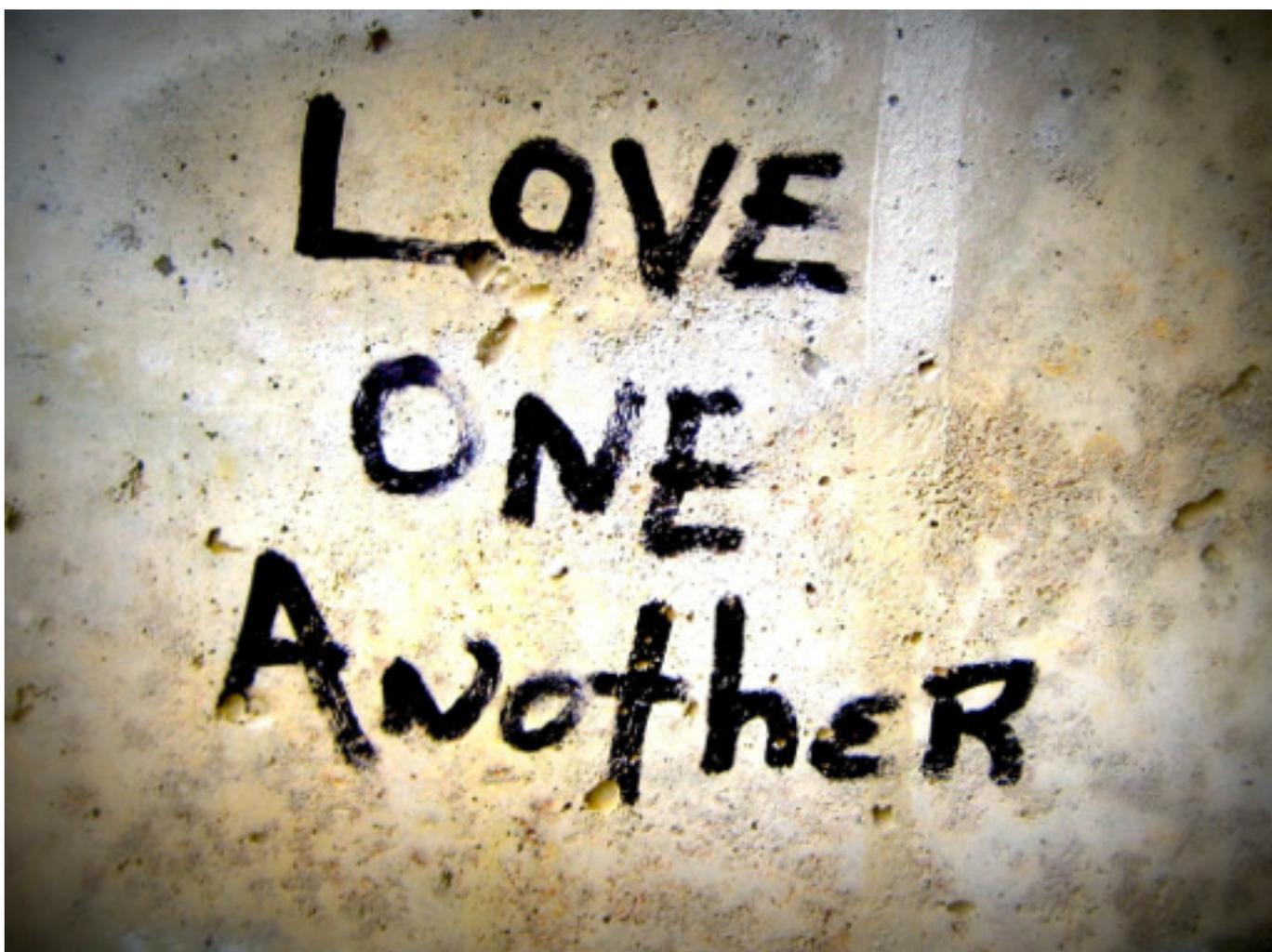


The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta
The Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
24th April 2016
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



HYMNS 141, 699, 534, 648

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

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

1 John 4.16b

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 11.1-18

[Peter explains to the believers in Jerusalem how the Holy Spirit was received by Gentiles in Caesarea.]

A reading from the book of Acts

The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticised him and said, ‘You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.’ Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story: ‘I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. Then I heard a voice telling me, “Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.” I replied, “Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.” The voice spoke from heaven a second time, “Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.” This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. ‘Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man’s house. He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, “Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.” ‘As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: “John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.” So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God’s way?’ When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, ‘So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 148

[A psalm exhorting all of creation and all peoples to praise God.]

Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens and praise him in the heights.

Colin Mawby

Response
v. 1 Praise the Lord from the hea - vens and praise him in the heights.



O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in their maker;
let the children of Zion be joyful in their king./R

Let them praise his name in the dance;
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and lyre.
For the Lord has pleasure in his people
and adorns the poor with salvation./R

Let the faithful be joyful in glory; let them rejoice in their ranks,
With the praises of God in their mouths
and a two-edged sword in their hands;
To execute vengeance on the nations
and punishment on the peoples;/R

To bind their kings in chains and their nobles with fetters of iron;
To execute on them the judgement decreed:
such honour have all his faithful servants./R

SECOND READING

Revelation 21.1-16

[John sees a vision of the New Jerusalem descending from heaven, and a voice that proclaims that God's dwelling place is now among people on earth.]

A reading from the book of Revelation

John the Divine writes, 'Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth,' for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Look! God's dwelling-place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death" or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.' He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they

will be my children. But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practise magic arts, the idolaters and all liars – they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulphur. This is the second death.’ One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, ‘Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.’ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length, and as wide and high as it is long.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Everyone will know that you are | my disciples
if you have love for | one another.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 13.31-35

[Jesus’ new commandment – to love one another.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When Judas had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, “Where I am going, you cannot come.” I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Ever-loving God, your love is eternal - born in the crucible of time flows as living water and revealed in Christ Jesus. Your love is available through him to all who believe in his name. Lord Jesus, we put our faith and our hope in you; help us show the world that we are yours by being filled with the same sacrificial love that took you to the cross.

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

Gracious God, you make all things new; we ask your blessing on our fragile world, that we may be responsible and equitable in the use of its resources. We are so richly blessed; and we pray all impacted by conflict and war; for all who seek refuge and asylum and those who lost their lives at sea; we pray for those whose lives have turned upside down due to earthquake, hurricane or flood, and we continue our prayer for the people of Japan and Ecuador as they recover from disaster.

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

As we pray for a new heaven and a new earth this day, we especially are aware of those among us and those beyond these doors who are in deep need of your peace, bless all who minister in your name; for the Philippine Independent Church; for the Church in Australia and for our Bishop and all the clergy of our Diocese; for all who exercise ministry and for our parish; may our love bring your healing touch and open our hearts to your power and the Spirit moving around us and between us and within us, so we may have the courage to love those decreed as unlovable by the world; outcasts and sinners, betrayers and tax collectors, the unclean, the impure, the despised so that your just and bounteous kingdom is proclaimed.

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

We pray for our nation; for Elizabeth our Queen as she celebrates her 90th birthday; for all tasked with governing; for honesty and integrity as we enter the election period; for all in our community who dwell in places of strife, need, and want, and for those agencies seeking to bring relief; for those in prison and all held detention.

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

We pray for those in our community who are unemployed and those fear layoff or termination, for all those struggling with a burden in the workplace and the marketplace; for homeless and the marginalised: may your love expressed in compassionate action transform our community so justice is known, love is shared, and healing of all that is broken.

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

We pray for those who are suffering of body or mind; for the lost and the lonely; the aged and the infirmed; for all who who mourn, especially those for whom ANZAC Day holds special significance; for those in hospital; for 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; Joan Grimmade, John Leonard.

We give thanks for healing and blessings wherever received.

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

Gracious God, your love extends to all; we remember and commend to your eternal presence those who lost their lives serving our country; the recently departed and those years mind occurring at this time:

24th Dudley Rogash; 25th Albert Fletcher; 28th Jessie Payne, Leslie Cook, Margaret Caplehorn, John Callaghan, Kevin Sharp, Ray Sharp, Wally Bennett, Rex Young; 29th Diane.

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

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

Loving Lord, as we open our hearts to your power of love moving around us and between us and within us, hear us as we pray for ourselves; guide us in the path of discipleship, so that, as you have blessed us with your love, we may be a blessing for others, bringing the promise of the kingdom ever nearer by our words and loving deeds.

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

God of all hope, your love is always making all things new; and we know you to be trustworthy and true, for you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. We pray all this in the powerful and hopeful name of Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray: **Our Father...[pg 124].**

Reflections on the Readings

The Easter message shifts this week from Jesus' offer of life to us, to the way we seek to live out that life as we follow him – and it's a startling message of inclusivity and love. Jesus' new commandment is frequently sung and quoted, but the "one another" that Jesus' calls us to love is often seen as being limited to Christian believers. Now, in the lectionary, as the Gospel is laid aside the other readings, we realise that this "one another" goes much further. In Acts, we discover that the previously excluded Gentiles are now included in God's Kingdom. In the Psalm, all of creation is included in this "one another" as the entire creation is exhorted to offer praise. And in John's Revelation vision, we discover that God has moved God's dwelling place ("heaven") into our earthly neighbourhood; God's tent is pitched in our midst. There can be no greater, all-encompassing statement of love for all from God. We have no more excuses for turning the Gospel into an exclusive message! One of the big questions of our generation is "who is in and who is out?". Global economic and trade regulations are designed to favour some (who tend to be the wealthy) and disempower others (who tend to live in least developed countries). Political conversations are always being drawn in partisan ways with clear lines indicating who is on which side – and woe betide those who try to cross those lines. See the power plays at work these past couple of months in the Federal Parliament and as we head into an

election. Religious communities and power structures, equally, have tended to focus on those with us and those against us. From geographical to economic to political to religious to racial to sexual to generational lines, our world is built on defining who is in and who is out. The glaring example is that of the refugees at the gates of Europe. The prophetic Church, the Church of the resurrection, of love, of the God who lives among us, must be a Church that blurs every line, and invites everyone into the grace and love of God – and a Church that challenges and pushes back the lines that exclude and oppress. This is what Jesus calls us to be when he instructs us to love one another, and it is what is demonstrated in Peter's willingness to minister to the Gentiles in Cornelius' house, and in God's gift of the Spirit to these "outsiders". In practical terms, then, we are called to be those who will reach across the lines, across the aisles to welcome and embrace those who believe, think, dress, behave and live in ways that we consider different.

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

Notices

Mums and Kids Group - afternoon tea Saturday 30th April for details please see Rev'd Maryann.

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.

Lay Ministry Licensing

Everyone will be aware of the Royal Commissions into Sexual Abuse which has led to the Diocese implementing Professional Standards protocols for clergy and 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 provided 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.

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

Fourth week of April

Monday 25th	ANZAC DAY
Tuesday 26th	4.30pm International School Student Project @ Christ Church
Thursday 28th	10.00am Eucharist St Matthew's 10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade 11.30am Eucharist Caladenia 4.00pm Eucharist Dianella
Friday 29th	10.00am – 4.00pm Op Shop Church House 7.00pm Wardens' Dinner @ The Rectory
Saturday 30th	10.00am – 12noon Op Shop Church House 2.00pm Mums and Kids group afternoon tea

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 1st May 2016: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16.9-15; Ps 67; Revelation 21.10-14, 21.22-22.5; John 14. 23-29

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

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, Piva House, 78 High Street, Broadford, 3658; m 0439 066 553; associatepriest@anglicankilmore.org.au

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

P O Box 289 Kilmore 3764

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