
ANGLICAN CHURCH *of the* ASCENSION



5th September 2021

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

EAST BURWOOD

“Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope”

Welcome

Sentence for Today

So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. James 2.13



For those who have children with them, there is a children's corner in the church for the little ones. During school term, children who are pre-school age and above can attend 'Godzone' - Special Children's Activities - shortly after we begin the 9.30am service.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Before each service we enter a time of silence as we prepare ourselves for worship.

Entrance hymn: TiS: 160 “Father all-loving and ruling in majesty”

Father all-loving and ruling in majesty,
judgment is yours, and condemns all our pride;
stir up our rulers and people to penitence,
sorrow for sins that for vengeance have cried.

Blessed Lord Jesus, born humbly in poverty,
sharing a stable with beasts at your birth,
stir us to work for your justice and charity,
truly to care for the poor upon earth.

Come, Holy Spirit, create in us holiness,
lift up our lives to your standard of right;
stir every will to new ventures of faithfulness,
flood the whole church with your glorious light.

Holiest Trinity, perfect in unity,
bind in your love every nation and race:
may we adore you for time and eternity,
Father, Redeemer and Spirit of grace.

Patrick Robert Norman Appleford 1925- *alt.*

Acclamation:

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Welcome

Prayer of Preparation:

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Two Great Commandments:

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is

the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

Kyries:

Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy.

The Gloria:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day:

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase our faith, hope, and love,
and, that we may receive all you promise,
make us love what you command;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Prayer in a time of pandemic disease:

**Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and dis-ease.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us
from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen**

The ministry of the Word:

The first reading: Proverbs 22.1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favour is better than silver or gold.
The rich and the poor have this in common:

the Lord is the maker of them all.
Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.
Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.
Do not rob the poor because they are poor,
or crush the afflicted at the gate;
for the Lord pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.
For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 125

**Those who put their trust in the Lord
shall be as Mount Zion:
which cannot be shaken, but endures for ever.
As the mountains stand about Jerusalem,
so stands the Lord about his people:
from this time forward for evermore.
For the sceptre of wickedness shall have no sway
over the land apportioned to the righteous:
lest the righteous set their hands to do evil.
Do good, O Lord, to those who are good:
to those that are upright in heart.
As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
let the Lord lead them away with the evildoers:
and in Israel let there be peace.**

The second reading: James 2.1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn: TiS: 452 “God of mercy, God of grace”

**God of mercy, God of grace,
show the brightness of your face;
shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
fill your church with light divine;
and your saving health extend
to the earth's remotest end.**

**Let the people praise you, Lord!
be by all that live adored;
let the nations shout and sing
glory to their Saviour king;
at your feet their tribute pay,
and your holy will obey.**

The Gospel reading:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Mark, chapter 7, beginning at verse 24.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, ‘Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.’ But she answered him, ‘Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.’ Then he said to her, ‘For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.’ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, ‘Ephphatha’, that is, ‘Be opened.’ And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, ‘He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.’

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Let the people praise you, Lord!
earth shall then its fruits afford;
God to us his blessing give,
we to God devoted live:
all below, and all above,
one in joy and light and love.**

The Sermon

The Creed:

Let us stand together and affirm the faith of the church:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation,
he came down from heaven;
*was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.***

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

**We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life for the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People:

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

At the conclusion

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers,
**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Preparation:

Jesus said I am the bread of life. Who ever comes to me will never be hungry, and who ever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6.35

Prayer of Approach:

**We do not presume
to come to your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord,
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us. Amen.**

Invitation to Confession:

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

Confession:

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution:

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Greeting of Peace:

We are the body of Christ
His Spirit is with us.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory hymn: TiS: 520 “Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour”

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
you alone our strong defender,
lifting up your people's head:
alleluia, alleluia,
Jesus, true and living bread.

Though the lowliest form now veils you
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there your angels hail you,
branch and flower of Jesse's stem;
alleluia, alleluia,
we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, your offering, finished
once for all when you were slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
alleluia, alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.

Great High Priest of our profession
through the veil you entered in;
by your mighty intercession
grace and mercy you can win:
alleluia, alleluia,
only sacrifice for sin.

Life-imparting heavenly manna,
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship you, the Lamb who died,
alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne 1840-1925 alt.

Prayer over the gifts:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.

This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,

we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The breaking of the bread:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Agnus Dei:

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

Invitation to Communion:

The gifts of God, for the people of God.
Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ
in remembrance that he died for us,
and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Communion

Post communion hymn: TiS: 531 "Sent forth by God's blessing"

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from his table take leave.
The Supper is ended: may now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of his teaching, our hungry souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for all humankind.
His grace shall incite us, his love shall unite us
to work for his kingdom, his purpose to find.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face,
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing as neighbours all those of each race.
One feast that has feed us, one light that has led us,
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living, with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ and his name that we bear.**

OmerWestendorff1916-alt.

The sending out of God's people:

Bountiful God,
at this table you graciously feed us
with the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation.
May we who have reached out our hands to receive this sacrament
be strengthened in your service;
we who have sung your praises
tell of your glory and truth in our lives;
we who have seen the greatness of your love
see you face to face in your kingdom
and come to worship you with all your saints for ever.
**Keep us in this hope that we have grasped:
so we and all your people will be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name.**

Notices

Blessing:

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Final Hymn TiS: 210 "Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing"

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and king,
the triumphs of His grace!**

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease—
such music in the sinner's ears,
is life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean,
his blood availed for me.

He speaks, and, listening to His voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

Hear him, you deaf: his praise you dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
you blind, behold your saviour come;
and leap, you lame for joy!

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad,
the honours of Thy name

Charles Wesley 1707-88 alt.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

NOTICES

Extended extended Covid shutdown! God willing, our next Parish gatherings will be:
Coffee and Chat - 10am Friday 24th September
Sunday Eucharist - 8am and 9:30am Sunday 26th September
Midweek Eucharist - 10am Wednesday 29th September
Midweek Meditation - 3pm Wednesday 29th September

Fathers Day raffle: Despite the challenges due to Covid, the raffle drawn will take place when we are back in church again. In the meantime, Chellam is seeking donations for the Father's Day Raffle and seeking help to sell tickets. She will be so grateful for you to drop off anything men would enjoy, such as chocolates, drinks, nuts & nibbles, biscuits, gardening aids and anything else you can think of to either her house, or if you prefer, the vicarage doorstep. Thank you so much for your support.

News and views on faith from Australia and around the world brought to you by *The Melbourne Anglican*. The NewsStand is now live on TMA's website, using the link <http://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/newsstand>

In this week's *TMA* Newsstand:

- Coalition MPs want more school chaplains to help children suffering mentally due to 'alarmist' climate activism
- Our moral duty towards Afghan refugees
- New status for Moore College
- Young Anglicans to expose scandal of gender-based violence with 16-Days video campaign
- Sexually assaulted Christian threatened with blasphemy charge in Pakistan
- Middle East looking forward to more religious tourism in post-pandemic era
- Fourteen arrested in St Paul's Cathedral, London, after fossil-fuels protest
- and more...

SAINTS AND HOLY MEN AND WOMEN FOR THIS WEEK

Wednesday Birth of Mary, Mother of our Lord
Saturday Mother Esther CHN, founder of the Community of the Holy Name,
Melbourne (d. 1931)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wednesday:

Colossians 3.1-11
Psalm 145.1-7
Luke 6.20-26

Next Sunday: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 1.20-33
Psalm 19
James 2.18-26
Mark 8.27-38

WE THANK GOD FOR HIS MANY BLESSINGS, LET US PRAY EACH DAY FOR THE CHURCH

Sun 5: Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan (Abp Ezekiel Kondo); The Diocese of Adelaide (Abp Geoff Smith, Asst Bps Denise Ferguson, Timothy Harris, Christopher McLeod; Clergy & People); St David's Doncaster East (Judy Frost); Provincial Visit – Gippsland (Abp Philip Freier).

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Families, healthcare workers, emergency workers in these continuing uncertain and unsettling times.

THE WORLD

Containment of the coronavirus pandemic, those suffering and the medical staff.
A compassionate outcome in Afghanistan, for Asylum Seekers on Manus & Christmas Islands, and Nauru.

THE ASCENSION COMMUNITY

Each other and God's presence in the events of the week

Those in special need of prayer: *Helen Daniels, Peggy Horman, Estelle Carman (and daughter Sue), Jean (& Alan) Close, Carole, Pauline Le Riche (Kym's sister), Glenys and Brian Howell, Ethel Lloyd, Barbara Stark, Lyle Mansfield, Julie Munday, Stanley & Rose Joseph, Marie Cleaver (Judithe's friend), Geoffrey (Josh's father), Gwen McMahon, David Wood, Fanny (Aggie's sister), Joy (Jan Wheeler's sister), Heather, Dave Ritchie (and Joy), Bashilika's parents and sister in Sri Lanka, and others known to us.*

We give thanks that our prayers for Ben and Das and their families (friends and family of Chellam in Malaysia) and for Joshua (Kalo and Doug's grandson) have been mercifully answered.

Those at the Peter James Centre and Burwood Lodge
Those working in Health and Aged Care settings

**Ourselves - as we are strengthened through the power of the
Holy Spirit in love and prayer for one another**

**Prayer is not a means by which I seek to control God;
it is a means of putting myself in
a position where God controls me.**

"Prayer Changes Things" by Charles L Allen



378 Blackburn Road, Burwood East, 3151

*We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation.
We pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.*

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FACEBOOK Please visit and  www.facebook.com/AscensionBurwoodEast

Email: office@ascensionchurch.org.au

Pastoral Care contact: Fr Anthony

Pew sheet: Please send all items for inclusion in next week's pewsheets to Ron McKenzie by 5:00p.m. Thursday evening (r.mckenzie@novatechsolutions.com.au.)

Baptism, Marriage & funerals by arrangement

Weekly Services (on hold while in lockdown)

Sunday	8:00am Eucharist
	9:30am Eucharist
	'Godzone' children's program during 9.30 am service (during school term)
Tuesday	<i>Fr Anthony's day of rest!</i>
Wednesday	10:00am Eucharist
	3:00 – 3:45pm. Midweek Meditation
Friday	10:00am – Noon. Drop-in for coffee and chat.

Commitment to Child Safety: At the Church of the Ascension we follow Christ in being a caring Church welcoming of all, extending his love and invitation of new life.

In ministry to children, young people, and vulnerable adults we are committed to providing an environment that is physically, emotionally and spiritually safe and supportive.

We have a zero tolerance approach to Child abuse or abuse of vulnerable people.

This includes a culture of child-safety and of inclusivity for people of cultural and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background, people with disability or any other specific group.

Read the full **Commitment to Child Safety** document on our website: www.ascensionchurch.org.au