



The Diocese of Wangaratta
The Anglican Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
11th May 2014
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Good Shepherd Sunday

Hymns: 477, 393, 411, 595



Introit Hymn

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace

The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book

SENTENCE

'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.' *John 10.11*

THE COLLECT

God of all power, you called from death our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep: send us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the injured, and to feed one another with understanding; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 2.42-47

A reading from the book of Acts

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23

Response: The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Response

Geoff Nobes

cf. v. 1 The Lord is my shep-herd, there is no-thing I shall want.



The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

He shall refresh my soul

and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake./R

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me./R

You spread a table before me

in the presence of those who trouble me;

you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full./R

Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever./R

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2.1-10

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, the living Stone – rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him – you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: ‘See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.’ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, ‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,’ and, ‘A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.’ They stumble because they disobey the message – which is also what they were destined for. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus says, I am | the good shepherd.

I know my own and my | own know me.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 10.1-10

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

‘Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will

never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognise a stranger's voice.' Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them. Therefore Jesus said again, 'Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd of your people, you call us to follow where you lead; give us ears to hear and know your voice, and give us the courage and strength to lay down our lives for one another, as even you laid down your life for us. We give thanks for all who have mothered us and showered us with love as we remember our mothers this day.

God of love; **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, you have blessed us with green pastures and still waters-places in your world where we find rest and renewal; we pray for those who live in desolate places, where food and water are scarce; where disease and trauma suck the goodness out of life; where violence and deprivation destroys and blackens souls and spirits; for the people of South Sudan, Syria, Somalia, Ukraine, Thailand and South Korea.

God of love; **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, hear our prayers for your church; for all who have lost their way and strayed from your path; for those seduced by other voices, for all who are shepherds to your flock, pastors and chaplains; for our Bishop John and our parish that we may tread the path that leads to abundant life and draw all to your way.

God of love; **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, hear our prayer for our country and those tasked with governing; for our parliamentarians that we may share with justice the resources of this land; for those seeking refuge and asylum and those in detention; for the very old and the very young and those unable to care for themselves; for the unemployed and those who can not provide for their families, open our hearts to be shepherd to others with loving generosity.

God of love; **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, even when wolves attack, you never leave your loved ones; even in the valley of the shadow of death, you are present; be with those who abuse others and those who suffer abuse at the hands of others; may they know comfort in their distress; we pray for the sick and the suffering of body and mind' for the dying and those who mourn lost loved ones; comfort us all on each dark and stony path, that in your presence we may not be afraid. We pray for those in need, especially those known to us and those who have requested prayer...

Request for prayer from: *Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Lyn Ryan, Alex Impols, May McCormack, Dawn McCormack, Carol Boase, Cathy Moseley, Seth Gunter, David Parsons, Cliff & Gwen Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Adrian Walsh, Tom Scrivens, Dianne Mitsakis, Bruce Mitchell, Evette, Mark Bennetts, Suresh Jain, Barry Watts, Roland Nicholson and Monica Nicholson.....*

God of love; **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, you are our salvation and you open the gate to eternal life; grant all who have died a dwelling place in your house forever, for the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord, **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

God of love; **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through valleys of death to places of plenteousness; hear us as we pray for ourselves guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, were we celebrate with you forever.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who taught us to pray: **Our Father [pg. 124]**

Year's mind: Today we remember before God those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: 11th Elvie Walker, Brianna Hodges, Bill Beckinsale; 13th Alisha Becker; 14th Milton McLoughlin (priest), Kenneth Chapman; 15th Bill Goulthorpe, Olgly Zechovsky; 16th Joan Wright; 17th Geoffrey Levett, Edward Skane.

Offertory Hymn

Post Communion Sentence

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Reflections on the Readings

The Lectionary readings this week offers a wonderful and rich connection of ideas. In this season of the resurrection, the life of Christ is still uppermost in our minds, and Jesus' promise that he has come to give life is at the heart of such reflections. The rest of the Gospel, though, and the other readings, all reflect on how life is lived when the care and compassion of God direct us. In the Acts reading we are given a glimpse at the true community of the first disciples and their care for one another. In Psalm 23 we are reminded of God's care and attention toward God's people. In Peter's letter, written to those who are being persecuted for Christ's sake, there is the assurance that their suffering is not meaningless, and that it is a sharing in Christ's sacrifice, even as God watches over them. Finally, in John's Gospel, Jesus, in speaking about his life, warns about those who pretend to care for 'the sheep' but don't. In a confusing contrast he is both the Shepherd who does care, and the gate through which the true Shepherd enters to call the sheep, and through which the sheep pass in order to find pasture and life. While it is not the purpose of this short reflection to unravel all of these metaphors, the essential message is clear – the life of Jesus is given and received by mutual care, compassion and protection. The resurrection does not offer some individualised, blissful life. Rather, it calls us into a life that is shared with others who follow Christ, to whom we belong and for whom we are responsible, even as they as are called to care for us. It is only together – in community – that Christ's life can be known and enjoyed. Like the early believers we are called to share all things, to 'do life' together, and to endure whatever persecution or hardship we may face with the same grace and forgiveness that Christ demonstrated. And unlike the false shepherds, who care nothing for the sheep, we are both the sheep who enjoy God's care, and the 'shepherds' or 'gatekeepers' who care for the sheep and help them to find life-giving pasture. What this interconnected experience of life means, is that we can no longer ignore what happens on the other side of the world. We are connected with the poor, the sick, the refugee and the oppressed; we are called to expose the thieves who break in and steal personhood and livelihoods through corruption and dehumanising practices. As followers of Christ, we can use our love and compassion to change the world so that the most vulnerable people are no longer abused, but are cared for and provided for by people who truly seek their best, and who seek a better world in which all are secure, all are provided for and all are included in the community of humanity.

Adapted from John van de Laar (2014). © Sacredise - www.sacredise.com

Notices

Parish BBQ - scheduled for today has been cancelled. Next BBQ Sunday 8th June.

Diocesan Synod sits Friday 16th - Saturday 17th May- Wangaratta

Emergency Appeal for South Sudan - The ongoing disaster in South Sudan has fallen off the front page but nevertheless is ongoing and worsening. ABM is endeavouring to raise \$50,000 to assist the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan in providing food, shelter and medical support to thousands of displaced persons. Bishop John urges our prayers and financial support for the people of South Sudan and the Episcopal Church in that region. Donations can be by way of retiring collection for the Easter season and by direct donation - information sheets on the notice board.

Direct Debit Offerings - Parish Account details: CBA Account Name 'Kilmore Anglican Parish'. BSB 063-698. Account Number 1018 4649.

Parish Diary

1st Wed of the month: Building and Maintenance Committee Meeting 7.30pm
(venue TBA)

2nd Sun of the month: Parish BBQ - 12.30pm. See Notices for details

3rd Tues of the month: St Matthew's Friendship Group. Gavan Hall 1.30pm
contact Edie Simpson ph. 5784 1246 for details.

3rd Wed of the month: Parish Council Meeting, 7.30 pm venue TBA

4th Thurs of month: Christ Church Friendship Group 7.30pm contact Beris
Hannam ph. 5723 9737 for program details

4th Sunday of month: Church 4 Kids 5-6.30pm @ Christ Church

Parish life this week

Second week of May

Wednesday 14th **[Matthias]** 10.00am Eucharist Christ Church, Seymour

Thursday 15th 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews
10.30am Eucharist Willowmeade
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Friday 16th 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop Church House
3.00pm - 9.00pm Synod - Wangaratta

Saturday 17th 10.00am - 12.30pm Op Shop Church House
8.00am - 7.00pm Synod - Wangaratta

Next Sunday: 18th May 2014 – Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 7.55-60; Ps 31.1-5, 17-18; 1 Peter 2.11-25; John 14.1-14

Christ Church	9am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	Holy Eucharist & Baptism
St Stephens	11am	Morning Prayer
Transfiguration	4pm	Holy Eucharist

Parish Clergy:

Rector Fr Kim Benton 9 Union Street Kilmore 3764 Ph 5782 1155
m 0407569343; kim@revkim.org

Priest (PTO) Fr John Young 9/40 Powlett St Broadford 3658 Ph 5784 2224

PO Box 289 Kilmore 3764

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