



The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta

The Parish of Kilmore

with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook

8th February 2015

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

HYMNS: 245, 223 [Tune 485], 638, 598

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



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

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles. *Isaiah 40.31*

THE COLLECT

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40.21-31

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. ‘To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?’ says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, ‘My way is hidden from the Lord ; my cause is disregarded by my God?’ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 147. 1-11

Response: Sing praise to the Lord, O Jerusalem.

Response

v. 13 Sing praise to the Lord, O Je - ru - sa - lem.



Praise the Lord! Because it is good to sing praise to our God!
Because it is a pleasure to make beautiful praise!
The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem, gathering up Israel's exiles.
God heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds./R

God counts the stars by number, giving each one a name.
Our Lord is great and so strong!
God's knowledge can't be grasped!
The Lord helps the poor,
but throws the wicked down on the dirt!/R

Sing to the Lord with thanks;
sing praises to our God with a lyre!
God covers the skies with clouds;
God makes rain for the earth;
God makes the mountains sprout green grass.
God gives food to the animals—
even to the baby ravens when they cry out./R

God doesn't prize the strength of a horse;
God doesn't treasure the legs of a runner.
No. The Lord treasures the people who honour him,
the people who wait for his faithful love./R

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3. 1-12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Paul writes, 'For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel. Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The servant of God took | our infirmities
and bore | our diseases

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 1. 29-39

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

As soon as Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Lord Jesus Christ, when you walked on dusty roads or sat by glistening waters, you met people where they were. When you bent down low to touch the leper, or raised your eyes to touch Zacchaeus' heart, heaven and earth were met. And so our prayer today is that our world will know your healing touch and your forgiving heart.

God of healing touch; **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world and all who inflict torture and violence, for those traumatised by war and terror; for our country and government seeking to resolve leadership issues; for all impacted by the fires in WA; and for those disturbed by memories of Black Saturday.

God of reconciliation and peace; **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have been hurt by insincere actions, damning words, abuse and betrayal may they hear your healing voice and not withdraw from loving touch; we pray that those whose lives are filled with dark thoughts, or unimaginable fears will know your peace.

God who brings wholeness and holiness; **hear our prayer.**

We pray that we may have the courage to walk beside those close to giving up hope and where life seems to have no point; where people struggle to make ends meet and fear the debt collectors' knock.

God who walks alongside; **hear our prayer.**

We pray that children, living in sewers or tending to AIDS or Ebola-racked parents, feel the touch of a caring hand and an end to injustice and fear, that they may know dignity and relief.

God who lovingly attends; **hear our prayer.**

We pray that all who weep and mourn, or feel abandoned and unloved turn towards your voice, move towards your arms and hear the whisper of your presence in the long hours of night; may it be so to use us to be your abiding presence.

God who whispers encouragement; **hear our prayer.**

Inspire us and encourage us and all called to minister to bend down low; to embrace those for whom society has no time or patience. Raise our eyes upwards to see the struggling patient and the exhausted care giver. And where young and old stumble and fall, may we be there to offer support, that all will know your love that transcends all others.

God who raises up the fallen; **hear our prayer.**

Empower your church for its mission of proclaiming your healing love; for the work of Society of St Luke and St Raphael; for all hospices and refuges; for clergy and counsellors pastors and priests; for John our Bishop and our parish that we may through acts of careless love bring forth healing and peace.

God who leads and inspires; **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who seek sanctuary and safety, the destitute and the disgraced, the homeless and the dispossessed; for all in need, and for those who have requested prayer; *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, Mark Bennetts, Barry Watts, Lidia, Katie, Franca Cai Hilda, Jenny Curry.* We give thanks for healing and blessings received. God of unconditional love; **hear our prayer.**

God of all grace who welcomes all who seek your eternal love, we commend to you the recently departed and those years mind:

Year's mind: *9th Allie Morwood; 10th Henry Murray; 12th Joan Pate; 13th Rhoda Wilie, Sidney Bryant, Herbert Holcomb.*

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

God of eternal embrace; **hear our prayer.**

Lord our God, we rejoice that you have become near to us in Jesus your Son, hear us as we pray for ourselves; that your love may flow through us and let Jesus our Lord be our shining light of life now and for ever.

Accept our prayers in the name of the one whose light bursts forth love's radiance, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who taught us to pray... **Our Father in heaven.... [pg 124].**

Post communion prayer

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reflections on the Readings

This week the readings offer messages of great comfort and reassurance. All of the readings speak about God's compassion and grace in healing, restoring and strengthening God's people – those who wait on and honour God. In each reading there is a clear indication of the way God meets us at our point of need in order to transform and redeem us. In the famous song of Isaiah 40, God's saving power is praised and the weary exiles are reminded that God will restore and strengthen them if they will just turn to God in hope. In the Psalm, God's gracious restoration and provision for God's people, and for all of creation, is praised. In Paul's letter to the Corinthians he explains how he strives to meet every person where they are in order to bring them to Christ, becoming as they are so that he can share the Gospel with them. Finally, in one of those wonderful moments of particular care, Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law. But, then, immediately the Gospel moves to a wider focus, as Jesus heals and restores the many who come to him, and then, seeks to travel throughout Galilee to preach and heal. The amazing grace of the God who comes to us at our point of need and restores and calls us makes this week a truly celebratory one. This week, while we can celebrate that God meets us where we are and offers us healing and restoration, we must also acknowledge that we need to repent and change to become those who sacrifice ourselves – our own needs, our own desires, beliefs and agendas – in favour of the wholeness, justice and goodness of others. If we are to embody the Reign of God which Jesus preached and demonstrated we need to release our self-interest and begin to step into the shoes, and the world's of those who need to experience God's love. This will mean letting go of our need to be right, and our need to be comfortable and our need to control the world. But, it will also lead us even deeper into God's grace and love as we experience God working in us and through us even more.

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

Notices

Welcome back Fr Kim and grateful thanks to Fr John Young acting locum whilst Fr Kim was on leave.

Monthly Parish BBQ: today 12.30pm at Caroline's home (20 Chrystobel Way, Kilmore). All very welcome. BYO meat, and salads, sweets and drinks to share. (Our BBQ's are usually held on the second Sunday of each month).

Property Committee Meeting this Wednesday 11th February 7.30pm Christ Church.

Needed - walkers and drivers! The Parish is the official Yellowpages Phonebook deliverers for Kilmore. We require walkers to deliver phone books to homes and businsses in Kilmore and drivers to help carry the books in each street. Volunteers are requested from all parts of the parish. Deliveries start this week to be finished by 23rd February. Please contact Caroline (either 5782 2180, 0409 822 180 or carolineburge@carolineburge.com) as soon as possible.

Annual Reports due. Please submit reports to Caroline Burge as soon as possible.

Parish AGM – Notice is given of the AGM on Sunday 8th March 11.45am Gavan Hall, Broadford.

Lenten Faith Enhancement Group commences Friday 20th February 7.00pm

Christ Church Singers following on the gathering of singers for Christmas anyone who would like to prepare music for Easter. Please see Fr Kim or Caroline if interested.

Request for prayer list - the list is to be reviewed and names will be removed unless requests are received to keep names on the list. A person must have given consent for any name to be listed. Please inform Fr Kim or the Wardens.

St Matthew's Friendship Group recommences Tuesday 17th February

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

3rd Tues of the month: St Matthew's Friendship Group. Gavan Hall 1.30pm
fellowship & afternoon tea; 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

3rd Friday of month: Parish BBQ - 6.30pm. See Notices for details

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

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 17th February Strove Tuesday

Wednesday 18th February Ash Wednesday

Parish AGM Sunday 8th March

Parish life this week

Second week of February

Wednesday 11th 10.00am Eucharist Christ Church Seymour

7.30pm Property Committee Meeting Christ Church

Thursday 12th 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews

10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade

2.30pm Eucharist Caladenia

4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Friday 13th 10.00am – 4.00 pm Op Shop Church House

Saturday 14th [*Cyril (d.869) & Methodius, bishops (d. 885) missionaries to the Slavs*]

10.00am – 12.00pm Op Shop Church House

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 15th February 2015 – Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany [6]

2 Kings 2.1-12; Psalm 50. 1-6; 2 Corinthians 4. 3-12; Mark 9. 2-9

Christ Church	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Transfiguration	4.00pm	Holy Eucharist

Parish Clergy:

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