

"Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope"

Welcome

Sentence for Today

Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can it be seasoned? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another. Mark 9.50.



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 47 "Our God, our help in ages past"

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure: sufficient is your arm alone, and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame, from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone: short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all of us away; we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, remain our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts 1674-1748 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:

O God,

your Son has taught us that those who give a cup of water in his name will not lose their reward:

open our eyes to see those who are in need, and teach us to set no store by riches and earthly rewards, so that, in surrendering ourselves to serve you in your children, we may labour for the treasure that endures; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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: Esther 7.1-6, 9-10; 20-22

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, 'What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.' Then Queen Esther answered, 'If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.' Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, 'Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?' Esther said, 'A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!' Then Haman was terrified before the king and the gueen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, 'Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.' And the king said, 'Hang him on that.' So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 124

If the Lord had not been on our side,
now may Israel say:
if the Lord had not been on our side,
when our enemies rose against us,
Then they would have swallowed us alive:
when their anger was kindled against us.
Then the waters would have overwhelmed us,
and the torrent gone over us:
the raging waters would have gone clean over us.
But praised be the Lord:
who has not given us as a prey to their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler: the snare is broken, and we have gone free.

Our help is in the name of the Lord: who has made heaven and earth.

The second reading: James 5.12-20

Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your 'Yes' be yes and your 'No' be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn: TiS: 585 "I heard the voice of Jesus say"

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

The Gospel reading:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark, chapter 9, beginning at verse 38.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. 'For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar 1808-89 alt.

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 154 "Great is Thy faithfulness"

"Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with Thee; thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not as Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!" morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hand hath provided—

"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!" morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!" morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hand hath provided—"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

Thomas Obadiah Chisholm 1866-1960 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 496 "Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands"

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that holy things have taken, let ears that now have heard your songs to clamour never waken.

Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang keep free from all deceiving, the eyes which saw your love be bright, your blessèd hope perceiving.

The feet that tread your holy courts from your light do not banish, the bodies by your body fed with your new life replenish.

Attrib. Ephraim the Syrian *c*.306-73 *tr*. Charles William Humphreys 1840-1921 and Percy Dearmer 1867-1936 *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,

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.**

and the whole earth live to praise your name.

Final Hymn

TiS: 606 "Son of God, eternal Saviour"

Son of God, eternal Saviour, source of life and truth and grace, Son of Man, whose birth incarnate hallows all our human race, thou, our Head, who, throned in glory, for thine own dost ever plead, fill us with thy love and pity; heal our wrongs, and help our need.

As thou, Lord, hast lived for others, so may we for others live; freely have thy gifts been granted, freely may thy servants give: thine the gold and thine the silver, thine the wealth of land and sea, we but stewards of thy bounty, held in solemn trust for thee.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love, and Prince of peace; hush the storm of strife and passion, bid its cruel discords cease; by thy patient years of toiling, by thy silent hours of pain, quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, shame our selfish greed of gain.

Son of God, eternal Saviour, source of life and truth and grace, Son of Man, whose birth incarnate hallows all our human race, thou who prayedst, thou who willest, that thy people should be one, grant, O grant our hope's fruition: here on earth thy will be done.

Somerset Corry Lowry 1835-1932 alt.

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

© 1995 by the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation. Used by permission. This text may be reproduced for use in worship in the Anglican Church of Australia. Hymns reproduced with permission under license A-613501 "Onelicence"

NOTICES

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:

- 'Build homes, not prisons': Call for courage to end incarceration cycle
- What is the Narnia-inspired Caldron Pool and is it fomenting 'Christian nationalism' in Australia?
- Sydney Anglicans and the vax percentages in Covid plan
- Pentecostal church given \$660,000 in jobkeeper, then returns 3,620% increase in profit
- Anglicans call on G7 nations to share surplus vaccines
- 'We don't want people to be in a panic,' says chief of Taliban morality police
- The Main Reason Church Attendance Is Slipping
- and more...

SAINTS AND HOLY MEN AND WOMEN FOR THIS WEEK

Monday Vincent de Paul, priest, worker with the poor (d. 1660)

Wednesday MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

Thursday Jerome, priest and biblical scholar (d. 420)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wednesday: Next Sunday: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Daniel 7.9-10, 7.13-14 Job 1.1; 2.1-10

Psalm 138 Psalm 26

Revelation 12.7-12a Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12

John 1. 45-51 Mark 10.2-16

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

THE CHURCH

Sun 26: The Episcopal Church of USA (Presiding Bp Michael Curry); The Diocese of Tasmania (Bp Richard Condie, Missioner Bp Chris Jones, Clergy & People); St James' Anglican Church Glen Iris (Samuel Crane); 50th Anniversary Ordination of Reverend Noel Whale (Abp Philip Freier); Redemption Church Craigieburn (Pastoral Visit, Bp Kate Prowd); St Matthew's Endeavour Hills (a.m.) & Berwick Anglican Church Confirmation (p.m.) (Bp Paul Barker).

Mon 27: The Diocese of The Murray (Bp Keith Dalby, Clergy & People); Beaconhills College (Tony Sheumack, Principal; Peggy Kruse, Chaplain); St Oswald's Anglican Church Glen Iris (Glenn Loughrey).

Tue 28: The Diocese of The Northern Territory (Bp Greg Anderson, Clergy & People); Diocesan Liturgical Committee; All Saints' Anglican Church Greensborough (Julie Blinco-Smith);

Wed 29: The Diocese of Wangaratta (Bp Clarence Bester, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of Essendon (Vanessa Bennett); St Stephen's Anglican Church Greythorn (Rodney Morris) *Thu 30:* The Diocese of Willochra (Bp John Stead, Clergy & People); Camberwell Girls' Grammar School (Debbie Dunwoody, Principal; Helen Creed, Chaplain); St Alban's Anglican Church Hamlyn Heights (Jonathan Taylor).

OCTOBER 21 Fri 1: Anglicare Australia (Bp Chris Jones, Chair; Kasy Chambers, Executive Director); Archdeaconry of Frankston (Helen Phillips); Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hampton Park (Argho Biswas).

Sat 2: Theological Colleges, Church Schools & Church Kindergartens; Camberwell Grammar School (Paul Hicks, Principal; Charles Butler, Chaplain); Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hampton (Ross Duncan).

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 and for Afghanistan Asylum Seekers. 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 (and daughter Sally), 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 to God for the safety and improved health of Pat Ludwick's family members in the USA, and we thank God that no one was injured or killed in the recent earthquake in Victoria.

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 spiritual dynamite.

"The Secret of Effective Prayer" by Helen Smith Shoemaker



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.

PRIEST in CHARGE: Fr. Anthony Frost **Phone:** 0409 012 543 **OFFICE MANAGER:** Ron McKenzie **Phone:** 0418 320 301

PARISH WEB ADDRESS: www.ascensionchurch.org.au

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 pewsheet to Ron McKenzie by

5:00p.m. Thursday evening (<u>r.mckenzie@novatechsolutions.com.au</u>.)

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 Fr Anthony's day of rest!

Wednesday 10:00am Eucharist

3:00 – 3:45pm. Midweek Meditation

Friday 10:00am – Noon. Drop-in for coffee and chat.

<u>Commitment to Child Safety:</u> 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