
ANGLICAN CHURCH *of the* ASCENSION

3rd MAY 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

EAST BURWOOD



“Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope”

Welcome to Church

Sentence for Today

‘I am the good shepherd,’ says the Lord. ‘The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.’ John 10.11



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 411 *"Filled with the Spirit's power"*

**Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord
the infant church confessed its risen Lord.
O Holy Spirit, in the church today
again your power of fellowship display.**

**Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire,
that unity may be our great desire:
give joy and peace, give faith to hear your call,
and readiness in each to work for all.**

**Widen our love, good Spirit, to embrace
in your strong care all those of every race:
like wind and fire, with life among us move,
till we are known as Christ's and Christians prove.**

Words: JR Peacey © TiS 411

Acclamation

Christ is risen, Alleluia!
He is risen indeed, Alleluia!
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:

God of all power,
you called from death our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep:
send us as shepherds to rescue the lost,
to heal the injured,
and to feed one another with understanding;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We join together in the following 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**

Godzone talk and Blessing

The ministry of the Word:

The first reading: Acts 2.42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd:

therefore can I lack nothing.

He will make me lie down in green pastures:

and lead me beside still waters.

He will refresh my soul:

and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil:

for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.

You spread a table before me

in the face of those who trouble me:

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup shall be full.

Surely your goodness and loving-kindness

will follow me all the days of my life:

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The second reading: 1 Peter 2.1-10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and

like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

For it stands in scripture:

'See, I am laying in Zion a stone,

a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

'The stone that the builders rejected

has become the very head of the corner',

and

'A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they
disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's
own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him
who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn: TiS 145 *"The king of love my shepherd is"*

**The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.**

Henry William Baker TiS 145

The Gospel reading:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to John, chapter 10, beginning at verse 1

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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: Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11.28

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:

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.
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:

Christ is risen. Alleluia!
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory hymn: TiS 242 "I danced in the morning"

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he*

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John
They came with me and the dance went on.

Refrain

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
And they left me there on a Cross to die.

Refrain

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
But I am the dance, and I still go on.

Refrain

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you If you'll live in me -
I am the Lord of the dance, said he.

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.

And now we give you thanks that you raised him to life triumphant,
and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death,
the reign of sin is ended,
a new day has dawned,
a broken world is restored
and we are made whole once more.

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 659 *“The Lord is my shepherd”*

The Lord is my Shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.
Over the mountains, the waters and by-ways,
valleys and highways he’s waiting for me.

Refrain

***I want to go to meet him there, to lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.***

And while on the journey to where we are going,
he promised to be there to help us along.
And over the mountains we’ll walk on together,
to know all the wonders he’s given to me

Refrain

Brian Kerry Boniwell 1949- TiS 659

Prayer after Communion:

Eternal God, giver of life,
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.
May we who celebrate this holy feast
walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.
**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:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you what is pleasing in his sight; 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 111 *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,”*

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!**

**All ye who hear,
now to His temple draw near;
praise him in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigning,
who, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.**

**Hast thou not seen
how thy desires all have been
granted in what He ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
who from the heavens the streams of his mercy doth send thee.**

**Ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
who with His love doth befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding,
who, when the godless do triumph, our best hopes confounding,**

**Sheds forth his light
Scatters the horrors of night,
Saints with his mercy surrounding.**

**Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!**

**Let the Amen
sound from His people again;
gladly for aye we adore Him.**

Joachim Neander 1650-80 TiS 111

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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NOTICES

Thank you Fr Anthony for mowing the church and vicarage lawns last week, a man of many talents!

COVID-19: Due to public restrictions across the country we have been directed by our Diocese to keep our church doors locked.

Regretfully this means that private prayer and devotion has ceased in our church space for the time being.

We continue to **BE** the church by praying for one another, seeking God, serving with love, and sharing hope.

We look forward to that day when we can **ALL** gather once more as the body of Christ here at the Church of the Ascension.

The May edition of *The Melbourne Anglican (TMA)* is now available at <http://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/this-months-tma> in various formats for reading online and printing.

There are some great stories in this edition, including news of how Melbourne Anglicans are contributing to the ongoing bushfire recovery effort in Gippsland and Wangaratta; an interview with Alice Achan, the founder of a remarkable project that is rebuilding the lives of vulnerable women in Uganda; and a piece by Oxford mathematics professor John Lennox about where a Christian worldview may fit in helping to make sense of the coronavirus crisis and its effects.

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 edition:

- War memories from a Dutchman turned Anglican
- Community well-being key to economic, social health
- Virus fears for Indigenous people
- JobSeeker not enough for low-income renters: Anglicare
- Archbishop of Canterbury launches free dial-in worship phonenumber during coronavirus lockdown
- Significant Federal Court win for Biloela Tamil family
- Anzac Message from the Bishop to the ADF
- The Christian origins and symbolism of Anzac Day
- Epidemics and the Rise of Christianity
- Responding to COVID-19 is a marathon, not a sprint

SAINTS AND HOLY MEN AND WOMEN FOR THIS WEEK

Wednesday JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

Friday Julian of Norwich, holy woman and mystic (d.1417)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wednesday:

Proverbs 8.22-31
Psalm 97
1 John 1.1-5
John 20.2-8

Next Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7.55-60
Psalm 31.1-5, 17-18
1 Peter 2.11-25
John 14.1-14

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

Anglican Communion in Japan (Bp Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu);
The Diocese of The Murray (Bp Keith Dalby, Clergy & People);
Diocesan Building Committee;
Mullum Mullum Parish, Ringwood (Maria Brand, Karen Winsemius).
Church congregations as they stay connected without regular services of public worship during the coronavirus pandemic.

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Those still recovering from the floods and fires. 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 peaceful solution to the tensions in the Gulf Region and in particular Syria
The Asylum Seekers on Manus Island

THE ASCENSION COMMUNITY

Each other and God's presence in the events of the week
Those in special need of prayer: *Muriel Paterson, Yolanda Chan, Helen Daniels, Peggy Horman, Estelle Carman, Jean (& Alan) Close, Carole, Joanne, Nelson, Pauline Le Riche, Paul Maharaj, Graeme Floage (& Lisa), Glenys and Brian Howell, Ethel Lloyd, Elaine Cairns, Elizabeth O'Shannessy, Elaine Cairns, Barbara Stark, Rosemary Roach, others known to us*

Those working in healthcare and aged care:

*Lyndall Slaney - Disabilities Carer
Lois Ritchie - Aged Care Worker
Angeline Thiagarajah - Doctor, Monash Hospital
Janet Hemphill - Aged Care Nurse
Sandy Blease - Aged Care Nurse
Kym Le Riche - Personal Aged Care Assistant
Christine Youings - Medical Scientist Pathology
Darren Mansfield - Intensive Care Respiratory Specialist, Monash Health
Chloe Bedlow - National Manager, Seniors Living at Mercy Health
Cathryn Youings - Intern at St Vincents Hospital*

Those at the Peter James Centre and Burwood Lodge

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

**We always have God's full attention.
Our part is to give Him ours.
(From "Leave yourself alone" by Eugenia Price)**



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

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 & activities

Due to our current circumstances we conduct our weekly services in our own homes.

Monday - Sunday

9:30am Morning Prayer

5:00pm Evening Prayer

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. 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.