

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



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

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost –2nd August 2020

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

Welcome to St Paul's! We acknowledge the Wathaurung people, the traditional custodians of this land. We gather in prayer where-ever we are. If you have found this order of service and are using it, please feel free to make yourself known. Contact Sister Elisa to be included via St Paul's email or phone number. See back page.



Feeding the 5,000.
Worship 9.30am [Zoom]

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.

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE: The Lord is near to all who call on him in truth. He fulfils the desire of all that fear him, hears their cry, and saves them. Psalm 145.18-19

Prayer of preparation

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 Penitential Rite

‘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 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’.

Silence to reflect.

Let us therefore bring our sins to the one true God, in penitence and faith.

**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 John 2: 1-2

COLLECT OF THE DAY: *(pause for silent prayer)* O God, giver of life and health, whose Son Jesus Christ has called us to hunger and thirst for justice: refresh us with your grace, that we may not be weary in well-doing, for the sake of him who meets all our needs, Jesus Christ our Saviour; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 32.22-31

A reading from the book of Genesis

²²The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."

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

PSALM 17.1-7, 16

¹Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

²**From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.**

³If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.

⁴**As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.**

⁵ My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.

⁶ **I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me, hear my words.**

⁷ Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O saviour of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.

¹⁶ **As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness;
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.**

SECOND READING Romans 9.1-16

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit— ²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

⁶It is not as though the word of God had failed. For not all Israelites truly belong to Israel, ⁷and not all of Abraham’s children are his true descendants; but “It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you.” ⁸This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as descendants.

⁹For this is what the promise said, “About this time I will return and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁰Nor is that all; something similar happened to Rebecca when she had conceived children by one husband, our ancestor Isaac. ¹¹Even before they had been born or had done anything good or bad (so that God’s purpose of election might continue, ¹²not by works

but by his call) she was told, “The elder shall serve the younger.” ¹³ As it is written,

“I have loved Jacob,
but I have hated Esau.”

¹⁴ What then are we to say? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses,

“I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”

¹⁶ So it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God who shows mercy.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. **Alleluia, alleluia!**

GOSPEL Matthew 14.13-21

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

+ Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven,

and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

For the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Reflection – Sr Elisa

Sharing what we have.

For some reason there are times when life seems more expensive than I like it and I have bills which threaten to cut into my savings. At times like that when a representative of the Smith family contacts me fundraising, I basically tell them I can't afford it. Truth be told, going out of my way for others and giving money etc is not something I readily do, I have some charities that I support, but the Smith Family is not on my list. Extra giving doesn't come easily, especially if it interferes with my comfort or my plans. I'm not the most flexible of people.

Compare my behaviour with the women in this story:

Mother Teresa one day gave a poor family enough rice to feed the family for one day. When the woman of the household received the rice, she took it and divided it in half and gave the other half to her neighbour. When asked why she'd done that she said; 'my neighbour's family haven't eaten in days either'.

Jesus said to his disciples. 'You give them something to eat'.

To those of us who have so much, it feels like a tough call, especially when you think to yourself, 'I don't have anything, or I

don't even have enough for my needs!' And Jesus says, 'what do you have???' '

I have my life, my health [not perfect but OK], I have health insurance, a roof over my head and a cute dog. I'm educated and whilst I'm no genius I can turn a hand to a few things. I have food in my fridge and more put away in my freezer. I have some savings for a rainy day, I have two TV's and so much more.

But often I don't have any time for other things, I don't even have time to share? Maybe that's true, maybe with less down time and more efficient use of time!!!!

Oh! And I also have God and my faith in God, which I so often forget.

It's easy to make excuses and to avoid doing anything at all isn't it?

This is the mindset of scarcity and for many of us who have so much, it is our default way of functioning. The mind set of scarcity doesn't entrust life to Jesus, but entrusts it to material wealth and comfort, so it can't risk its things. It is afraid to let go in case it discovers it doesn't have enough.

The last couple of weeks, we've been hearing some parables about the Kingdom of Heaven and how it is worth giving up everything to obtain. And we've also heard about the abundant harvest of the Kingdom, but we find it hard to trust any of that, because we're too comfortable in our fuf. Maybe I shouldn't be speaking for you, but I know this is true on many levels [maybe not every level] but on many levels for me. How about you?

Pause

The Gospel story of the feeding of the 5000 plus, is one that meant a great deal in the early church. We know this because it's about the

only story apart from the passion & resurrection of Christ [which varies greatly from Gospel to Gospel], which is told in all four Gospels and some-times told twice with minor variations, but is essentially the same story. We know therefore there must be something remarkable that happened with Jesus behind the story. We can try to rationalise or understand it, but we are not going to get there. It is a miracle story, whereby God's love and grace, works to overcome human resistance, and small mindedness, to give the crowd the food that they need.

So...

Jesus is with a large crowd in a lonely place ['eremos' a desert; reminding us in many ways of the wilderness journey of the Jewish people and the feeding with manna in the desert]. In Matthew this is made even starker because Jesus has been trying to have some alone time to mourn the death of his cousin John the Baptist. But the crowd finds him anyway. And Jesus spends the day feeding them with healing and teaching.

At the end of the day, the disciples want Jesus to send the crowd away so the crowd can find food to eat. Jesus tells them- 'you feed them', they say we have nothing.

Then Jesus asked them 'What do you have?'

¹⁷ "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," the disciples say.

¹⁸ "Bring them here to me," Jesus said. ¹⁹ And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves [Blessed are you Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this bread to share]. Then

he gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. ²⁰ They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. ²¹ The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children [so maybe 10-12,000 people].

In this story Jesus' actions reflect those of the Eucharist, they also reflect his actions on the way to the cross. His request of the disciples to give what they have remind us of the pearl of great price, to own it; they must give everything they have.

The steps are simple:

Offertory. That is bringing what they have to Jesus.

Thanksgiving and blessing. Allowing him to give thanks for it and bless it.

Breaking and sharing. Sacrificing it for the life of all those who would partake.

It is such a challenge to us. We rehearse it every week in the Eucharist. We celebrate it every Easter. We give our lives to it in our baptism and we share in it when we receive the body and the blood. Yet we seem so limited in our ability to respond and live it. To extend it beyond ourselves.

We fail to recognise that everything we have is a gift from God that we are given to enjoy, but we also are called to share it and raise others up into a fuller life as the body of Christ in the world.

Sometimes it is easy to tell our-selves that such action is for the young, and to some extent some things are, but this vocation to

share and to give sacrificially never ends, it may change how we go about though.

We can do it in small ways and of course most of us do. We can do it through loving generosity towards those we live with every day. In these Covid19 days we can share what we have through at least obeying the regulations both at home and outside of the home. We can give our time in prayer for the victims and our governments and their agents of care as they strive to bring this dreadful disease under control. We can do nice things for each other, like help one another find masks, or shop for a neighbour who may seem a bit vulnerable. We can make phone calls and write notes and letters. We can participate in Zoom conversations. And maybe there are charities like Anglicare who are working with the most alienated and homeless with whom we can share food and warm clothing and anything else they need.

We can try and nurture a mindset in ourselves of thanksgiving and generosity, so we can and are able to help others who are in dire need when we meet them. We need to train ourselves to get past our fears [at least within the realm of common sense] and to see the brokenness and the vulnerability of those whom Jesus would love as the poor.

We also need to recognise on some levels our deep failing in all of this, and bring ourselves to constantly repent that we don't see or try to see the depth of vulnerability which is on our doorsteps, in our neighbours homes or neighbourhoods. We stay inside in the warmth of our homes and fail to love and care for those who could use our friendship, because they don't know how to be emotionally healthy, and nice, like most of us, and our families and friends.

And we can seek God's guidance and help that we may grow in love and generosity so that St Paul's and all the church may reflect this amazing grace of God to the world.

Maybe I should be speaking to myself of these things rather than you. You may be better at it than I. Many of you are more in touch with people than I am, and I know many of you are generous in so many ways and I thank God for it.

Dear Jesus, we have so much and live so well, forgive us for that which we cannot share, for that which we fail to surrender in love to you. Help us to give our love, our all, that those who are in most need may be raised up and healed and fed with the bread of life which we so enjoy. And we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silence for reflection.

Let us together 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the world and for the church.

Sisters and brothers, God our Saviour is our refuge! So, let us pray to God saying, "Incline your ear to us; **Hear our words.**"

God our Saviour show us your face. May your Church be satisfied in your presence. May you reveal to us your ways so that we might walk in the light of your truth.

Silence

Incline your ear to us,

Hear our words.

O God, your eyes are fixed on justice. We pray for all victims of war and violence and famine and disease, especially those affected by Covid19. Give heed to the cries of those in need throughout the world.

Silence

Incline your ear to us,

Hear our words.

God of Abundance, you have blessed the Earth to bring forth plenty. May we recognize the abundance in our own lives and so that those with little may also have their fill. We remember those who have lost work, those struggling with isolation, the homeless, the abused and the poor.

Silence

Incline your ear to us,

Hear our words.

O God have compassion on the people of our region. Show us your marvellous loving-kindness so that our fears may be replaced with trust in your goodness. We pray for an end to this pandemic, for all who are working for that outcome, governments, researchers, police, military, doctors, nurses and other organisations.

Silence

Incline your ear to us,

Hear our words.

God of Blessing, we call upon you, for you answer us in our need. We pray this day for all those desperate for your blessing. Moved by compassion, heal the sick and suffering ones we hold in our hearts this day.

Daniel, Vicki, David & Vera, Ken, Margaret, Bert, Mandy, Joyce, Jean, Carmel, Hazel, Heather, Ann, Stephanie, Tamara, Andrew, Aaron, Vera, Jenny, Jan, Fr Peter, Seth, Corey, Gillian, Pauline & Barrie, Hilary.

The congregation can add their petitions and thanksgivings, within the silence

Incline your ear to us,

Hear our words.

God our Vindicator justify the dead through the mercy of our Messiah. We pray that in the fullness of time, they may awake, beholding your likeness.

Silence

Incline your ear to us,

Hear our words.

Jeremiah Williamson.

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.

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. Amen.

[We wave to each other as a sign of peace]

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Prayer

O loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Thanksgiving, hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of your dear Son, we offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though we are dispersed from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Salvation we pray that you will unite us with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us. **Amen.**

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.**

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...

**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

May the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your heart
and mind in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ
our Lord,
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.**

Copyright 1995, The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation. From the text of A Prayer Book for Australia, published under the imprint of Broughton Books by E.J.Dwyer (Australia) Pty Ltd. Reproduced with permission. CCLI License No: 218042.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 9.30am: Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28, Psalm 105.1-6, 16-22, Romans 10.4-15, Matthew 14.22-36

Diary for the next week

- 5pm. Tuesday Evening: Zoom Evening Prayer with focus on prayer for Covid19 & our Diocese. All welcome to join us
- 10.30am. Thursday: Holy Eucharist. [register to attend] Feast of the Transfiguration.
- 10.30am Friday cuppa and chat (via Zoom)
- 9.30 am Sunday Eucharist [Zoom] [register to attend].



Rest for body and soul

There's nothing quite so freeing as floating in the sea or a swimming pool, weightless, suspended in waters of rest. Our bodies regularly need to recuperate from stress and strain. So too our souls for they are an integral part of who we are and need care and attention. Souls are, after all, doing vitally important work; sorting out our life choices, connecting with the Source and Creator of our being. They too suffer from Love fatigue and need rest and re-creation. A dose of aimless wandering, contemplating a child, or listening to sacred music is REST indeed.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters; = waters of rest

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. ^{Psalm 23, 1-2, 6}*

Change of living habits also bring rest. In Myanmar, mothers at the MU Parenting program learnt to be more patient and caring towards with their children. This has produced a rest from friction for the whole family: children work better at school and husband/wife relationships have improved. The still waters of Rest bring calm. Thanks be to God.



PLANT SALE

Gardening Tips

Plant rhubarb crowns, parsley seeds and herbs in pots. Keep in a warm place. For your garden - time to sow radishes, turnips, onions in seed trays, peas and cabbage. Cover with wire / plastic trays to prevent birds scratching up seeds.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St Paul's AGM will be held on Sunday 9th August 2020 at 11.15am via Zoom. Please send reports to the parish office ASAP.

We will be seeking nominations for 4 Parish Councillors and 2 wardens. Forms will need to be completed by everyone who wishes to be on the parish electoral roll. If you wish to have a form printed for you, please advise Lisa. Forms may be returned to the letterbox at the front of the Rectory on Humffray St South (number 5).

YEARS MIND

Edna James, Albert Smith, Emma Horne, Maria Colbourne, Mr Constable (2) Essie Riegelhuth, Kevin Barnette, William Trenker (3) John King, Mary Dunn (4) Linda Loudon, Jenny Nash, Louise Richards, Stanley Warwick, John Sharman, Terry Oliver (5) Edna Dobbin, Francis Downing, Frank Leeman, Francis Dowsing, Frederick Reiffel (6) Daisy Gaumston, Arthur Richardson, Shirley Heulev, Eric Moy, Natalie Williams, Lillian Attrill, Thomas Mann (7) Gladys Davies, Ester Sternberg, Ted Rowe, Lily Rowe, Selina Wallace, Laurence Wilson (8)



BIRTHDAYS AUGUST 2020

1st Isabel Schneider
9th Margaret Nankervis
11th Denise Lay

12th Peg Walker
14th Dorothy Linsdell
28th Rohan Stewart

GIVING ENVELOPES

For those of you who want new giving envelopes we have some sets available. My apologies for the delay but this caught me off-guard and we now have some ready to go. Could you please email me at markndee@ncable.net.au or call me on 0488 333 481 and I will put a set aside for you. We will also work out how to get them to you. Thank you, Mark Stewart, treasurer.

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 ph 0438 362 589

Organist: Ken Turner

Wardens:

Bryan Crebbin ph 0414 786 762

Mark Stewart ph 0488 333 481

Heather Clinton ph 0402 262 779

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: stpaulsbalarat@hotmail.com

www.stpaulsbakeryhill.org.au