
ANGLICAN CHURCH *of the* ASCENSION

EAST BURWOOD



21st February 2021

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

“Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope”

Welcome to Church

EUCCHARIST WITH THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Sentence for Today

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news. Mark 1.15



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

Entrance hymn: TiS 153 "God is Love, let heaven adore him"

God is Love, let heaven adore him;
God is Love, let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him
and exalt him with one voice.
God who laid the earth's foundation,
God who spread the heaven above,
God who breathes through all creation:
God is Love, eternal Love.

God is Love; and Love enfolds us,
all the world in one embrace:
with unfailing grasp God holds us,
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then we find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.

God is Love; and though with blindness
sin afflicts all human life,
God's eternal loving-kindness
guides us through our earthly strife.
Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.

Timothy Rees 1874-1939 *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 ten commandments:

Hear the commandments which God gave his people Israel:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of slavery;
you shall have no other gods but me.

You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of
anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath,
or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down
to them or serve them.

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shall you labour
and do all you have to do, but the seventh day is the sabbath of
the Lord your God.

Honour your father and your mother.

You shall do no murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet anything that is your neighbour's.

Trisagion:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

The Prayer of the Day:

God of the new and eternal covenant,
as the forty days of the great flood
swept away the world's corruption
and watered new beginnings of righteousness and life:
grant to us, who are washed clean and born again
in the saving flood of baptism, the wellspring of your grace,
that your gift of new life may flourish once again;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
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**

Godzone Blessing

The ministry of the Word:

The first reading: Genesis 9.8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am
establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and

with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25.1-10

In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope:
**in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who wait for you be put to shame:
**but let those that break faith
be confounded and gain nothing.**

Show me your ways, O Lord:
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me:
for you are the God of my salvation.

In you have I hoped all the day long:
because of your goodness, O Lord.

Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness:
for they are from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth,
nor my transgressions:
but according to your mercy think on me.

Good and upright is the Lord:
therefore will he direct sinners in the way.

The meek he will guide in the path of justice:
and teach the humble his ways.

All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true:
for those who keep his covenant and his commandments.

The second reading: 1 Peter 3.18-22

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a

removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn: TiS 591 *“Forty days and forty nights”*

**Forty days and forty nights
you were fasting in the wild,
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled:**

**let us your endurance share
and from earthly greed abstain,
with you watching unto prayer,
with you strong to suffer pain.**

**And if Satan on us press
flesh or spirit to assail,
Victor in the wilderness,
grant we may not faint or fail.**

The Gospel reading:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Mark, chapter 1 beginning at verse 9

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’ And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.’

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by your side,
that with you we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.**

George Hunt Smyttan 1822-70 and Francis Pott 1832-1909 alt.

The Sermon

The Act of Penitence

Sisters and brothers in Christ, from the earliest days of the Church, Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection. It became the custom of the church to prepare for this by a season of penitence and fasting. At first this season was observed by those who were preparing for baptism at Easter and by those who, having been excommunicated, were to be restored to the communion of the church. By keeping these days with care and attention, Christians might take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and grow in faith and devotion to our Lord.

So, by self-examination and repentance, by prayer and fasting, by self-denial and acts of generosity and by reading and meditating on the word of God, let us keep a holy Lent.

Silence . . .

The Receiving of the Ashes

The ashes are placed on the Lord's Table, and Fr Anthony says

Blessed are you, God of all creation.

You are eternal, we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth.

As we receive these ashes, make them a sign for us

of repentance and returning to you.

Breathe into us again the breath of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Litany

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, **have mercy on us.**

Incarnate Word, redeemer of the world, **have mercy on us.**

Abiding Spirit, giver of light and life, **have mercy on us.**

For turning away from your presence, for disobeying your word and commandments, **forgive us, Lord.**

For trusting in our own strength instead of yours, for betraying your trust and the trust of others, **forgive us, Lord.**

For resisting your grace and refusing your blessings, for holding back from proclaiming our faith in you, **forgive us, Lord.**

For damaging this earth and exploiting its creatures, for neglecting and wasting the gifts-you have given us, **forgive us, Lord.**

For failing to forgive as we have been forgiven, for judging others and bearing grudges, **forgive us, Lord.**

For skimping on our commitments and relationships, for failing in hospitality, **forgive us, Lord.**

For tolerating oppression, injustice, and wrong, for keeping silent when we should have spoken up, **forgive us, Lord.**

For turning away when others have offered us love, for closing our hearts when others have needed compassion, **forgive us, Lord.**

For all we have done unkindly, unjustly and dishonestly, for our careless speech and hurtful words, **forgive us, Lord.**

Most merciful God,
**we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your
salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

With our hearts turned, to God in repentance,
with the knowledge of our sins
laid bare before the cross of Jesus Christ,
in the name of the living God, your sins are forgiven.
Receive God's mercy,
take hold of your forgiveness,
and, in the power of the Holy Spirit,
walk in the light of Christ. **Amen.**

Come, receive the sign of ashes.

*The congregation gathers around the sanctuary;
the ashes are placed on each person's forehead with the words*

Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.
Each person may answer **Amen**

The Greeting of Peace:

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory hymn: TiS 590 "What a friend we have in Jesus"

**What a friend we have in Jesus
all our sins and griefs to bear,
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer,
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.**

**Have we trials and temptations,
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness:
take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Jesus is our only refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise,
forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and
shield you;
you will find a solace there.**

Joseph M. Scriven, 1820-1886 *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.

He was tempted in every way as we are,
yet he did not sin.

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

By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil,
and to walk in the way of his love.

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 repentant, forgiven people, we ask God for the grace to forgive others, in the prayer that Jesus taught us:

**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 741 "Oh, Lord hear my prayer"

**Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
When I call answer me
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Come and listen to me
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
When I call answer me
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Come and listen to me
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
When I call answer me
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Come and listen to me**

From the Taizé community (1991)-.

Prayer after Communion:

God of mercy,
may we who have shared in this holy meal
know your forgiveness in our lives,
bring your reconciliation to others,
and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

**Most loving God, you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Notices

The Blessing:

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven 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 447 “Lord, your almighty word”

**Lord, your almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.**

**Saviour, who came to give
those who in darkness live
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind
let there be light.**

**Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.**

**Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide,
let there be light.**

Dismissal

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

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WELCOME TO CHURCH. . . We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today, please take Communion, whatever your denomination and come and worship with us again. If you are visiting, please make yourself known to Fr. Anthony or to one of our welcomers following the service and do stay for a cuppa and chat!

NOTICES

Parish Council update:

- Parishioners with ideas for social and fundraising within a Covid safe environment, please see Fr Anthony or Wardens.
- The latest information from the diocese is that the number of people required to have Police checks and clearances has been reduced.
- Lawn mowing: following successful trials by Keith, we will purchase an electric mower to reduce the cost of mowing (plus great exercise). We are seeking interested folk to come on the roster. Please see the wardens if you can assist, the frequency would be every 6-8 weeks depending on the number of volunteers.

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:

- 'Gay Conversion' Bill passes in Victorian Parliament
- Climate crisis is now, warns Archbishop of Canterbury
- CoE shrinks by 20 per cent thanks to COVID
- St Benedict and the place of personal prayer
- Getting school leavers to stick with Jesus
- and more...

SAINTS AND HOLY MEN AND WOMEN FOR THIS WEEK

Tuesday Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, martyr (d.c. 155)
Wednesday MATTHIAS, APOSTLE AND MARTYR
Saturday George Herbert, parish priest, poet (d. 1633)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wednesday:

Acts 1.14-17, 1.20-26
Psalm 84
John 15.9-17

Next Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22.24-32
Romans 4.13-25
Mark 8.31-38

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

THE CHURCH

Sun 21: The Church of the Province of Central Africa (Abp Albert Chama, Primate); Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia; Brotherhood of St Laurence (Conny Lenneberg, CEO, Michelle Trebilcock, Debra Saffrey Collins, chaplains); Footscray Anglican Parish (Chaplain Soma, Gabriel Mayen); Christ Church Dingley – Pastoral Service (Bp Paul Barker); St James' Old Cathedral – Reception Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell); Geelong Grammar School – Pastoral Service (Bp Kate Prowd);

Mon 22: Religious Orders serving within the Anglican Church of Australia; Archdeaconry of Frankston (Helen Phillips); St Mark's, Forest Hill (Philip Knight);

Tue 23: Locums and all retired clergy; St Michael's Grammar School (Terrie Jones, Principal, Kenyon McKie, Chaplain); St Paul's, Frankston (Claudia Mauracher, Dennis Emery);

Wed 24: The Anglican Church of Australia (Primate Abp Geoffrey Smith, General Secretary Anne Hywood, the General Synod & the Standing Committee); Bush Church Aid Society (Adrian Lane, Regional Officer); St Luke's, Frankston East (Glen Macrae, Rene Pfitzner, Louisa Pfitzner);

Thu 25: The Diocese of Adelaide (Abp Geoff Smith, Asst Bps Denise Ferguson, Timothy Harris, Christopher McLeod; Clergy & People); Melbourne Anglican Diocesan Corporation (Chris Arnold, interim CEO); Parish of St John's, Frankston North w. St Luke's, Carrum Downs (David Sullivan, Cheryl Sullivan);

Fri 26: The Diocese of Armidale (Bp-elect Rod Chiswell, Clergy & People); St Stephen's, Gardenvale (Paul Carr);

Sat 27: The Diocese of Ballarat (Bp Garry Weatherill, Clergy & People); Peninsula Grammar (Stuart Johnston, Principal, Mark Sweeney, Chaplain); Christ Church, Geelong (Russell Trickey);

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

All who have lost their livelihood due to the Coronavirus. Families, healthcare workers, emergency workers in these uncertain times.

THE WORLD

Containment of the coronavirus pandemic, those suffering and the medical staff.

A compassionate outcome for Asylum Seekers on Manus Island, Christmas Island, and Nauru.

Peace, justice, and healing for the people of the USA and a renewed sense of unity and hope.

Healing and hope for the people of India; Croatia & Indonesia after the recent earthquakes.

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, Nelson, Pauline Le Riche (Kym's sister), Glenys and Brian Howell, Ethel Lloyd, Barbara Stark, Cath Ortlieb, Lyle Mansfield, Julie Munday, Colin Darvell, Rose Joseph, Anne Cheeseman (Sue Tregear's cousin), Marie Cleaver (Judithe's friend), and others known to us*

We give thanks for God's healing that Jo Condie and Norma Leseberg are now safely home.

Those at the Peter James Centre and Burwood Lodge

Those working in Health and Aged Care settings

Ourselves - as we stay connected through the power of the Holy Spirit in love and prayer

A prayer in time of pandemic disease:

Lord Jesus Christ, healer and friend,
come and care for all of us
through the danger and uncertainty
of the coronavirus pandemic.
To people who are sick, bring healing.
To people who are displaced, isolated,
or cut off from family, friends or work,
bring comfort and companionship.
Work with medical staff as they care for the sick,
and protect them from harm.
Give skill and fruitful research to scientists
as they search for treatments, prevention and a cure.
To public health authorities, give wisdom
to decide the best ways to manage
both this crisis and our anxieties.
When communities are fearful, give a calm spirit,
and kindness to neighbours and strangers.
Through this testing time,
and through all the risks we face together,
teach us once again how we can love one
another as you have loved us.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

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

(Prayer Changes Things by Charles L. Allen)

ROSTERS:

	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>9:30am</u>
Welcomers	Don Lambourne	Elizabeth Waite & Ros Smith
Readers	Sue Tregear	Ros Smith
Servers	Sue Tregear	Christine Youings, Ron McKenzie
Intercessions	Fr Anthony	Russell Mills
Godzone		Joanne Waite
Morning Tea		Jenny & Russell Mills
Music		Peter Bedlow
Gardens		Barrie Harding

ANGELICAN CHURCH
of the ASCENSION
EAST BURWOOD



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 pewsheets to Ron McKenzie by 5:00p.m. Thursday evening (r.mckenzie@novatechsolutions.com.au.)

Baptism, Marriage & funerals by arrangement

Weekly services

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
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

