



The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta

The Parish of Kilmore

with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook

22nd March 2015

Fifth Sunday in Lent

HYMNS: 477, 560(i), 585, 409.

A warm welcome to any visitors please stay and enjoy hospitality after the service.



Introit hymn

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
Whose mercy endures for ever.

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace

The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book

SENTENCE

‘This is the covenant I will make with them,’ says the Lord God: ‘I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be my people.’ *Jeremiah 31.33*

THE COLLECT

Most merciful God, by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you created humanity anew. May the power of his victorious cross transform those who turn in faith to him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31.31-34

[God promises a new covenant in which God’s law is written on people’s hearts, and in which no one needs to instruct another, because all people will know God, will be forgiven by God and will automatically follow God’s ways.]

A reading from the book of Jeremiah

‘The days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,’ declares the Lord. ‘This is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time,’ declares the Lord. ‘I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbour, or say to one another, “Know the Lord,” because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,’ declares the Lord. ‘For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 119:9-16

[A celebration of God’s law that keeps a young man pure, that is valuable and precious and that is hidden in the heart, making the person who treasures it happy.]

Response: Lead me O Lord, in the path of your commandments.

Response Richard Lloyd
cf. v. 35 Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your com-mand-ments.

How shall young people cleanse their way
to keep themselves according to your word?
with my whole heart have I sought you;
O let me not go astray from your commandments./R

Your words have I hidden within my heart,
that I should not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord;
O teach me your statutes./R

With my lips have I been telling
of all the judgements of your mouth.
I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies
than in all manner of riches./R

I will meditate on your commandments
and contemplate your ways.
My delight shall be in your statutes
and I will not forget your word./R

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5.5-14

[Jesus has been appointed by God as a priest like Melchizedek. He suffered for God's people, crying out to God in his anguish, and God heard him because of his devotion and obedience. Now he is the source of salvation for all.]

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, 'You are my Son; today I have become your Father.' And he says in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, in the order of Melchizedek.' During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek. We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal Glory.

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal Glory.

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies,
it remains a | single grain;

but if it dies, it | bears much fruit.

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal Glory.

GOSPEL

John 12.20-33

[Jesus teaches that a grain of wheat must fall to the ground and die in order to produce fruit, and that those who try to save their lives will lose them, but those who give up their lives will guard them for eternal life. Then he asks whether he should pray to be delivered from his hour of suffering, but recognises that this is what he came for, and that when he is lifted up he will draw all people to himself.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. ‘Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—“Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Holy God, your son taught a way of life that cries out for justice for all; yet a way of life that leads us to embrace dying to self so that we might find a new life. In answer to your call, give us the courage to set our faces towards Jerusalem, to follow you into the embrace of death, laying down our lives in small acts of prayer, service and justice, allowing the suffering of others into our hearts, that in some small way, our expressions of love and sacrifice, may bring greater wholeness and healing into our world.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray encouragement for your church in every land in proclaiming your gospel in sacrament, deed and word; give faith and courage to all who minister in your name; for the Anglican Church of Melanesia in this time of crisis; for our Diocese and for John our Bishop; for our parish that we may spread your good news of redemption, forgiveness and love.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray healing for your broken world torn apart by poverty, despair and strife; for the peoples of the Pacific especially Vanuatu as they struggle to recover from the devastation of Cyclone Pam; and for all aid agencies seeking to respond.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for those tasked with governing that all may share with justice the resources of the land; for all recovering from adverse weather in Queensland; for our community and for all who work to bring support and assistance, especially volunteers, and all who work in the health and welfare sectors.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for the lonely and the infirmed; for those finding the going tough; for all who are sick and suffering, for the distressed and the bereaved; for the dying and those who care for them, we bring before you those known to us and those who have requested prayer;

Requests for 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, Jenny Curry, Dianne Mitsakis, Mark Bennetts, Barry Watts, Joan Hiscock.*

We give thanks for healing and blessings where ever received.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we give you thanks that in Christ you welcome your people into everlasting life; we pray for the recently departed, for *Joan O'Brien*; and for those whose year's mind occurs this week.

Year's mind: *22nd Regan Meehan; 23rd Jack Cockroft; 24th Eric Stanmore; 25th Carol Matters, Dorothy Drysdale; 26th Beatrice Lazarus, William Thomas, Ernest Hughes; 27th James Foster, Anthony Burge (priest), Herbert Haetel; 28th David Hiscock.*

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

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, you reach out to us in mercy even when we rebel against your holy call and prefer to walk our own path rather than in the way of your divine truth; hear us as we pray for ourselves; soften our hearts with the warmth of your love, so that we may know your Son alive within us, redeeming us and raising us up into your eternal presence.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Those things, good Lord, that we your servants have prayed for, **give us grace to work for; and in the purposes of your love answer our prayers and fulfil our hopes for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

Reflection on the readings

The Lectionary, in this last week of Lent, brings together some thought-provoking Scriptural teachings. In Jeremiah there is the promise of God's new covenant, in which the law is written on the heart. Psalm 119 echoes this promise, celebrating the blessings and wisdom of God's law. In the New Testament readings, the focus is on Jesus in his high-priestly role. In Hebrews, the mysterious figure of Melchizedek is used as the metaphor for Jesus' pleading and action on behalf of God's people in order to bring them salvation. Finally, in the Gospel reading we have the closest thing in John to Gethsemane and the closest thing to the transfiguration. Jesus has a moment when he considers asking to be freed from his time of suffering, but then he acknowledges that it is in his suffering that his mission is fulfilled and God is to be glorified. Then, God affirms Jesus assuring him that his work will bring glory to God. But, then the question of suffering is expanded to include followers of Jesus, who must inevitably give their lives up – like seeds falling into the ground – in order to find God's life and bear fruit for God's Reign. When we bring all of these threads together, we are faced with the surprising and disturbing challenge that God's new covenant is appropriated for us through the work of Christ as both priest and sacrifice, but also through our own willingness to lose our lives for the sake of the Gospel. This makes sense, since it is impossible to enter a new life unless we are willing to release the old one, and a new covenant cannot be written on the heart if we remain obsessed with the externals of the old covenant. The call to die in order to live may appear at first as a "works-based" theology, but to view it as such is to misunderstand what it means to die. Dying is not something we do. It is, rather, a release, a ceasing to strive and live, and a submission to the inevitable. In the same way, once we have recognised the inadequacy of the old way of being – the old "covenant" with its external law – we can do nothing other than release it, to die to it, and to submit to the coming change, the inevitable transformation from who we were to who we are to become in Christ. We cannot make this transformation happen, anymore than the seed can make itself sprout. However, we can, if we so choose, resist the death and cling to the old way. This is where Christ's example is crucial for us – as we witness Jesus' willingness to die and trust in resurrection, so we are given the grace and the faith to follow.

Adapted from John van de Laar (2015) www.sacredise.com

Financial Statement from Parish Council

at at end of February 2015

Total Income	\$9,772.89
Total Expenses	\$10,230.69
Variance	-\$457.80

NOTICES

Retiring Collection for ABM Vanuatu Emergency Fund

Church 4 Kids tonight 5pm at Christ Church, games, stories, songs, and fun activities for children 4-14 years, followed by sausage sizzle.

Palm Crosses - working group 7pm Wednesday at Christ Church

Christ Church Working Bee - 10am next Saturday 28th to prepare the church for Easter - morning tea provided.

Monthly Parish BBQ - Next BBQ will be Sunday 12 April 12.30pm at home of Robyn & Len Whitehouse, 4 Kurkurac Court, High Camp. All very welcome. BYO meat, and salads, sweets and drinks to share.

Christ Church Op Shop - Situations Vacant – An energetic person is required for the position of **Op Shop Manager** - responsibility for Op Shop operations, training provided. **Volunteers** required to assist in the Op Shop; variety of positions and times available, training provided. Please contact Fr Kim or Dianne Dixon 5782 1446 for more information.

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

Holy Week and Easter Services 2015

Monday of Holy Week 30th March 7.30am Christ Church, Holy Eucharist

7.30pm St Stephens Tallarook – Meditation on Holy Week

Tuesday of Holy Week 31st March 7.30am Christ Church, Holy Eucharist

7.30pm St Matthews Broadford – Meditation on Holy Week

Wednesday of Holy Week 1st April 7.30am Christ Church, Holy Eucharist

7.30pm Christ Church, Kilmore – Meditation on Holy Week

Maundy Thursday 2nd April 7.30am Christ Church - Holy Eucharist

10.00am St Matthews, Broadford - Holy Eucharist

7.30pm Christ Church - Maundy Thursday & foot washing liturgy

Good Friday 3rd April 9am Christ Church - Good Friday Liturgy

11am St Matthews, Broadford - Good Friday Liturgy

11am St Stephens Tallarook - Good Friday Liturgy

4pm Transfiguration - Pyalong - Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Day 5th April 7.00am Christ Church - Easter Vigil - Light New Fire

8am Christ Church - Parish Breakfast

9am Christ Church - First Mass of Easter

11am St Stephens Tallarook - Mass of Easter *combined with St Matthews folk*

4pm Transfiguration, Pyalong - Mass of Easter

Parish Diary

1st Wed	7.30pm	Property Committee Meeting	venue TBA
1st & 3rd Fri	7.00pm	Faith Enhancement Study	13 The Parade, Broadford
2nd Sun	12.30pm	Parish BBQ	See Notices for details
3rd Tues	1.30pm	St Matthew's Friendship Group	Gavan Hall Broadford
3rd Wed	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	venue TBA
4th Sun	5.00pm	Church 4 Kids	Christ Church

Parish life this week

Fourth week of March

Tuesday 24th [*Paul Couturier, ecumenist (d. 1953)*]

Wednesday 25th **[ANNUNCIATION TO THE BLESSD VIRGIN MARY]**

10.00am Eucharist Christ Church Seymour

Thursday 26th 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews Broadford

10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade

2.30pm Communion - Caladenia

3..30pm Eucharist Dianella

6.00pm Induction Alexandra

Friday 27th 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop, Church House

Saturday 28th 10.00am- 12.00pm Op Shop, Church House

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 29th March 2015 – Sixth Sunday in Lent – PALM SUNDAY

Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 118.1-2, 19-29; Philippians 2.5-11; Mark 11. 1-11

Christ Church	9.00am	Procession of the Palms - Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11.00am	Procession of the Palms - Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11.00am	Combined with St Matthew's Broadford
Transfiguration	4.00pm	No service this day

Parish Clergy:

Rector Revd Dr Kim Benton 9 Union Street Kilmore 3764 Ph 5782 1155
m 0407569343; rector@anglicankilmore.org.au

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

P O Box 289 Kilmore 3764

Visit our website www.anglicankilmore.org.au and our Facebook page