



The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta
The Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
17th April 2016
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Good Shepherd Sunday



HYMNS 145, 223, 647, 521

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



Christ is risen. Alleluia!

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

The Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Revelation 7.17

THE COLLECT

Loving God, we thank you for your Risen Son, Jesus, the good shepherd, who cares for your people. Open our hearts to hear his voice, to know him as he calls us by name, and to follow wherever he leads; for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 9.36-43

[Peter raises Tabitha of Joppa, which brings many people to faith.]

A reading from the book of Acts

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time she became ill and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, 'Please come at once!' Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood round him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning towards the dead woman, he said, 'Tabitha, get up.' She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 23

**For the psalm we sing Breathe in the Morning Air [Tune TiS 341 Love Unknown]
Based on Psalm 23**

1. Breathe in the morning air;
inhale its fragrance rare;
be still and trust the sacredness arising there;
who's ever near; who knows our fear;
whose presences calms each silent tear.

2. Lie down in pastures green;
rest in this sacred space;
be present to the myst'ry of this holy place;
hear singing streams; wake hopeful dreams;
see how our lives are touched by grace.

3. Walk in the way of love,
of justice and of peace;
bring caring to a world at war 'til conflicts cease;
reach out and bless with gentleness
to heal the hurt of brokenness.

4. Here in this darkest vale,
shadowed by grief and pain,
we sense a loving presence that our hearts sustain;
our fears subsides; deep calm abides;
our panic flees, and peace remains.

5. Trust in the love of God;
see goodness ever grow;
feel hope and joy and sacred love forever flow.
Through changing days, in pilgrim ways
our thankful hearts will offer praise.

Words Helen Wiltshire
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SECOND READING

Revelation 7.9-17

[The hosts of heaven praise God, and the martyrs rejoice in the God who is their Shepherd.]

A reading from the book of Revelation

John the Divine writes, 'I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.' All the angels were standing round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying: 'Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!' Then one of the elders asked me, 'These in white robes – who are they, and where did they come from?' I answered, 'Sir, you know.' And he said, 'These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, 'they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. "Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them," nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd; "he will lead them to springs of living water." "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus says, I am | the good shepherd.

I know my own and my | own know me.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 10. 22-30

[Jesus speaks of himself as the Shepherd of his followers who are the sheep he cares for, and who know his voice.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

God of comfort and compassion, through Jesus, your Son, you lead us to the water of life and table of your bounty; may we who have received the tender love of our Good Shepherd be strengthened by your grace, to hear your call and follow as did Peter and holy men and women through the ages, to bring your love and care for all your people.

Lord Jesus our shepherd; **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, hear our prayer for leaders of nations and all who govern, and all peoples suffering famine, war and disease; for refugees and those seeking asylum particularly those in Europe; bring new life to all who live in soul-destroying circumstances.

Lord Jesus our shepherd; **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of your sheep and Saviour of your flock, you search out the lost and rejoice to bring them home; hear our prayer for your Church, for clergy and people, for pastors and prophets, teachers and healers; we pray for our Bishop John and our parish, lead us that we may shepherd your people and nurture grace and faith through our worship and prayer.

Lord Jesus our shepherd; **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, you know your flock and call us each by name; hear our prayer for our community in which we live and work; for all we love and those with whom we share our lives; for the homeless, the hungry and the unwanted; for those who are in prison and those held in detention; send us to be shepherds to your lost and lonely ones.

Lord Jesus our shepherd; **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, you go with your flock on the dark and most dangerous paths; hear our prayer for those suffering grief and pain, sickness and disease, the dying and those who care for them; help us to tend the wounds of those who suffer, those on our hearts this day and those who have requested our prayer; *Chris Schafer, Karen Goodger, Jean Evans, Denise, Belinda Shannon, Jenny Curry, Barbara Kaye, Seth Gunter, Tom Scrivens, Mark Bennetts, Susan, Leonie Upton, Fr Keith Shepherd.*

We give thanks for healing and blessings wherever received.

Lord Jesus our shepherd; **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, Lamb of God, you guide your flock to the waters of eternal life; hear our prayer for those who have found their rest with you; the recently departed for *Rosa Rodgers* and those whose names occur at this time;

17th Dorothy Green, Jack Poulter; 18th Serge Akishev; 20th Ken Allen, Reginald Boyle, Marjorie Skinner, Barry Shaw; 21st Charles Thomas; 22nd Violet Routledge, Alan Winnell; 23rd Leonard Lang;

and we commend your gracious keeping those whose ashes have been recently interred in St Matthew's Garden of Remembrance; *Mary Essington Munkton OAM, Beverley Anne Meldrum OAM, & Malcolm Henry Munkton.*

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord; **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Lord Jesus our shepherd; **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we look to you as our shepherd hear us as we pray for ourselves.....; hold and protect us, nourish and love us and by your grace, bring us to share in the promise of resurrection life.

Lord Jesus our shepherd; **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God you have promised to hear our prayers, hear us as we pray as our Lord has taught us. **Our Father...[pg 124]**

Reflections on the Readings

The season of resurrection continues, and this week is brought together with the 'Shepherd' metaphor, which appears in three of the four readings as we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. There are two underlying messages: 1) In Christ life is to be found even in the face of death – from Peter's raising of Tabitha, to the Psalmists' confidence of travelling through life, through tragedy and possible death to finally dwell in God's house; to the proclamation in Revelation of the heavenly gathering of those who have died as martyrs; to Jesus' promise that his sheep receive eternal life in him. 2) The Shepherd is also a messianic, subversive, image. Where the leaders of Israel had failed to be faithful shepherds, and where the Roman Empire had slaughtered followers (sheep) of Christ, Jesus stands as the one who has died but has risen – defying the death-dealing powers that be, and winning life and security for his sheep. In the midst of all of the bad news that the world brings us of war, violence, crime, climate change, and death, the message of resurrection is both a comfort and a call to remain strong and courageous in working for a more just and peaceful world. There is also a prophetic challenging message to those in any kind of leadership, for them to be true, life-giving shepherds, and calling on us to hold them accountable, while retaining our primary allegiance to Jesus as the one true Shepherd. This means taking a role in actively working against exploitation, abuse of power, corruption, unjust laws, and structures that rob people of life. Wherever there is poverty and need, we can oppose unjust trade practices that make such poverty worse. The resurrection addresses both needs, and gives us the resources we need to engage the hurting places in our world. It befalls to us as the followers of the way of Christ to be Good Shepherds to all we encounter, in prayer, word, action and loving service.

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

Notices

Faith Enhancement Group - meets 7.30pm 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 13 The Parade. The group will recommence on 10th May, and continue *Living the Questions* series. Further information contact Fr Kim.

Diocesan Synod: Bishop John has issued the Mandate for the 3rd Session of 38th Synod on Friday 13th May 2016 at St Johns Village Hall, 138 Williams Road, Wangaratta.

Confirmation 2016 - Please contact Fr Kim for more information on confirmation later in the year. Classes to start soon.

Direct Debit Offerings: Parish Account details: CBA Account Name 'Kilmore Anglican Parish'. BSB 063-698. Account Number 1018 464

Parish Diary

2nd Sunday of month: Parish BBQ - 12.30pm. See Notices for details

2nd & 4th Tuesday: Faith Enhancement Group meets 13 The Parade Broadford.

3rd Tuesday: St Matthew's Friendship Group. Gavan Hall 1.30pm fellowship & afternoon tea; contact Edie Simpson ph.5784 1246 for details.

1st Wednesday: Property Committee Meeting 7.30pm see notices for venue

3rd Wednesday: Parish Council Meeting, 7.30 pm see Notices for venue

Parish life this week

Third week of April

Tuesday 19th 1.30pm St Matthew's Friendship Group - Gavan Hall
12.30pm Advisory Group & Bishop in Council - Wangaratta

Wednesday 20th 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting - Christ Church

Thursday 21st 10.00am Eucharist St Matthew's
10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Friday 22nd 10.00am – 4.00pm Op Shop Church House

Saturday 23rd 10.00am – 12noon Op Shop Church House

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 24th April 2016: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11.1-18; Ps 148; Revelation 21.1-16; John 13. 31-35

Christ Church	9 am	Sung Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration	4pm	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

Hon Associate Priest Revd Maryann Leonard, 49 Chloe Drive, Broadford, 3658
m 0439 066 553; associatepriest@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



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Lay Ministry Licensing

Everyone will be aware of the Royal Commissions into Sexual Abuse which have been ongoing for some time. The Diocese has implemented Professional Standards protocols for all clergy and all parishioners which were approved at the last Synod. These protocols are necessary to meet obligations now mandated by both Diocesan Statutes and Victorian State law, and have implications for clergy and people.

It is now mandatory that all persons connected with parish activities which includes duties and roles in worship, and other activities associated with the parish will need to have completed the Lay Ministry Check.

Assistance will be provide to help people complete the forms and obtain the necessary Working with Children and Police checks.

Over the next few weeks parish clergy will circulate the forms and set up the procedures for obtaining these checks. Although some parishioners have already completed forms these need to be reviewed to ensure that everyone complies.

If you have any questions or concerns contact Fr Kim.