the land of Egypt

with such great power and with so strong a hand?  
Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Israel,  
and how you swore to them by your own self, saying,  
'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky;  
and all this land that I promised,  
I will give your descendants as their perpetual heritage.'"

So the Lord relented in the punishment  
he had threatened to inflict on his people.

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord

**ALL:** Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

**Silence** – *Let's be quiet for a few moments and let God's Word find a place to rest inside us.*

**Discussion starter** – What might be the equivalent of a golden calf, in our time?

**PSALM:** Psalm 51 I will rise and go to my father. *Sung* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXWTnwJIP4g>

R. (Lk 15:18) **I will rise and go to my father.**

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;  
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.

Thoroughly wash me from my guilt  
and of my sin cleanse me.

R. **I will rise and go to my father.**

A clean heart create for me, O God,  
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.

Cast me not out from your presence,  
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. **I will rise and go to my father.**

O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.

R. **I will rise and go to my father.**

**Second Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17**

A reading from the book of Timothy

Beloved:

I am grateful to him who has strengthened me, Christ Jesus our Lord,  
because he considered me trustworthy  
in appointing me to the ministry.

I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and arrogant,  
but I have been mercifully treated

because I acted out of ignorance in my unbelief.

Indeed, the grace of our Lord has been abundant,  
along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance:

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Of these I am the foremost.

But for that reason I was mercifully treated,  
so that in me, as the foremost,

Christ Jesus might display all his patience as an example  
for those who would come to believe in him for everlasting life.

To the king of ages, incorruptible, invisible, the only God,  
honour and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord

**ALL:** Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

**Silence** -Follow the reading with quiet thinking time.

**Discussion starter** – What indicates St Paul’s great humility?

**GOSPEL:** Luke 15:1-10 (longer version Luke 15:1-32, includes parable of the Good Samaritan)

**Reader** Kia noho te Ariki - The Lord be with you

**All** Ki tōu wairua anō hoki – And also with you

**Reader** A reading from the Gospel of Luke

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus,  
but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying,  
“This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So to them he addressed this parable.

“What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them  
would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert  
and go after the lost one until he finds it?

And when he does find it,

he sets it on his shoulders with great joy

and, upon his arrival home,

he calls together his friends and neighbours and says to them,  
‘Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.’

I tell you, in just the same way

there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents  
than over ninety-nine righteous people  
who have no need of repentance.

“Or what woman having ten coins and losing one  
would not light a lamp and sweep the house,  
searching carefully until she finds it?

And when she does find it,

she calls together her friends and neighbours  
and says to them,

‘Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.’

In just the same way, I tell you,

there will be rejoicing among the angels of God  
over one sinner who repents.”

**Reader** Ko te rongopai a te Ariki – The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL:** Kia whakanuia rā koe, e te Ariki, e Hēhu Karaiti –  
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

*After the reading - Silence.*

→ **Children’s Reflection on the Gospel** – Parable of the lost sheep <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ad7eUq5rQlw>

What does this parable tell us about God’s love for us?

→ **Adults – Youth: Reflection / Discussion** – What does Jesus want people to understand?

**Prayer of the Faithful: As God’s people we pray for the needs of the whole world.**

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that, it speaks to the world with a voice of mercy, forgiveness, consolation, and peace.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For leaders of nations** – that in their efforts to build strong economies and safe societies, they  
remember the poor and vulnerable and those on the margins, and plan for their wellbeing.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For parish and faith communities** – that walking together, we will welcome the troubled and speak  
words of consolation in our local communities.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For farmers and all people who work with animals** – that they appreciate their role as stewards of our  
earth and its living creatures, and ensure humane care of animals, and protection of endangered species.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For people whose crops fail due to draught fire or flood** – that they are supported with food and aid, and that they remain hopeful for their future.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For people living in a consumer culture** – that we avoid buying what is not necessary and take steps to reduce our personal consumption of the earth's resources.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

### **Concluding Prayer**

Undaunted you seek the lost, O God. Exultant you bring home the found. Touch our hearts with grateful wonder at the tenderness of your forbearing love. Grant us delight in the mercy that has found us and bring all to rejoice at the feast of forgiveness. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **AMEN**

### **A Prayer of gratitude**

For the moon that circles and tide that flows,  
For fish that thrive in rhythmic moving oceans,  
Thank you.

For sun that warms and earth that spins,  
For plants that seek the light above the soil,  
Thank you.

For rain that falls and creeks that tumble,  
For forest moss and damp and dappled shade,  
Thank you.

For wild wind, gentle breeze, and towering atmosphere,  
For birds that flit and glide, swoop and dive.  
Thank you.

For towering trees and plants that bloom,  
For vast armies of soil creatures and a myriad of pollinating insects,  
Thank you.

For spring-time lambs and bleating calves,  
For goats and dogs, cats, cows and horses, for every tame or wild animal,  
Thank you

For this vast and generous, unfathomable life-giving web  
That gives me porridge and coffee every morning,  
Thank you

For this moment, the opportunity of gratitude,  
For time to ponder Earth's cloak of life, intricately woven,  
Thank you.

May gratitude be the singing of my heart.  
May 'thank you' be the whispering of my tongue.

**Amen**

**READER:** Let's pray the Lord's prayer together. The Lord's Prayer in Te Reo Māori.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oU1GNEVohYY>

*Or the Lord's Prayer in English.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

**READER:** Thank you for your participation in this Liturgy of the Word, thank you for your kindness and presence. We are one body, the Body of Christ. May your dwelling place and comfort be in the heart of

God, the heart of love without end. May we be messengers of God's love, peace and forgiveness in the world today.

Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you.

Let us go in peace, loving and serving God in all we do.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Song** **Te Aroha** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VGsOtlxWgc>