

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope"

Welcome to Church

Sentence for Today

The Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Revelation 7.17.



For those who have children with them, there is a children's corner in the church for the little ones. During school term, children who are pre-school age and above can attend 'Godzone' - Special Children's Activities - shortly after we begin the 9.30am service.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Before each service we enter a time of silence as we prepare ourselves for worship.

Entrance hymn: TiS 111 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation; O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation. Come all who hear, brothers and sisters draw near,

praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord who in all things is wondrously reigning and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining: have you not seen all that is needed has been sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work and defend us; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us: ponder anew what the Almighty can do as with his love he befriends us.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him. Let the Amen sound from his people again: gladly for ever adore him.

Joachim Neander 1650-80 tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827-78 and others

The Easter acclamation:

Christ is risen, Alleluia! He is risen indeed, Alleluia! 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.

The Two Great Commandments:

'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 soul, 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.'

Kyries: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

The 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.

The Prayer of the Day:

Gracious God, you sent Jesus, the good shepherd, to gather us together: may we not wander from his flock, but follow wherever he leads us, listening for his voice and staying near him, until we are safely in your fold, to live with you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We continue to pray:

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and dis-ease. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord Amen

Children's talk

The ministry of the Word: The first reading: Acts 9.36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

Psalm 23 Tis 10

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie in pastures green, He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness, ev'n for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill: for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me: and in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be.

Scottish Psalter 1650

The second reading: Revelation 7.9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.

They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God,

singing,

'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honour

and power and might

be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?'

I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have

washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

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

Gradual hymn: TiS 223 "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds"

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear! It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole and calms the troubled breast; is manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary, rest.

Dear Name! the Rock on which I build, my Shield and Hiding Place, my never-failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace!

Jesus! my Shepherd, Husband, Friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King; my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, accept the praise I bring.

The Gospel reading:

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John, chapter 10 beginning at verse 22

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought; but when I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath, and may the music of Thy name refresh my soul in death.

John Newton 1725-1807 alt.

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.

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.

Preparation

Jesus said: Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11.28

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:

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the feast.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

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:

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Greeting of Peace:

Christ is risen. Alleluia! He is risen indeed. Alleluia! The peace of the risen Lord be always with you. And also with you.

Offertory hymn: TiS 647 "Comfort, comfort all my people"

Comfort, comfort all my people with the comfort of my word. Speak it tender to my people: All your sins are taken away.

Though your tears be rivers running, though your tears be an ocean full, though you cry with the hurt of living, comfort, comfort. Every valley shall be lifted, every mountain shall be low, every rough place will be smoother: comfort, comfort. *Comfort, comfort all my people....* Though your eyes see only darkness, though your eyes can see no light, though your eyes see pain and sorrow: comfort, comfort. Every night will have its morning, every pain will have an end, every burden will be lightened: comfort, comfort. *Comfort, comfort all my people......*

Robin Mann 1949-

Prayer over the gifts:

Creator God,

give us a heart for simple things, created through your goodness: love and laughter, bread and wine, tales and dreams. Fill our lives with green and growing hope, ready to share your gifts. Make us a people of justice, whose song is Allelujah and whose name breathes love. **Amen.**

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.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross,

he offered the one true sacrifice for sin, and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

And now we give you thanks that you raised him to life triumphant, and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death, the reign of sin is ended, a new day has dawned, a broken world is restored and we are made whole once more.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

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.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

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

The Risen Christ is in our midst, so with Christ we 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 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:

The gifts of God, for the people of God. 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 531 "Sent forth by God's blessing"

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from his table take leave. The Supper is ended: may now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of his teaching, our hungry souls reaching, shall blossom in action for all humankind. His grace shall incite us, his love shall unite us to work for his kingdom, his purpose to find.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face, our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing as neighbours all those of each race. One feast that has feed us, one light that has led us, unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living, with praise and thanksgiving give honour to Christ and his name that we bear.

OmerWestendorff 1916-alt.

Prayer after Communion:

Eternal God, giver of life, in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord. May we who celebrate this holy feast walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation. **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:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you what is pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Final Hymn: **TiS 446** *"Glorious things of you are spoken"*

Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God; he whose word cannot be broken formed you for his own abode: on the rock of ages founded, what can shake your sure repose? with salvation's walls surrounded you may smile at all your foes.

See, the streams of living waters springing from eternal love! well supply your sons and daughters and all fear of want remove: who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage? grace, which like the Lord the giver never fails from age to age.

Blest inhabitants of Zion, washed in their Redeemers blood: Jesus, whom their souls rely on, makes them kings and priests of God. For his love his people raises, over self to reign as kings, and as priests, his solemn praises each for a thank-offering brings. Saviour, since of Zion's city I through grace a member am, let the world deride or pity, I will glory in your name: fading is the worldling's pleasures, all its boasted pomp and show; solid joys and lasting treasures none but Zion's children know.

Dismissal

John Newton 1725-1807 alt.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia**!

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WELCOME TO CHURCH... We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today, please take Communion, whatever your denomination and 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 and do stay for a cuppa and chat!

NOTICES

Fr Anthony returns from leave on Thursday, 12th May. Until he returns, please contact one of the Wardens - Ron McKenzie, Sue Tregear or Joanne Waite if you need assistance or for any emergencies.

Mother's Day raffle: <u>Today is the day!</u> The raffle will be drawn after the 9:30am service. Thank you for all your support. Chellam.

Film night: Thanks to Peter for organising this great night out.

Footy Tipping 2022. A tougher round to tip in Round 7 than the previous week - the average dropped to 5.4 with nine tippers getting 6 and just three tippers (Chloe Bedlow, Ron McKenzie and the combined team of Bruce and Pauline Tudball) topping the table with 7 correct tips.

Christine Youings' (45) lead is still one, ahead of Choe Bedlow (44) and then Heath McKenzie and Jon Youings (43) followed by the trio of Louise Godden, Barrie Harding and Russell Mills (42) with another eight tipsters with at least 40. Just four rounds to go for half-season champion.

For those counting, the wives are still winning 2 to 1, but the husbands have fought back to have two couples now tied.

Ascension Day: This year we will celebrate Ascension Day on Sunday 29th May with a combined 9:30am service followed by morning tea.

News and views on faith from Australia and around the world brought to you by *The Melbourne Anglican*. The NewsStand is now live on *TMA*'s website, using the link http://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/newsstand

- Tony Rinaudo has helped millions, now he wants to inspire the next generation
- Christian schools running anti-trans Facebook election ads
- Video series exploring stories of faith across Australia launches
- Rare 'Wicked' bible that encourages adultery discovered in New Zealand
- 'Heinous': Explosion at Kabul mosque kills worshippers
- Church divisions in Ukraine deepen after Putin ignores Easter truce
- Deaf Episcopalian creates ministry uniting deaf worshipers around the world with hearing congregations in Texas
- What early Christian communities tell us about giving financial aid at a time of crises
- and more...

SAINTS AND HOLY MEN AND WOMEN FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday MATTHIAS, APOSTLE AND MARTYR

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wednesday:

Acts 12.13.5 Psalm 67 John 12.44-50 Next Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11.1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21.1-6 John 13.31-35

WE THANK GOD FOR HIS MANY BLESSINGS, LET US PRAY EACH DAY FOR: THE CHURCH

THE CHURCH

Sun 8 Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda; The Diocese of Tasmania (Bp Richard Condie, Missioner Bp Chris Jones, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of Essendon (Vanessa Bennett); St Augustine's Mentone (Ben Soderlund, Jonathan Chaintrier); 18th Session of General Synod (Abp Philip Freier); St Agnes' Glen Huntly - Pastoral Visit (Bp Brad Billings).

Mon 9 The Diocese of The Murray (Bp Keith Dalby, Clergy & People); Janet Clarke Hall (Damian Powell, Principal); St Matthias Mernda (Craig Ogden, Sandy Solomon). *Tues 10* The Diocese of The Northern Territory (Bp Greg Anderson, Clergy & People); Anglicare Victoria (Paul McDonald, CEO); Merri Creek (Peter Carolane, Robert Miller, Rebecca Miller, James Hale).

Wed 11 The Diocese of Wangaratta (Bp Clarence Bester, Clergy & People); Anglican Overseas Aid (Jo Knight, CEO); All Saints' Mitcham (Greg Wong).

Thurs 12 The Diocese of Willochra (Bp John Stead, Clergy & People); Angliss Health Services;

St George's Monbulk (Simon Elliot);

Fri 13 Anglicare Australia (Bp Chris Jones, Chair; Kasy Chambers, Exec Director); Korowa Anglican Girls' School (Helen Carmody, Principal; Kirsten Winkett, Chaplain); St Thomas' Moonee Ponds (Vanessa Bennett).

Sat 14 Theological Colleges, Church Schools & Church Kindergartens; Authorised Stipendiary Lay-Ministers; St David's Moorabbin (Michelle Wang).

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Families, healthcare & emergency workers in these continuing uncertain and unsettling times.

THE WORLD

Containment of the coronavirus pandemic, those suffering and the medical staff. A compassionate outcome for all Asylum Seekers. For our Pacific neighbours in Tonga. A peaceful outcome in Eastern Europe.

THE ASCENSION COMMUNITY

Each other and God's presence in the events of the week Those in special need of prayer: *Helen Daniels, Estelle Carman (and daughter Sue), Jean* & Alan Close (and daughter Sally), Carole, Pauline Le Riche (Kym's sister), Glenys Howell, Barbara Stark, Lyle Mansfield, Julie Munday, Stanley & Rose Joseph, Marie Cleaver (Judithe's friend), Geoffrey (Josh's father), Gwen McMahon, David Wood, Fanny (Aggie's sister), Joy (Jan Wheeler's sister), Dave Ritchie (and Joy), Kaye Smith, Graeme Harding (Barrie's brother), Shirley and Alan Wagner, Pat Ludwick, Sue (Valsa's friend), Nelson, Dolores (Cath's cousin) and others known to us.

Those at the Peter James Centre and Burwood Lodge Those working in Health and Aged Care settings

Ourselves - as we stay connected through the power of the Holy Spirit in love and prayer

During the course of the day, I frequently ask the Lord to give me wisdom to use the knowledge that I have and to give me perspective and understanding, particularly when difficult situations arise.

"Think Big" by Ben Carson

ROSTERS:	8:00am	<u>9:30am</u>
Welcomers	Sue Tregear	Pat Ludwick & Ros Smith
Reader	Sue Tregear	Daniel Waite
Servers	Sue Tregear	Christine Youings
Liturgical Assistant		Joanne Waite
Intercessions	Fr Walter	Trevor Smith
Godzone		Natalie Ortlieb & Kym Le Riche
Music		Dawn Joseph
Morning Tea		Joy Ritchie & Pat Eadon
Flowers	Judithe Atkinson	
Sacristan	Sue Tregear	
Printing	Barrie Harding	
Cleaning	Peter & Anne Wharton	



378 Blackburn Road, Burwood East, 3151

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation. We pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

PRIEST in CHARGE: Fr. Anthony Frost Phone: 0409 012 543

OFFICE MANAGER: Ron McKenzie Phone: 0418 320 301

PARISH WEB ADDRESS: www.ascensionchurch.org.au

FACEBOOK Please visit and

www.facebook.com/AscensionBurwoodEast

Email: office@ascensionchurch.org.au

Pastoral Care contact: Fr Anthony

Pew sheet: Please send all items for inclusion in next week's pewsheet to Ron McKenzie by 5:00p.m. Thursday evening (<u>r.mckenzie@novatechsolutions.com.au</u>.)

Baptism, Marriage & funerals by arrangement

Weekly services

Sunday	8:00am Eucharist	
	9:30am Eucharist	
	'Godzone' children's program during 9.30 am service (during school term)	
Tuesday	Fr Anthony's day of rest!	
Wednesday	10:00am Eucharist	
Friday	10:00am – Noon. Drop-in for coffee and chat.	

<u>Commitment to Child Safety:</u> 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.

In ministry to children, young people and vulnerable adults we are committed to providing an environment that is physically, emotionally and spiritually safe and supportive.

We have a zero tolerance approach to Child abuse or abuse of vulnerable people.

This includes a culture of child-safety and of inclusivity for people of cultural and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background, people with disability or any other specific group.

Read the full **Commitment to Child Safety** document on our website: www.ascensionchurch.org.au