



The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta
The Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook

28th December 2014
First Sunday after Christmas

HYMNS: 293, 217, 316, 324 [Tune 515ii]

*Welcome to any guests to our worship
please stay and enjoy hospitality with us after the service.*



Painting from the Menologion of Basil II (c. 1000 AD)

Introit hymn

Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

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

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.

Luke 2.30–32

THE COLLECT

Saving God, whose Son Jesus was presented in the temple and was acclaimed the glory of Israel and the light of the nations: grant that in him we may be presented to you and in the world may reflect his glory; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61.10 - 62.3

A reading from the book of Isaiah

I delight greatly in the Lord ; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the soil makes the young plant come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow. You will be a crown of splendour in the Lord 's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RSPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 148

Response: Above the heavens your majesty be praised.

Keith Duke

Response

cf. v. 2

A - bove the hea - vens your ma - jes - ty be praised.



Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.
Praise him, all you his angels;
praise him, all his host./R

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you stars of light.
Praise him, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens./R

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.
He made them fast for ever and ever;
he gave them a law which shall not pass away./R

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and mist,
tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;/R

Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
Wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and birds on the wing;/R

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
Young men and women,
old and young together;
let them praise the name of the Lord./R

For his name only is exalted,
his splendour above earth and heaven.
He has raised up the horn of his people
and praise for all his faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near him./R

SECOND READING

Romans 16.25-27

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians

Paul writes, 'When the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the peace of Christ rule | in your hearts,
and let the word of Christ dwell | in you richly.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 2.22-40

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Heavenly Father, we hear you say, 'Pause, my children, in this space between Christmas parties, and those of the New Year, between gift unwrapping and cleaning up, between longing and thanksgiving, between endings and beginnings, between dismay and joy, between disappointment and contentment, between Sacred and the ordinary; pause and remember, Whose you are, and will always be; pause and remember in Whose name you pray; pause and remember Whose love you seek and hold and give away.'

And so we pause and pray that all may see the world with the eyes of wonder of the newborn Christ, with the love of your act of self-giving, with the promise of redemption and justice for all; that we may treat one another with the honor and adoration Mary and Joseph, shepherds and wise ones, angels and all the heavenly choir showed to the tiny child.

Lord of all hope we pause: **and hear our prayer.**

Holy and incarnate One, at whose unexpected touch the ordinary world is charged with your glory: we pause and pray for those whose hardship is overwhelming; for those who are lost and cannot find you; for those who live in poverty, anxiety, and hunger; those whose lives are fearful or lonely; who are exploited, exhausted or suffering; for all in your world facing the evil of despots and terrorists; for refugees and all who are dispossessed; let your light burst into their darkness.

Lord of all hope we pause: **and hear our prayer.**

Holy Word made flesh and now dwells among us; we pause and pray for your church seeking to shine your light of salvation; may all who minister realise the faithfulness of Simeon and Anna; for John our Bishop and our parish, that all may know of your love made manifest in the Christ Child.

Lord of all hope we pause: **and hear our prayer.**

Holy child of Bethlehem, we pause and pray for those who have begun to find you, and are overwhelmed; for whom the risk of healing is too painful; who are afraid of your embrace and fear your energetic power to reconstitute the world; may they have the courage of the Magi, and know the joy of the shepherds at your most holy birth.

Lord of all hope we pause: **and hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, source of new life, we pause and pray for all who are sick, who are weighed down with grief, for all living with pain, for those on our hearts and those who have requested prayer;

Request for prayer from: *Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Alex Impols, Cathy Moseley, & Melissa & family, Seth Gunther, Cliff & Gwen Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Tom Scrivens, Dianne Mitsakis, Gavin Linard, Rose & Paige Linard, and Anna & Keith Linard, Mark Bennetts, Barry Watts, Lidia, Katie, Abraham & Anne Formosa, Franca Caia....*

may they know your deep and abiding presence in their lives and situations; we give thanks for healing blessings where ever received.

Lord of all hope we pause: **and hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, the birth of your Son brought new life to a broken world, and made real the promises of eternal life with you; we commend to you the recently departed and those years mind;

Year's mind: *28th John Dixon; 30th Derrick Davies, Willima Sherwood; 31st Edie Hannan, Veer Robinette, Lewis Nyman, priest; Jan 2nd Leonard Lang; 3rd Kathleen Smith.* Rest eternal grant to them O Lord, **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Lord of all hope we pause: **and hear our prayer.**

God of glory, you have given us a new name and robed us in salvation, hear us as we pause and pray for ourselves.....; may we like Anna find our home in your presence, and like Simeon recognize Jesus as the Christ, so that, in joy and thanksgiving at your coming amongst us, we may join with all creation to sing your praise.

God of all hope and joy, hear us as we pray as our Lord has taught us; **Our Father in heaven.... [pg 124].**

Post communion prayer

Lord God, you draw us by your beauty and transform us by your holiness; let our worship echo all creation's praise and declare your glory to the nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reflections on the Readings

Although we are still celebrating the wonder of Christmas, the focus this week is on the presentation of Jesus in the Temple. All the readings reflect God's desire to make God's self known to humanity, to bring salvation to women and men, and to bring us into relationship with God. Isaiah's prophecy speaks of Israel being saved, filled with justice and ablaze with God's glory – God revealed through God's people. Psalm 148 invites the whole of creation to join in praise of God both because God is the Creator and because of the way God has saved God's people. The letter to the Galatians offers a succinct description of how Jesus both revealed God and, by giving us God's Spirit, brought us into relationship with God. Finally, Simeon's prophecy over the baby reveals how Jesus is God's agent to do the work of revelation and salvation-bringing, while also predicting the sacrifice that this will require. Anna, of course, verified Simeon's recognition of Jesus as God's Sent One. A significant feature in the readings is that God chose to be embodied in humanity in order to bring salvation to us. The dedication of Jesus is a moment of revelation of both his divinity (as the revelation of God and the bringer of salvation) and his humanity as he goes through the same ritual of dedication that any other Jewish male child would have done. One other important feature of this week's Gospel is that

Jesus, in revealing God, will also reveal the true state of our hearts for better or worse. So, this moment is both a revelation of God and of ourselves. The question is whether we will accept what Christ reveals and how we will respond to it.

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

Notices

Thank you to everyone for contributing to the wonderful Christmas celebrations, for all who prepared food, cleaned and polished, sang and assisted with children and for all who came to celebrate the festival.

Christ Church Rosters are available for collection in the narthex.

Note weekday services for St Matthews are suspended until February.

****Fr Kim will take leave** from Monday 5th January to 6th February 2015. Fr John Young will be locum during this time.

Parish life this week

Fifth week of December – *It's holiday time!*

Monday 29th *[Thomas Becket abp Canterbury martyr (d. 1170).]*
 Tuesday 30th *[Josephine Butler, social reformer (d. 1905)]*
 Wednesday 31st *[John Wyclif, teacher and reformer (d. 1384)]*
 Thursday Jan 1st **[The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus]**
 10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade
 9.00pm New Year Vigil Mass Nagambie
 Friday 2nd *[Basil of Caesarea (d.379) & Gregory of Nazianzus (d. 389); Eliza Hassell missionary Middle East (d.1917)]*
 10.00am – 4.00 pm Op Shop Church House
 Saturday 3rd 10.00am – 12,00pm Op Shop Church House

SERVICES		
Next Sunday: 4th January 2015 – The Epiphany of our Lord		
Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72,1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12		
Christ Church	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Transfiguration	4.00pm	No services during January

Parish Clergy:

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Like us on



*Wishing you all a very happy and
prosperous New Year and
safe and refreshing holidays.*