



The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta
The Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
17th May 2015



Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday after Ascension

HYMNS: 231, Pew sheet [Tune 361], 387, 414

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. Alleluia.

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 prayed, 'Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.' *John 17.11*

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens so that he might fill all things: mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth until the end of time; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 1.15-17, 21-26

[Peter suggests that the disciples should find a replacement for Judas, so they select two candidates and draw lots, and Matthias is added as an apostle to join the other eleven.]

A reading from the book of Acts

In Jerusalem Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) and said, 'Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.' Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.' So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. Then they prayed, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.' Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 1

[Those who love God's instruction and refuse to join in the company and works of the wicked are truly happy and bear fruit, while the wicked are ultimately destroyed.]

Response: For the Lord knows the way, the way of the righteous.

Response Keith Duke

v. 6a For the Lord knows the way, the way of the right - eous.



Blessed are they who have not walked
in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.
Their delight is in the law of the Lord
and they meditate on his law day and night./R

Like a tree planted by streams of water
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither,
whatever they do, it shall prosper.
As for the wicked, it is not so with them;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away./R

Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgement,
nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish./R

SECOND READING

1 John 5.9-13

[God has testified about Jesus that life is in him, and whoever has God's Son has life eternal, so if we believe God's testimony, we have this life.]

A reading from the first letter of John

John writes, '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. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

I will not leave you orphaned, | says the Lord.

I am com- | ing to you.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15.9-17

[Jesus prays for his followers, the ones to whom he has revealed God's name and God's word which is truth. He prays that God would keep them safe, would make them one as he and the Father are one, and would make them holy in the truth.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed; 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, open our hearts to your power moving around us and between us and within us, until your glory is revealed in our love of both friend and enemy, and our communities are transformed by justice and compassion, and in the healing of all that is broken.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, we pray for all who take counsel together on behalf of the nations, who have responsibility of leadership that they may serve with integrity and justice; we pray your peace pervade all places of conflict and war especially, Yemen, Syria, and Iraq; we pray that South-east Asian nations can work together to save hundreds of migrants abandoned in the Andaman Sea; we continue our prayer for all who flee in desperation, for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, that they may find sanctuary, and we give thanks for those countries providing safety and relief.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, grant to your Church the unity that you prayed for us; bathe the Church in the fire and light of your glory, as we strive to be made one with you, and one with each other; we pray for all who minister in your name, for all Churches and for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; for John our Bishop, and our parish; kindle in us the fire of your love, so that our lives may reflect your glory to the world and your light and life may be revealed to all people.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, we pray for our nation and community; for all those who are weak or discouraged, homeless and living in poverty and broken relationships: for those marginalised and subjected to exploitation and abuse; for all marginalised by situation or circumstance.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, we pray for those who are sick of body or mind; for those in hospital and those recovering from surgery; we pray for all who care for them especially those who wait with the dying.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, we pray for all in need; for those known to us and those who have requested our 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.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, when the fever of life is over, in your mercy grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; we pray for all who have passed through death into life eternal and union with you; for the recently departed and those years mind occurring at this time;

Year's mind: *10th Rodney Heppell; 17th Geoffrey Levett, Edward Skane; 18th Jack Baker; 19th Ethel Bullen; 21st George Badcock, Joan Glithro, Ernest Castles, Keith Smith; 23rd Ian Duncanson, Joseph Sherwood, John Mowlam.*

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

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, risen, ascended and glorified, you surround us with witnesses and send us the Counsellor; hear us as we pray for ourselves; open our minds to understand your teaching; bless us with such grace that our lives may become a blessing for the world now, and in the age to come.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our risen and ascended Lord. **Amen.**

Reflection on the readings

This last Sunday of Easter closes out the Easter season and follows the Feast of the Ascension in a strange way. Although at first glance, the readings seem to be rather disparate, a deeper examination reveals that through each of them two themes are repeated. The first is the call to holiness. In Acts, the apostles seek to complete their number again in order to continue Christ's work effectively. In Psalm 1 the righteous person is praised and revealed to be one who bears fruit and who is truly blessed. In John's letter, the holy person is shown to be one who receives God's testimony about Jesus and who receives life from Jesus. Finally, in Jesus' prayer in John 17, Jesus asks that God would keep his disciples safe and would make them holy through God's truth as found in God's word. The second theme is that of unity with God and with one another. This flows out of the call to love as we have seen over the past few weeks and it is in this love that Jesus prays for the unity of the disciples with one another even as he is one with God. In the end, these two themes merge and become one, because it is in our union with God and one another that true holiness is expressed and lived. It is in this living in holiness as a sharing of the life of Christ in unity, we discover that the quest for such holiness leads us into issues of justice. As we seek to connect and share life with others, we inevitably find ourselves seeking to address the causes of inequality and poverty, we work for power sharing and collaboration, and we recognise our connectedness, which leads us to seek the best for all people. In addition, we discover our connectedness with all life, resulting in a greater awareness of our need to care for creation. When holiness is about sharing life in community, the quest for holiness becomes inseparable from the quest for justice – the two are really synonymous. As we strive for holiness, then, we will find ourselves reaching out to one another across the lines of ideology, religion, denomination, race, nationality, education, and economic station. If there is anything our world needs today, it's people who seek to recognise and strengthen our connectedness, rather than preserve what divides us – and the holiness which is presented in the Scriptures this week is exactly the guide that will lead us to become such people.

Adapted from John van de Laar (2015)

Hymn: O Christ, When You Ascended [Tune 361]

1. O Christ, when you ascended, you took your rightful throne;
Your time on earth had ended — yet we weren't left alone.
You reign o'er earth and heaven; your Spirit guides our way.
Your prayers uphold your people; you lead your church each day.
2. We look at earthly rulers and see what they command:
We note their years of power, the borders of their land.
Yet, Lord, you are not bounded by things like time and space;
Your reign is never-ending, you rule in every place.

3. We're tempted. Lord, to leave you in stories nicely told;
Sometimes we don't believe you and say your ways are old.
Sometimes we feel so lonely and live in doubt and fear —
But your ascension means, Lord, you're present with us here.

4. It's often quite a challenge to follow in your Way;
We're easily distracted! It's hard, Lord, to obey.
Sometimes we give you Sundays — an hour, maybe two —
But your ascension means, Lord, all life belongs to you.

5. One day, O Lord, we'll know you, as we are fully known;
One day this world of sinners will bow before your throne.
One day, God's whole creation will sing and praise your name;
On earth as now in heaven, we'll celebrate your reign.

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NOTICES

Monthly Parish BBQ TODAY 12.30pm Host is Caroline Burge, 20 Chrystobel Way Kilmore.

Biggest Morning Tea 10.30am Tuesday 19th May Gavan Hall - All welcome.

Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Wednesday @ Christ Church Kilmore.

Church4Kids Next Sunday 5pm at Christ Church -Activities, stories, songs, games and BBQ for ages 4-14. All welcome. Helpers are also welcome.

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.

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 19th	<i>[Dunstan, ab of Canterbury (d. 988)]</i> 10.30am St Matthews Friendship Group Biggest Morning Tea Gavan Hall, Broadford.
Wednesday 20th	10.00am Eucharist Christ Church Seymour 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting Christ Church Kilmore
Thursday 21st	10.00am Eucharist St Matthews Broadford 10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade 11.15am Eucharist Caladenia 4.00pm Eucharist Dianella
Friday 15th	10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop, Church House
Saturday 16th	10.00am- 12.00pm Op Shop, Church House

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 24th May 2015 – DAY OF PENTECOST

Ezekiel 37.1-14; Psalm 104. 26-36; Acts 2. 1-21; John 15. 26-24, 16. 4b-15

Christ Church	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11.00am	Morning Prayer
St Stephens	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration	4.00pm	No Service this day
Christ Church	5.00pm	Church4Kids

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

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

