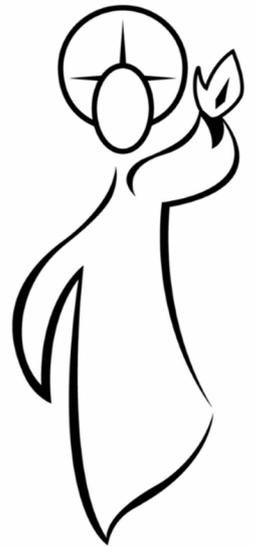

ANGLICAN CHURCH *of the* ASCENSION

6th January 2019
The Epiphany of our Lord

EAST BURWOOD



“Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope”

Welcome to Church

Sentence for Today

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you

Isaiah 60: 1



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

ORDER OF SERVICE

Entrance Hymn: TiS 454 'Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness . . . '

Acclamation and Greeting:

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

God's purpose was to use the church to display his wisdom to all.

This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus.

[Ephesians 3.10]

Epiphany is a manifestation, a clear view of who Jesus, the Messiah, is for everyone. This is shown in the coming of the wise men, which marks the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles, the oriental kings or priestly caste, skilled in magi-c and astrology.

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.

God, you are elusive! You are a mystery and yet, you are revealed. There is deep, dazzling darkness about you, for you will now be hidden for thirty years. At your birth among us, life went on at the inn, that was too full to accommodate or recognize a pregnant Mary and her new husband. Help us to persist in our quest to find you as the magi did.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

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.

Invitation to Confession:

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light,
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

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.**

Prayer of the Day:

**Lord God of the nations,
we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendour:
may the brightness of your incarnate Word
pierce the night that covers the earth,
signal the dawn of justice and peace,
and beckon all nations to walk as one in your light.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
in the splendour of eternal light, God for ever and ever. 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 60. 1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

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

Psalm 72. 1-7, 10-14

**Give the king your judgement, O God:
and your righteousness to the son of a king,**

**That he may judge your people rightly:
and the poor of the land with equity.**

**Let the mountains be laden with peace
because of his righteousness:
and the hills also with prosperity for his people.**

**May he give justice to the poor among the people:
and rescue the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor.**

**May he live while the sun endures:
and while the moon gives light,
throughout all generations.**

**May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields:
and as showers that water the earth.**

**In his time shall righteousness flourish:
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.**

**The kings of Tarshish and of the isles
shall bring tribute:
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.**

**All kings shall fall down before him:
and all nations do him service.**

**He will deliver the needy when they cry:
and the poor that have no helper.**

**He will pity the helpless and the needy:
and save the lives of the poor.**

**He will redeem them from oppression and violence:
and their blood shall be precious in his sight.**

The second reading: Ephesians 3.1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn: TiS 291 ‘Earth has many a noble city . . .’

The gospel reading:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Matthew, chapter 2, beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." '

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.

Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.'

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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.

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.

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 275 ‘Hail to the Lord’s anointed’

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 and communion:

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 292* 'Infant holy . . .'

The sending out of God's people

God of the nations,
we thank you for nourishing us with this holy sacrament.
Guide us by your presence,
that we may bring your light to those who dwell in darkness,
and establish your justice in the earth.

**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:

Final hymn: *TiS 314* 'As with gladness, men of old . . .'

Dismissal:

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

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**AS WE THANK GOD FOR HIS MANY BLESSINGS,
LET US PRAY:**

THE CHURCH

The Church in New Zealand.
Melbourne Girls' Grammar School, head and chaplain.
Hospital chaplaincy.

THE WORLD

A peaceful solution to the unrest and humanitarian problems 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.
Those suffering following earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia

THE ASCENSION COMMUNITY

Each other (*refer to prayer list for each day*).
God's presence in the events of the week
(*see pew slip*).

Those who have special needs and those at the Peter James Centre, especially Jim; Burwood Lodge and the Arthur Preston Centre.

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



NOTICES

Welcome to Church. . . We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today: come and worship with us again. Please make yourself known to Fr. Walter or to one of our welcomers, following the service.

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Wednesday 10am - Eucharist followed by morning tea.

Friday 10am - Coffee and chat.

Next Sunday, the 'Baptism of Christ' with the renewal of our Baptismal vows.

PLEDGE ENVELOPES

A number of parishioners already use the direct debit system for their pledge. This can save having to remember whether one is up to date! This system is available to all to use. The only identifying detail is the envelope number. The banking details are: Indue Ltd. Level 3, 601 Corona on Drive Toowong QLD. BSB. 703 122. A/C. 050095388 Please see Keith Hall if you need assistance in setting this up for use.

TMA online Share it through your networks using the link
<http://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/newsstand>

SAINTS AND HOLY MEN AND WOMEN FOR THIS WEEK

Wednesday William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, martyr (d. 1645)

Scripture readings

WEDNESDAY

1 John 4. 11-18

Psalms 72. 8-14

Mark 6. 45-52

NEXT SUNDAY: THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 43. 1-7

Psalms 29

Acts 8. 14-17

Luke 3. 15-22

THE ROSTERS

6th January, EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Liturgical colour - Yellow

8:00am

9:30am

Welcomers:	Jan Wheeler	Joanne Waite and Jo Condie
Liturgical assistant:	+ + + + +	Aaron King
Scripture readers:	Ron McKenzie	Ros Smith
Godzone:	+ + + + +	Holiday programs
Intercessions:	Fr. Walter	Russell Mills
Servers:	Ron McKenzie	Sue Tregear, Christine Youings, Natalie Ortlieb, Ron McKenzie
Eucharistic assistants:	Ron McKenzie	Aaron King and Fr Trevor
Morning Tea:	Don Lambourne	Jenny & Russell Mills

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Flowers:	Chellam Stanley
Music:	Peter Bedlow
Sacristan:	Judithe Atkinson
Printer:	Lyle Mansfield
Counting:	Lyle and Jan Mansfield
Cleaning:	Ron McKenzie
Resurrection Garden	Peter Wharton

13th January, BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Liturgical colour - Yellow

8am

9:30 a.m.

Welcomers:	Don Lambourne	Collin Darvell and Pat Ludwick
Liturgical assistant:	+ + + + +	Ron McKenzie
Scripture reader:	Sue Tregear	Jo Condie
Godzone:	+ + + + +	Holiday programs
Intercessions:	Fr. Walter	Cath Ortlieb
Eucharistic assistants:	Sue Tregear	Keith Hall and David Wood
Morning Tea:	Don Lambourne	Ros Smith and Bev Bates

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Flowers:	Robin Jellis
Music:	Heath McKenzie and Josh Waite
Sacristan:	Sue Tregear
Printer:	Doug Bartlett
Counting:	Keith Hall and Glen Wood

ANGLICAN CHURCH
of the ASCENSION
EAST BURWOOD



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

HONORARY LAY MINISTER: Mrs Kalo Bartlett; Phone: 9802 9476

PARISH WEB ADDRESS: www.ascensionchurch.org.au

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

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
Friday	9:30 – 11:30am. Playgroup in hall (During school terms) 10:00am – Noon. Drop-in for coffee and chat - Front meeting room.

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)

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 that may arise. Thank you.