



HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH WILLIAMSTOWN

Thursday 21 May 2020

Ascension Day



On behalf of everyone at Holy Trinity, a warm welcome to this community, a faithful Christian presence in Williamstown since 1854. Holy Trinity welcomes everyone, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race or background. Thank you for being part of our worship today.

A video of this worship service will be available on the parish YouTube channel from Thursday afternoon, links are on our website under 'Services'.

REFLECTION

The Feast of the Ascension is celebrated forty days after Easter to remember that after Jesus' resurrection, he did indeed return to God in heaven as he said he would. Ten days later we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. For the past few years, The Church of England, and many churches of the Anglican Communion around the world, have used these ten days as a call to prayer. The "Thy Kingdom Come" campaign is a call to intentionally and collectively pray that more people will come to faith, come to know the saving power of Jesus Christ, and accept the love of God into their lives. All mission should start with prayer and continue to be sustained by prayer as well as concrete and intentional action. In 2020, I think this campaign is all the more powerful, because it is a reminder that absolutely nothing can stop us praying together for the good of the world, not even physical separation. So I commend to you the resources of "Thy Kingdom Come" (available at www.thykingdomcome.global) and encourage you to pray for people that you know who do not yet profess a faith in Christ. It is all part of living the reality of our faith.

Rev Elizabeth



PARISH PRAYER POINTS



For the Church:

- Pray for the Ministry to the Defence Forces
- Ecumenical Affairs Committee

We pray for the parish of St Luke's Sydenham

In our Community:

As part of our regular cycle of prayer, we pray for Kelly-Marie, Scott and Emily Gaskell, Helen Green, Anna Grove, Jeannine and Warren Madsen, Pamela McFadyen, Sue and Scott Phillips, Sue Searls

We pray for those who are suffering or unwell at this time, including: Gordon and Audrey Beal, Ron and Joan Bates, Barbara and Brett Hingston, Anne Mulholland, Helen, George Hodges, Heather Jobling, Bryan Matty, Laurie McLay, Robert Mander, May Kofoed, Diane Robinson, Ian Stewart, Marjorie Todd and Carol Williams.

We acknowledge that our church is on the sovereign lands of the Yalukit Willum of the Kulin Nation. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

AN INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND REFLECTION

If safe to do so, you are invited to light a candle as you enter into this time of prayer and reflection that you have set aside as sacred.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

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

Christ is risen. Alleluia. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

THE SENTENCE

'Go and make disciples of all nations,' Jesus commands; 'I am with you always, to the close of the age.' Matthew 28: 19-20

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy

CONFESSION

Christ has entered heaven itself, there to appear before God on our behalf. Let us therefore draw near in full assurance of faith and confess our sins to the God of grace.

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.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace we have been saved.

Ephesians 2: 4-5

God desires that none should perish, but that all should turn to Christ, and live. In response to God's call, we acknowledge our sins. God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel. Therefore, we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God of majesty, you led the Messiah through suffering into risen life, and took him up into the glory of heaven: clothe us with the power promised from on high, and send us forth to the ends of the earth as heralds of repentance and witnesses of Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Acts 1: 1-11 read by Janice Schmidt

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of

Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

For the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 47

- ¹ Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.
- ² For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.
- ³ He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.
- ⁴ He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
- ⁵ God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
- ⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- ⁷ For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.
- ⁸ God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.
- ⁹ The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

The Second Reading: 1 Ephesians 1:15-23 read by Ingrid Dodd

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

THE GOSPEL according to Saint Matthew 28:16-20

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

REFLECTION

Reverend Elizabeth Murray

A time of silence is kept

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

The response to each is usually **Hear our prayer.**

The time of prayer concludes with

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

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 forever. Amen

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Christ our exalted king pour upon you abundant gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

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

HYMN: TiS 370

Christ the Lord is risen today: *Hallelujah!*
Let the whole creation say: *Hallelujah!*
Raise your joys and triumphs high: *Hallelujah!*
Sing now, heaven, and earth reply: *Hallelujah!*

Love's redeeming work is done; *Hallelujah!*
fought the fight, the battle won; *Hallelujah!*
vain the stone, the watch, the seal: *Hallelujah!*
Christ has burst the gates of hell. *Hallelujah!*

Lives again our glorious king; *Hallelujah!*
where, O death, is now your sting? *Hallelujah!*
Once he died our souls to save; *Hallelujah!*
where your victory, O grave? *Hallelujah!*

Soar we now where Christ has led, *Hallelujah!*
following our exalted Head; *Hallelujah!*
made like him, like him we rise: *Hallelujah!*
ours the cross, the grave, the skies. *Hallelujah!*

Charles Wesley 1707–88 *alt.*

THE PARISH AT A GLANCE

Vicar: Rev Elizabeth Murray

Email: vicar@htw.org.au Phone: 0419 106 457

Day off: Friday

PARISH OFFICE: office@htw.org.au **POSTAL:** PO Box 515, Williamstown 3016

ADDRESS: 255 Nelson Place Williamstown 3016

WEBSITE: www.htw.org.au

NOTE: The Parish Office will NOT be open for the foreseeable future

Wardens:

Sally Burt 0402 332 844

Tom Verghese 0419 999 292

Honorary Lay Minister to Men:

Scott Phillips..... 0411 751 755

Treasurer:

Laurence Gray 0431 322 490

Bookkeeper:

Ian Stewart 0438 070 439

Parish Council Secretary:

Judy White 0434 250 411

Administration:

Judy White..... 0434 250 411

Pastoral Care:

Janice Schmidt..... 0409 180 144

Baptism Arrangements:

Parish Office, Wed & Fri 9 - 4 9397 5330

Weddings:

Judy White, Parish Office
Wed/Fri 9397 5330

The Pilot - Parish Journal:

Judy White 0434 250 411

Community Lunch Programme :

(Mon & Fri 10 - 1 pm):

Wilma Roberts:..... 0409 862 292

Christine Hurwood..... 0428 589 092

HTW/Anglicare Emergency Relief

Partnership:

Carol Willis 0439 458 096

Organists:

Craig Douglass..... 0425 774 307

John Rivers..... 0473 029 187

Women of Holy Trinity:

Liz White 0407 850 501

Neralie Hoadley

Music Group:

Carol Huren..... 0410 476 607

Ada Cambridge Book Group:

Wilma Roberts..... 0409 862 292

Tapestry Group:

Joan Crook..... 9393 9478

Interfaith Dialogue:

Scott Phillips..... 0411 751 755

Synod representatives:

Val Dripps 0412 372 524

Scott Phillips 0411 751 755

HOLY TRINITY PASTORAL CARE

The Parish is divided into zones to cover the wide areas of pastoral care. For those living in the **Village**, your team representative is

Christa Fatouros : 03 9393 9317

Nursing Homes: Rev Elizabeth Murray

Williamstown Central: Valerie Dripps 0412 372 524,

Victoria St/Hannan St areas: Ann Hodges 0417 581 662

Newport/The Strand: Janice Schmidt 0409 180 144,

Yarraville: Pamela McFadyen 0412 280 233

Pt Cook/Altona Meadows: the Rev'd Margaret Burt: 0432 711 336.

If you are in need or know of someone who needs help, please contact either the above person in your area or call Judy 0434 250 411.