



The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta
The Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
24th January 2016

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Hymns: 179, 282, 468, 106

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



Introit Hymn from the red Hymn Book

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

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel. *Mk 1.15*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

THE COLLECT

Life-giving God, who sent your Son Jesus to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority: anoint us with your Spirit, that we too may bring good news to the poor, bind up the broken-hearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10

[Ezra reads the book of the law to the people. They respond in remorse, but Nehemiah encourages them to be joyful and to celebrate.]

A reading from the book of the prophet Nehemiah

The Israelites had settled in their towns, all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel. So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, 'Amen! Amen!' Then they bowed down and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep.' For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 19

[A celebration of God's word, proclaimed and revealed in creation, which makes naive people wise, which gladdens the heart, which gives light to see by, and which is a valuable treasure.]

Response: The heavens are telling the glory of God.

Gerry Fitzpatrick

Response
v. 1a The hea - vens are tell - ing the glo - ry of God.

The heavens are telling the glory of God
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
One day pours out its song to another
and one night unfolds knowledge to another.
They have neither speech nor language and their voices are not heard,
Yet their sound has gone out into all lands
and their words to the ends of the world./R

In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun,
that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber
and rejoices as a champion to run his course.
It goes forth from the end of the heavens and runs to the very end again,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat./R

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart;
The commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes./R

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey,
dripping from the honeycomb.
By them also is your servant taught
and in keeping them there is great reward./R

Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults!
Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins
lest they get dominion over me;
so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence..
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer./R

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

[Paul teaches that the Christian community is like a body with many parts. Each has a gift, and each must use their unique gift for the benefit of the "Body of Christ".]

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

Paul writes, 'Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptised by one Spirit so as to form one body – whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. And so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I don't need you!' And the head cannot say to the feet, 'I don't need you!' On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to
bring good news | to the poor,
and to proclaim release | to the captives.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

[Jesus reads from Isaiah's scroll about God's anointing for ministry, and God's liberating work through God's anointed. Then, he claims this prophecy for himself.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Gracious God, Jesus your son commenced his public ministry with the promises declared by Isaiah. He proclaims that you sent and anointed him with the Holy Spirit to bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a Jubilee, a time of favour from you our God. As we are one in the body of Christ may we affirm and celebrate one another's gifts and encourage each other in the living out of the promises of the gospel in the serving others.

God, whose mercy endures forever; **hear our prayer.**

God of all justice, your message of peace and good will is good news for all; hear our prayers for your beautiful, fragile world; for people in places despoiled by war or devastated by disaster; for all who suffer through other's incompetence and corruption, apathy and greed; we pray for the people of Iraq, Iran, Syria, Afghanistan, Mali and Central Africa; for all refugees and those seeking asylum.

God, whose mercy endures forever; **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, we hear your message of redemption and grace; hear our prayers for the worldwide church and for all who diverse gifts enriches your people; for the bishops and people of The Philippine Independent Church; for our Diocese and John our Bishop and for our parish, as we seek to proclaim your favour and blessings.

God, whose mercy endures forever; **hear our prayer.**

God of love, we pray for our nation and community that all may know the good news of acceptance and love; we pray for our leaders: federal, state and local that we may be justly governed; for those newly arrived and for our the indigenous

peoples of Australia; for all who work the land dealing with the impact of weather; for the poor and the hungry, the homeless and unemployed; we give you thanks for the blessing of children and we pray for families as they prepare for the new school year; those starting school for the first time, and those going onto High School and University; may this year be a time of excitement with new learning and adventure, and we pray they all be kept safe.

God, whose mercy endures forever; **hear our prayer.**

God of all compassion, we know of your good news of comfort and solicitude; we pray for all in trouble or distress; those recovering from abuse; those caught in the cycle of addiction; for all who experience loneliness, neglect or despair; for the sick and those dealing with chronic pain; for all in need and those on our hearts this day and those who have requested prayer:

Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Tom Scrivens, Franca Caia, Tom & Sandra Davidson, Bianca Davidson, Jenny Curry, Dianne Mitsakis, Seth Gunter, Barbara Kaye, Sarah, Lisa, Alex Impols, Elizabeth, Mark Bennetts, Penny, Belinda Shannon, the Bott Family, Bruce Scott, Susan, Jean Evans.

We give thanks for healing and blessings wherever received.

God, whose mercy endures forever; **hear our prayer.**

God of all faithfulness, we give you thanks for your faithful people in every age who have proclaimed your mercy and peace; apostles, teachers, and prophets who have witnessed to your good news; we pray for the recently departed; for *Adrian Walsh, Ernest Watson*, and for those years mind occurring at this time;

24th Joyce Wilkinson; 25th Ethel Goodman, Heather Dixon, Norman Fagg; 26th Jessie Smith; 27th Douglas Hall, Digger Forwood; 29th Walter Kirby, Pam Rhue; 30th Harold Napper.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord; **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

God, whose mercy endures forever; **hear our prayer.**

God of joy and exultation, you strengthen what is weak, you enrich the poor and give hope to those who live in fear; hear us as we pray for ourselves; make us strong as we join with you in your holy work, as friends of strangers and victims, as companions of those whom others shun, as the happiness of those whose hearts are broken, and as agents of your love and mercy.

God, whose mercy endures forever; **hear our prayer.**

Accept our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray; **Our Father in heaven [pg 124].**

Reflections on the readings

In a world that can sometimes seem so random, this week in Epiphany gives us a vision of purpose. God's purpose – God's message – taken up so courageously by Jesus was read from the book of the law by Ezra to God's people. It is proclaimed, as the Psalmist declares, through all of creation. And it was the guiding force in Jesus' life and ministry. As he began his work, he proclaimed as his mandate the words of Isaiah's prophecy – God's saving and liberating

“Jubilee” purpose. Now, as those who follow Christ, we are called, individually and together, to fulfil Christ’s purpose, in our world and in our time. To do this, God has gifted each of us, and called us to work together as one Body, as Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 12. The idea of having a sense of purpose – of calling – is one with a chequered history in the global community. Too many corrupt and tyrannical leaders have become so because they felt that they were somehow given a special purpose by God, that God was on their side, and was against their enemies. The time for this kind of “destiny” talk is over. However, the purpose of Christ, revealed in the Isaiah prophecy, is one in which God calls us all to participate. This liberating, compassionate, transforming vision is one that impacts everything we do, and is one to which we can hold our leaders accountable. As we face global economic, climatological, political and terrorism challenges, let’s allow a renewed vision of Christ, and of Christ’s purpose, to guide our social conscience and activism. This can seem daunting - to take on issues of injustice in the world - so to start local in our own community and nation. In every locale there are those who need liberation – the poor who need good news; the physically, psychologically or spiritually blind who need sight; those who are captive to their demons or situations; and those incarcerated by government policies and need to be freed. The purpose of Christ is both an invitation to life for all the broken and lost ones (including us), but also a challenge to participate in the work of liberation. This means that each of us needs to find and fulfil our place and purpose in the Body of Christ, as we work together toward Jesus’ dream of a liberated world. and let’s not forget that we are all – as individuals and communities – connected to each other, and we need each other if we are to address the crises of our time and begin to realise something of Jesus’ liberating dream in our world.

Adapted from John van de Laar (2016) www.sacredise.com

NOTICES

Monthly Parish BBQs will recommence in February. More hosts required please contact Fr Kim or Caroline to host a BBQ.

Revd Maryann Leonard’s Ordination to the Priesthood - Saturday 6th February. Bus to Wangaratta for Ordination Service will leave Christ Church at 8.30am and will stop at St Matthews and St Stephens, and will return in the afternoon after the refreshments. Cost \$15. Please put your name on the list at the back of the church. A few people have indicated to Fr Kim they would like to go please still add your name to the list.

Ordination Gift of Chasubles for Maryann - Please put any donation into a marked envelope and leave with the offering or give to Fr Kim or a Warden. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church.

Bunnings Craigieburn BBQ Sausage Sizzle Saturday 27th February - A key fundraiser and volunteers needed to assist on the day with cooking, serving and cashier; 2 hours slots available 8am - 4pm - please contact Robyn Whitehouse to reserve your slot. It is a great day and lots of fun.

Bunnings Craigieburn Cake Stall - we have been offered the opportunity to supply and run a cake stall for three hours on the same day as the Sausage Sizzle. The offer is open until Wednesday. A coordinator and people to make cakes and baked goods for the stall, and to help on the day will be needed. Please let Caroline or Robyn Whitehouse know today if you could assist.

Drivers needed to make a roster to transport Joan Hiscock to Christ Church on a Sunday. List is at the back of the Church.

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

Parish life this week

Thursday 28th 10.00am Eucharist, St Matthews
10.00am Eucharist, Willowmeade
4.00pm Eucharist, Dianella
Friday 29th 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop, Church House
Saturday 30th 10.00am - 12.30pm Op Shop, Church House

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

31st January 2016 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 1.4-10; Ps 7.1-6; I Corinthians 13.1-13; Luke 4.21-30

Christ Church	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews		No service this day combined with St Stephens
St Stephens	11.00am	Holy Eucharist combined service
Transfiguration	4.00pm	No service this day

Parish Clergy

Rector Revd Dr Kim Benton, 9 Union Street, Kilmore, 3764 Ph 5782 1155
m 0407 569 343; rector@anglicankilmore.org.au

Honorary Deacon Revd Maryann Leonard, 49 Chloe Drive, Broadford, 3658
Ph 0439 066 553; maryann.leonard@bigpond.com

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



Parishioners and visitors are advised that photographs may be taken of activities in the Parish from time to time for use on Parish website, Facebook and for publication in the Advocate. If you do not wish to be included in a photo please stand clear of the group at the time. Photos are never taken without a warning.