



The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta

The Parish of Kilmore

with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook

10th May 2015

Sixth Sunday of Easter



HYMNS: Pew sheet [Tune 233], 552, 587 [Tune 620], 595

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



Introit Hymn from the red Hymn Book

Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

We are the body of the risen 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

Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.' *John 15.16*

THE COLLECT

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 10. 44-48

[As Peter preaches to the Gentile believers in Cornelius' house, the Holy Spirit comes on them and they begin to speak with other tongues. Peter then baptises them confirming that God's salvation is for the Gentiles as well as for the Jews.]

A reading from the book of Acts

While Peter was speaking with the Gentiles and Cornelius the centurion at Caesarea, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, 'Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptised with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.' So he ordered that they be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 98

[An exhortation to all creation to praise God for the wonderful works God has done, revealing God's righteousness to all nations and bringing God's justice into the world among all people.]

Response: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of God.

Andrew Wright

Response

v. 4b All the ends of the earth have seen the sal - va - tion of God.



Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His own right hand and his holy arm
have won for him the victory./R

The Lord has made known his salvation;
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness
towards the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God./R

Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth;
break into singing and make music.
Make music to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the voice of melody./R

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
sound praises before the Lord, the King.
Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,
the world and all that dwell upon it./R

Let the rivers clap their hands
and let the hills ring out together before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity./R

SECOND READING

1 John 5.1-12

[When we love God and keep God's commandments, we love God's children. It is by this love that we know that we are born of God, and it is this faith that overcomes the world.]

A reading from the first letter of John

John writes, 'Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. This is the one who came by water and blood – Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15.9-17

[Jesus calls his followers to love one another just as he has loved them. There is no greater than to lay down one's life, as Jesus does, for one's friends. Through this obedience to Jesus' command to love we bear fruit that lasts.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

God who loves may these prayers we offer be also a renewing of our contract to love one another even as Jesus has loved us; inspire and encourage us in this endeavour so that we too may receive the joy of loving.

God of love, **hear our prayer.**

God who loves we pray for the flowering of reconciliation amongst the nations and the end of bitterness and violence in its many forms; bless all peacemakers: those who negotiate between nations, or arbitrate within commerce and industry, adjudicate in family courts, defuse tensions in school grounds, and mediate and counsel all in conflict; we give thanks for all those who mother us in so many ways.

God of love, **hear our prayer.**

God who loves, we pray for the church, for all denominations large or small, that we may love one another in practice as well as in prayer; bless all joint initiatives in worship, fellowship and service to the community; for our Bishop John and our parish, may the world know that there is a grace at work in us which is not our doing but a gift from a Lover who outstrips all other.

God of love, **hear our prayer.**

God who loves we pray for effective and compassionate care of all who are diseased, maimed, or severely disabled, including ailing members of this congregation; bless all who work in clinics and hospitals, nursing homes and hospices, and for all who in care show forth your love.

God of love, **hear our prayer.**

God who loves we pray for the feeding of the hungry, the clothing of the destitute, the housing of the homeless, the reformation of prisoners, and the rehabilitation of those addicted to drugs; bless every agency, church or government dedicated to the care of the disadvantaged; we pray for all recovering from natural disasters especially from the earthquake in Nepal.

God of love, **hear our prayer.**

God who loves be with those who suffer, mourn, grieve, or fight to overcome pain and distress; for all in need for 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, Barbara Kaye, Matthew Parker, Darron & Silva, Sarah.*

We give thanks for healing and blessings where ever received.

God of love, **hear our prayer.**

God who loves you welcome all in your love and offer a place at your heavenly banquet; we pray for the recently departed; for John Burgess, and those whose years mind occurs at this time.

Year's mind: *10th Rodney Heppell; 11th Elvie Walker, Brianna Hodges, Bill Beckingsale; 13th Alisha Becker, Milton McLoughlan (priest), Kenneth Chapman; 15th Bill Goulthorpe, Olgy Zechovsky; 16th Joan Wright.*

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

God of love, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, long ago, faithful men and women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever; hear us as we pray for ourselves.....; teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true so that your truth be proclaimed. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reflection on the readings

The theme of love continues this week, but the “one another” that we are called to love expands radically. In the Psalm all creation is called to praise God for the righteousness and justice that God brings to all people. In the Acts reading, Peter preaches to a group of Gentiles, with the result that they, too, receive the Holy Spirit, revealing that God’s love, grace and salvation is for all people, not just the Jews. With these two readings in mind, John’s letter, which calls us to love all of God’s children, becomes even more challenging because we realise that the whole creation is God’s child, and all people who inhabit God’s world are God’s children - meaning that there is no one to whom we can legitimately deny love. Finally, in the Gospel, the call to love one another must now be understood to go beyond just our companions in the faith. The “one another” whom we are called to love through sacrificial laying down of our lives, now includes all people and all creatures. The radical inclusivity of the Gospel is one of the hardest truths to embrace. In so many ways the world is easier to manage and navigate when we can easily distinguish between friend and enemy, between “us” and “them”. National and personal agendas and interest groups are easier to maintain, and the world is much simpler when we only have to love those who love us, who are like us and who are part of our group. In this view of things, we can make economic, social, military and even environmental decisions easily, because we only have to worry about ourselves and “our world”. Unfortunately, we inevitably discover the fallacy in our thinking when we see the connectedness of everything, and we begin to see that our actions have consequences for others, even as theirs do for us. Our divisions are, ultimately, illusions, and so the Gospel call to love all people is really the most common of sense. When we begin to intentionally love sacrificially, we become more mindful of how our decisions and actions and agendas impact others, and as we start seeking to live in love, the world becomes a more peaceful, loving, and co-operative place – which ultimately benefits us. If there is anything that gives a clear picture of resurrection life it’s love – and as we learn to love sacrificially, as Jesus did, we bring life to others and we enjoy a more vibrant, abundant life ourselves. The challenge, of course, is that the onus is on us, as Christ followers, to be the first to embrace Jesus’ way of love, no matter the cost, in order to prophetically reveal the power of love to the rest of creation. The moment we begin to try and exclude some people from our love, for whatever reason, we have failed to truly embrace the love of God. But, when God’s love flows through us to all – including even our “enemies” – we know the vibrant, abundant life of resurrection, and we become life-bringing agents of God’s love to the world.

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

Hymn: God is Constant Pursuing Love [Tune 233]

1. As we worship with thanksgiving,
Sense God's presence in each one;
Feel the pulse of wholesome living;
Yes! The vict'ry can be won.
Cautiously we seek God's kingdom;
We approach God's open door;
Prized and precious we are welcome;
Peace in God; we need no more.

2. God is love and love gives freedom;
Freedom from all fear and guilt.
God is love and love will blossom;
Broken lives can be rebuilt.
Punishment for past wrong-doing
In God's dealings has no place.
Love is constant, keeps pursuing;
We are bound in God's embrace.

3. God is love and love is gentle;
Love can keep no scores of wrong;
God is love and love is central
When discipleship is strong.
If the kind and good and tender
Are to happen here today,
It will issue from surrender
Of our lives to Jesus' way.

NOTICES

ABM - NEPAL EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY APPEAL - Please help ABM support the people of Nepal by donating and spreading the word. For more information visit www.abmission.org/nepal-emergency. Please pray for the earthquake victims, and all who are helping in the relief effort.

Retiring Collection will be for Nepal and donations are still welcome for the ABM Vanuatu Emergency Fund.

Monthly Parish BBQ Next Sunday - Caroline Burge, 20 Chrystobel Way has offered to host.

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

Knitters, Knitting Needles and wool required! Assumption College staff and students (on behalf of St Vincent de Paul) are knitting squares, scarves and beanies for Missions here and overseas. If you are able to knit, your help would be greatly appreciated. If you can't knit but know anyone who has 8 ply wool or 4mm (no 8) needles, then these too would be welcome. If you can help in any way, please contact Caroline for more information. Thank you.

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

Tuesday 12th	10.30am - 4pm Parish Central Goulburn Patronage Board Meeting Seymour
Thursday 14th	[ASCENSION DAY] 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews Broadford 10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade 4.00pm Eucharist Dianella
Friday 15th	7.00pm Faith Enhancement Group 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop, Church House
Saturday 16th	10.00am- 12.00pm Op Shop, Church House

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 17th May 2015 – Sunday after Ascension

Acts 1. 15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; I John 5. 9-13; John 17. 6-19

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:

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

