

"Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope"

Welcome to Church

Sentence for Today

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. Psalm 126.6



For those who have children with them, there is a children's corner in the church for the little ones. Children from preschool age may leave for 'Godzone' - Special Children's Activities - shortly after we begin the 9.30am service.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Entrance Hymn: TiS 580 "Lead us heavenly Father, lead us"

Acclamation and Greeting:

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
Whose mercy endures 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.

Kyries:

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

The Trisagion:

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

The Prayer of the Day:

Christ, whose feet were caressed with perfume and a woman's hair, you humbly took a basin and towel and washed the feet of your friends: wash us also in your tenderness, that, embracing your service freely, we may accept no other bondage in your name. **Amen**.

Prayer at the time of choosing an Incumbent:

God our Father, you have welcomed each one of us in Jesus and called us to be his body in this place. Send us your Holy Spirit at this time of uncertainty and change to fill us with vision, energy and faithfulness in prayer that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our community; and guide with your heavenly wisdom those who are to choose a new priest for this parish, so that the one whom we receive

may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people: ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your son, our saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Godzone talk and blessing
The ministry of the Word:
The first reading: Isaiah 43.16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness. rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

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

Psalm 126

When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion: then were we like those restored to life.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter:

and our tongue with singing.

Then said they among the heathen:

'The Lord has done great things for them.'

Truly the Lord has done great things for us:

and therefore we rejoiced.

Turn again our fortunes, O Lord:

as the streams return to the dry south.

Those who sow in tears:

shall reap with songs of joy.

They that go out weeping, bearing the seed:

shall come again in gladness,

bringing their sheaves with them.

The second reading: Philippians 3.3-14

For it is we who are the circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh— even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn: TiS 485 "My God, accept my heart this day"

The Gospel reading:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John, chapter 12, beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

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 of the world to come. Amen.

The prayers of the people:

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Response: Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

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.

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:

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

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

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 658 "I, the Lord of sea and sky"

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.

. . . 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.

. . . Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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

The Lord's Prayer:

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:

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 600 "O my Saviour, lifted"

Prayer after Communion:

God of mercy,
May we who have shared in the holy meal
know your forgiveness in our lives,
bring your reconciliation to others,
and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.
Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.

Notices

Blessing

Final Hymn: TiS 147 "To God be the glory, great things he has done"

Dismissal:

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

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Holy Week & Easter Services

14th April Palm Sunday - 8:00am & 9:30am Blessing of Palm Crosses

14th April Tenabrae – 7:30pm

18th April Maundy Thursday followed by Watch of the Passion – 7:30pm

19th April Good Friday – 9:30am

21st April Easter Day

Easter Vigil 6:00am, Eucharist with lighting of the new fire and Blessing of the Pascal Candle

Easter breakfast following the vigil service, all welcome

Easter Day with Godzone - 9:30am

WELCOME TO CHURCH... We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today: come and worship with us again. If you are visiting, please make yourself known to Fr. Walter or to one of our welcomers, following the service.

NOTICES

MOTHERING SUNDAY LUNCH THANK YOU

A hearty thanks to all who helped make the Mothering Sunday lunch the huge success that it was. Sixty-five people were seated and fed, with only a little food left over. Fr. Walter once again set the scene with the Grace! A special thanks to the "kitchen staff", Sue, Natalie and Aggie, for "plating up" and serving, ably assisted by Parish Council. Also to all who helped with the clean-up, the hardest part but completed so quickly and in such good humour.

Kalo and Doug were very grateful for the kind words and gifts.

TMA April edition is available in the narthex, please take a copy

PETER JAMES CENTRE. On Wednesday, Eastern Health held an afternoon tea to thank Don Lambourne for his service at the centre over many years as he retires from active service! Fr Walter, Kalo, Chellam and Christine attended on behalf of Ascension.

LENT IN JUMBUNNA. Week two of Bishop Paul Barker's Lenten Talks 2019, "A Better Covenant, Priest and Sacrifice (Hebrews 8-10)", Wednesday at 8pm April 10 & 17 at St Mark's Forest Hill, all welcome.

PALM CROSS MAKING. Next Friday 12th April, at 10am in the front Meeting Room, you can be reminded how to make palm crosses with Fr. Walter, for use on Palm Sunday. All are welcome!

PALM SUNDAY. A reminder that next Sunday we start both services on the corner of Witchwood Cres and Blackburn Rd. Incense will be used during the 9:30am service.

TENEBRAE. The moving and beautiful "Service of Shadows" will take place next Sunday evening (14th April) at 7:30pm. Please come and experience this deeply spiritual service.

THE WATCH OF THE PASSION PRAYER VIGIL. Please consider having the deep spiritual experience that is available when we "sit with Him for one hour" in the garden of Gethsemane. The quiet peacefulness allows us to feel a special closeness to Jesus during his time of anguish, or it can lead us into a special prayerfulness. For most people, it is a most moving experience. Please add your name to a time-slot on the Maundy Thursday "Watch of the Passion" list in the narthex. Maybe you could invite a friend or relative to join you.

EASTER CLEANING. On Holy Saturday, 20th April, we will again be having a pre-Easter day cleanup in and around the church, including the gardens, commencing at 9.30am. Please bring yourself and tools or cleaning equipment or both! Hot Cross buns will be served!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS. The Stations of the Cross around the walls of the church are intended to be a devotion that is prayed and walked by one or more persons during Lent. The stations memorialize the journey of Jesus from his trial to the cross and to the grave. During Lent please take time out to walk the stations using one of the printed copies of the Stations of the Cross, found on the small table to the left of the door, inside the church, to use as you walk.

NOT HOME ALONE. The April NHA lunch will be on Friday 26th April this month. Please let Judithe know if you are coming along, all welcome

FOOTY TIPPING. A slightly better round for most, with the average tips pushing up to just over 4 tips. However, the upsets continued for most, with just two tippers correctly picking Bulldogs, and two tipping Gold Coast. The best score was six tips shared by three (Jo Condie, Pat Ludwick and Ron McKenzie) who are now co-sharing the lead (10 points) for the first half of the season. Once again, there is a Thursday night match so remember to get your tips in on time.

EARLY NOTICE. I am once again asking for donations to include in the Mother's Day raffle baskets. Please look around for anything that a lady will like to receive. I would appreciate anything, big or small. Thanks again, Chellam.

TMA ONLINE Use the link http://tma.melbourneanglican.org. au/newsstand. For the up to date stories form around the world.

SAINTS AND HOLY MEN AND WOMEN FOR THIS WEEK

Monday Georgiana Molloy, pioneer church leader and botanist from

Western Australia (d. 1843)

William Law, priest and teacher (d. 1761) Tuesday

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian and martyr (d. 1945)

Saturday George Augustus Selwyn, missionary bishop of New Zealand

(d. 1878)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wednesday: **Next Sunday: Palm Sunday**

Daniel 3. 14-20, 24-28 Isaiah 50. 4-9a The Song of the Three (APBA p.399) John 8. 31-42

Psalm 31. 9-18 Philippians 2. 5-11 Luke 23, 1-49

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

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

THE CHURCH

Church in Ireland

Ministry to the Aboriginal people of Australia

Defence Force chaplains

AUSTRALIA

Those recovering following the cyclones in Northern Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia.

THE WORLD

Recovery after the cyclone in Mozambique and Zimbabwe

Those mourning following the shooting at the Mosques in Christchurch

Cessation of hostilities in Myanmar, Syria, Turkey and Yemen.

Those seeking a safe home after strife in their own country.

A humanitarian solution to the Nauru refugee problem

THE ASCENSION COMMUNITY

Each other (refer to prayer list for each day).

God's presence in the events of the week (see pewslip)

Those who have special needs and those at the Peter James Centre,

Burwood Lodge and the Arthur Preston Centre.

Ourselves as we accept the power of God's Spirit in our lives

THE ROSTERS

7th April, Lent 5 Liturgical colour – Violet

8:00am 9:30 a.m.

Welcomers: Jan Wheeler Alma & Brian Brand

Liturgical assistant:Joanne Waite

Scripture reader: Sue Tregear Cath Ortlieb
Godzone: Joanne Waite

Intercessions: Fr. Walter Russell Mills

Servers: Sue Tregear Natalie Ortlieb, Ron McKenzie

Christine Youings

Eucharistic assistant: Sue Tregear Joanne Waite & Jan Mansfield

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Morning Tea: Don Lambourne Jenny & Russell Mills

Sacristan: Sue Tregear

Music: Heath McKenzie & Josh Waite

Printer: Lyle Mansfield

Counting: Joanne Waite & Joan Zhang

14th **April, PALM SUNDAY** Liturgical colour – Red

8:00am 9:30 a.m.

Welcomers: Don Lambourne Yolanda Chan & Jo Condie

Liturgical assistant: Ron McKenzie

Scripture reader: Ron McKenzie Ros Smith

Godzone: Natalie Ortlieb

Intercessions: Fr. Walter Fr Walter

Eucharistic assistant: Ron McKenzie Keith Hall & Ron McKenzie

Morning Tea: Don Lambourne Cheryl & Keith Hall

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Sacristan: Judithe Atkinson
Music: Peter Bedlow
Printer: Barrie Harding

Counting: Joanne Waite & Joan Zhang

Resurrection Garden: Geoff Harders

Next Pewsheet: Please send all items for inclusion in next week's pew-sheet by 5p.m. Thursday evening to Ron McKenzie: - (r.mckenzie@novatechsolutions.com.au] - especially any Roster changes. Thank you.



378 Blackburn Road, Burwood East, 3151

We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation

LOCUM PRIEST: Fr. Walter McEntee; Mobile Phone: 0484 110 701

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FACEBOOK Please visit and



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Baptism, Marriage & funerals by arrangement

Weekly services & activities

Sunday 8:00am Eucharist

9:30am Eucharist with hymns.

'Godzone' children's program during 9:30am service

Wednesday 10:00am Eucharist followed by morning tea and discussion

3rd Wednesday Every month at 12 Noon. Scrabble at Pat Eadon's house, all welcome!

Friday 9:30 – 11:30am. Playgroup in hall (During school terms)

10:00am – Noon. Drop-in for coffee and chat, front meeting room.

3rd Friday Every month at 12 noon. "Not home alone" meets for lunch at the

Mountain View Hotel, all welcome!

WHO WE ARE AT ASCENSION

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 to all comers. Here we worship God in Eucharistic-centred worship, with all the rich liturgy and symbolism that the tradition of the Anglican Church offers. (See our website for more information)