

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA  
DIOCESE OF BALLARAT  
ST PAUL'S - BAKERY HILL



*"If God is for us, who is against us?" (Rom 8:31)*

**Third Sunday of Easter  
26<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

***A Year to challenge violence, injustice & oppression, and work for peace  
and reconciliation***

*Welcome to St Paul's Church in this time! We acknowledge the Wathaurung people, the traditional custodians of this land. We gather in prayer from where ever we are. If you have found this order of service and are using it, please feel free to make yourself known. Contact details are on the last page.*



**Worship 9.30am [Zoom]**

*Contact Sister Elisa to be included via St Paul's email or phone number. See back page.*

Dear people of St Paul's,

In this time of separation from our church gatherings, we can affirm and encourage each other in prayer. We can also join in worship at our regular times using this form of prayer which is from the Anglican Churches Liturgy. We will use it on Sunday with our Zoom services but if this is not possible for you, then join us at 9.30 am in spirit.

You can use it on your own or with others around you. You may use all of it or a part of it as suits you. If you have some lovely recorded music which feeds your faith, then add that to the mix also.

Further, I suggest you create a prayer space, in it you could have a candle, a cross and /or a picture, none of these are essential, but may be a help for prayer.

Finally, I pray that this difficult season may be one which, despite hardship, enriches and strengthens your faith.

Every blessing

Sr Elisa

*When all are gathered, the presider begins:*

In the name of God: Father, + Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**SCRIPTURE SENTENCE** Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2.38-39

Prayer of preparation

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, and 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 Penitential Rite**

The Kyrie:

**Lord have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord have mercy!**

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.

**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.

### Words of Assurance/ *absolution*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John2: 1-2

**COLLECT OF THE DAY:** (*pause for silent prayer*) O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### FIRST READING Acts 2.14a, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the apostles

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them,

<sup>36</sup> Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

This is the Word of the Lord **thanks be to God**

#### PSALM 116.1-4, 11-18

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, because he has heard  
my voice and my supplications.

<sup>2</sup> **Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

<sup>3</sup> The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;  
I suffered distress and anguish.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called on the name of the LORD:  
"O LORD, I pray, save my life!"**

<sup>11</sup> I said in my consternation,  
"Everyone is a liar."

<sup>12</sup> **What shall I return to the LORD  
for all his bounty to me?**

<sup>13</sup> I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD,

<sup>14</sup> **I will pay my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people.**

<sup>15</sup> Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his faithful ones.

<sup>16</sup> **O LORD, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.  
You have loosed my bonds.**

<sup>17</sup> I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice

and call on the name of the LORD.

**18 I will pay my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people.**

## **SECOND READING 1 Peter 1.13-25**

A reading from the first letter of Peter

<sup>13</sup> Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. <sup>14</sup> Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. <sup>15</sup> Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; <sup>16</sup> for it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. <sup>24</sup> For

"All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

<sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord endures forever."

That word is the good news that was announced to you.

This is the Word of the Lord **thanks be to God**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak.  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**

## **GOSPEL Luke 24.13-35**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**+ Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

For the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

### **Reflection - The road to Emmaus-Sr Elisa**

We need to understand the story in context. The resurrection stories are told in different ways in different Gospels because the writers are highlighting different aspects of Jesus' identity, life and purpose. They have some things in common, like the empty tomb, the angel [although in some places there are two rather than one and John doesn't have an angel at all]. They all include women as the first witnesses, but the women vary a bit. In John's Gospel it's Mary Magdalene and in Luke, it is Mary Magdalene, Joanna, & Mary the mother of James. The disciples who witnessed the empty tomb were Peter and the other disciple in John and in Luke it's Peter on his own.

The consistent thing is that the tomb was empty despite being guarded by soldiers of Jesus' opponents, the women were the first witnesses and then at least Peter, also witnessed the empty tomb, and later Jesus appeared to his followers and according to Paul many others.

In Luke's Gospel the women do not meet the risen Christ at the tomb, they met angels who told them to tell the disciples.

As we come to the experience of the resurrection by the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, it is still Easter Day, and no-one has yet seen the risen Lord. The women and Peter have seen the empty tomb, the angel has told the women that Jesus is alive and will meet with them in Jerusalem. Unlike Matthew who has the story focused in Galilee, Luke has the whole story coming from Jerusalem, and the Good News going from there to the whole world. Thus, the scene is set, and now we can begin to think about what is happening in the story today.

### *Pause*

Two disciples going home with broken hearts; Jesus, the one they had put so much hope in was dead. The two knew the story of the women's visit to the tomb that morning and they also knew it had been verified by others, but still they did not believe that Jesus was alive. They were both sad and confused.

They had clearly known Jesus in some way in life, although they were not among the central membership group as described in the Gospel, and yet as they speak one would believe they were

deeply connected to the inner group of disciples. Still they did not believe, or maybe it was just too much to take in and believe.

It's interesting what happens when one has been through a deeply traumatic experience. People tend to go back to what is familiar and safe- they need normal, but normal is no longer normal and in that safe space of familiarity a process begins. The process always changes our lives in some way forever. A person dies, something new in us emerges to fill the space of a relationship which was important.

This corona virus, when the restrictions are lifted, we will all on some level strive to regain the lives we had but our understanding of life and the world is already challenged to the core and we will change. Whether for the better or worse is yet to be seen. What are some of the things we are realising in this new world?

Well, we share our world with the people of China, and the things which threaten them can also be a threat to us. The world is not so big.

Again, we can communicate and be in relationships, without being physically connected. Our health, science and medical people are essential to the wellbeing of our world, and what they find and discover has bearings everywhere.

Truthfully, our awareness of the reality that the world is one, is so much more entrenched than it has ever been.

The folk on the road to Emmaus are in this process of change, their grief is palpable, for some of us, there is a similar grief for the lives we've had and the people and things we've lost, which is probably how it would have been for folk during and after the wars too. The road to Emmaus is like reaching out to lives which have been lost.

The thing which is good, is that these two disciples are together and discussing what happened, and in that space, full of lost hope and disappointment, full of confusion, Jesus comes alongside of them and listens to them. Unrecognised, he invites them to share the story, and then he begins to teach them, what they already knew in their heads. As Jewish people of their day, who had been with Jesus on the various journeys and missions, they would have known their Scripture, so they knew this stuff, but they'd not put it together and taken it to heart.

Hearing Jesus as the stranger on the road speak to them, their hearts were burning as the events of the passion were brought into the perspective of the Jewish Scriptures, prophecy, and expectations. Their hopes and dreams began to revive as things started to make some sense.

Finally they arrived home, invited Jesus for a meal and then during the meal, they watched him take and break and bless the bread and then distribute it, just as he'd done with the loaves and fishes, just as he'd done at the last supper.

This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance

This is my blood shed for you. Do this in remembrance  
And they recognised him, and suddenly they knew they had to go back to Jerusalem  
They had a life to live with him and for him and it was never going to be what it was.  
Yes, there would be suffering as Jesus suffered, but overriding all of that was the love and the joy of  
life promised in both the now and the future.

As they returned to Jerusalem and joined with the other disciples to share their story, they heard  
that Peter had met Jesus also, and there was hope and expectation and more.

Part of the meaning of this story of the resurrection is that even when life seems at its very worst and  
we are suffering the consequences of peoples hate and despair, or the consequences of disease or of  
suffering and death, when there seems to be so much we are powerless over, we are reminded that  
we need to be together, to share our stories, to seek God's plan in the things which happen, and to  
discern what God is calling us to because of it, and then finding the new life we are offered through  
the experience. In doing this, at some point we find Jesus is with us on the journey.

Part of the meaning of this story of the resurrection is that when life seems to be so out of our  
control, God is still present and in control. God's promises are always being worked out in our world,  
and we can entrust our lives to God, through Jesus Christ our risen Saviour.

Last week we heard that Jesus is with us in our locked rooms, this week the story is that Jesus is with  
us in our community as we endeavour to make sense of all that is happening in our world. He is  
walking on this journey with us, listening to our stories, listening to our pain and our searching  
hearts, and in the end, he is revealed in the breaking of the bread. Because of his resurrection, we  
are reminded that the breaking of his life and its being given for us, is the place where we can know  
him and place our love and trust.

**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection.*

*We say the Apostles 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 again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at 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 saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The world with its multitudinous needs is always with us. So is the Presence of Christ.

So, let us pray for the world and the church  
Risen God, we bring to you our prayers for all your people.  
Risen God in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your world, for leaders of nations, for all your people in these days of fear, confusion, and strife.  
As you came to your frightened disciples and revealed yourself to them in the breaking of the bread, come to us today with your peace and make yourself known to all who feel abandoned and afraid.  
Risen God in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your church, for its theologians, teachers, pastors, and all who through word or deed proclaim your gospel.  
As you opened the Scriptures to the disciples on the Emmaus Road, make yourself known today through your Holy Word.  
Risen God in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our communities, both gathered and dispersed. Our families, our friends and for ourselves. We give thanks for the opportunities of community, even when we are physically distant from each other.  
As you made yourself known by breaking bread with your friends, make yourself known today in those with whom we share our lives.  
Risen God in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in need of your comfort, reassurance, and hope, for all who suffer anguish, loneliness or despair. We especially pray for those who are seriously ill with Covid 19 and for their family and friends. We give thanks for the doctors and nurses who care for them and for the researchers who are working hard looking for effective treatments and vaccines and we give thanks for the progress that has been made.  
We hold before you those who have asked for our prayers...Keith, Bert, Mandy, Joyce, Jean, Carmel, Hazel, Heather, Stephanie, Tamara, Andrew, Aaron, Sue, Vera, Jenny, Jan, Fr Peter, Seth, Corey, Michele, Gillian, Pauline.

As you made yourself known to those behind locked doors of pain and grief, make yourself known today to those who are in sorrow or distress.  
Risen God in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We remember all who have died in your love.  
Those from this parish who have gone before us and all who are dear to us.  
As you made yourself known to your followers in every age, make yourself known to us today, that with all your saints, we may recognise you in our midst and, through eternity, worship you.  
Risen God in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

*After the prayers:*  
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.**



Jesus says to his disciples,  
Alleluia! We are the body of Christ!  
**His Spirit is with us! Alleluia!**  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you. Amen.**  
*[We wave to each other as a sign of peace]*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*The celebrant begins the Eucharistic Prayer*

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.**

*The preface continues...* forever praising you and singing:  
**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.**

*The Eucharistic prayer continues...*  
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The prayer concludes with ...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 forever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body in Christ,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us;  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.**

This is the Lamb of God, who takes away  
The gifts of God for the people of God.

The body of Christ broken for you.  
The blood of Christ poured out for you.

#### **Prayer after Communion...**

Eternal God, giver of life, in the breaking  
Lord. May we who celebrate this holy  
bring new life to all creation.



the sins of the world

of the bread we know the risen  
feast walk in his risen light and

**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, Amen.**

#### **THE BLESSING**

Almighty God, who redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ, and has brought us out of slavery into everlasting freedom, give you joy and peace in faith, and bring you to your eternal inheritance. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

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

**All parish activities are on hold or under assessment until further notice**

**Readings for next Sunday** Acts 2.42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2.1-10, John 10.1-10



#### **Holiness**

Holiness is a quality that is best acknowledged in the other rather than sought for oneself. As we read on Easter Day, the hymn writer, John Keble urged us to start with thinking and seeing holiness, 'to hallow' all we find. Remember we and the whole wide world is God's creation. When we 'hallow' the person selling *The Big Issue* our mind is tuned (imperceptibly) further to the dial of holiness. Holiness grows in us as we act according to God's holy law of Love. Of course, we move towards a godly life. Richard Foster's book, *A Celebration of Discipline*, gives instruction on the 12 classic ways. It is well worth setting out to discover yourself using these disciplines. Mind you, the more you do, the more there is. The Christian search for Holiness is like munching into the *Magic Pudding*, it doesn't diminish or run out no matter how much you eat. What delights are in store for those who search after holiness and give as much as they take.

*Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." 1 Peter 1: 15-16*

Members in Madagascar regard their sisters suffering with fistulas as holy in God's eyes. They embrace those who are outcast and give them skills to regain their self-confidence. Holy bodies and holy minds fed with Holy Scripture begin to trust God again and trust themselves. Thanks be to God, hallowed be His name.

#### **PLANT SALE**

Gardening tips for our November Plant Sale -  
with autumn leaves piling up around the yard it's an ideal time to gather them and create a compost heap in an out of the way spot, they will rot down quickly and can then be dug into the soil. When pruning

ornamental grapevines take cuttings to propagate -to plant the right way up cut the bottom straight and the top at an angle. Put several cuttings into a deep narrow pot covering at least 2 segments from which roots will grow.

**Books** -a great time to sort out the bookcase for our book stall in November--and tell family and friends, can be collected later when we are able to get out and about.

**Sheep poo** is for sale in \$1 & \$2 bags contact Avis - mob 0408 801 192, Noella 0418 501 382, or Deirdre 0408 433 481 to order.

### **METAL COLLECTION**

June is Metal Collection Month - keep collecting metal items also car and bike batteries

### **ANGLICARE**

Items which are currently required for the Emergency Relief program are: tissues, toilet paper, pasta sauce, long life milk and any other long life food items. Please feel free to drop them in to Anglicare during opening hours.

### **PRAYER FOR ANZAC DAY**

O God, our ruler and guide, in whose hands are the destinies of this and every nation, we give you thanks for the freedoms we enjoy in this land and for those who laid down their lives to defend them: We pray that we and all the people of Australia, gratefully remembering their courage and their sacrifice, may have grace to live in a spirit of justice, of generosity and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Parish Directory**

### **Bishop**

The Rt. Rev'd Garry Weatherill

**Parish Priest** Sr Elisa Helen, CSC

Tel. 5332 6479 [leave a message]

### **Associate Clergy**

The Rev'd Canon Geoffrey Tisdall

The Rev'd Malcolm Thomas

The Rev'd Deacon Bert Muysers

**Parish Secretary:** Lisa Smith

**Organist:** Ken Turner

### **Wardens:**

Bryan Crebbin

Mark Stewart:

Heather Clinton

**Treasurer:** Mark Stewart

**Parish Council Secretary:**

Lisa Smith

### **St. Paul's Office** *[closed during Covid 19 restrictions]*

At Anglicare Cnr of St Paul's Way & Victoria St.

PO Box 1460, Ballarat, 3354

**Email:** [stpaulsballarat@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaulsballarat@hotmail.com)

[www.stpaulsbakeryhill.org.au](http://www.stpaulsbakeryhill.org.au)

**Hours:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am- 1pm