



The Anglican Church of Australia  
Diocese of Wangaratta  
**The Parish of Kilmore**  
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook  
**1st May 2016**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



**HYMNS 452, 398, Pewsheet, 37 [Tune 425]**

*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

‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you,’ says the Lord. ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.’ *John 14.27.*

## THE COLLECT

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

**Acts 16. 9-15**

[In response to Paul’s vision, he and his companions go to Macedonia, where they preach to a group of women in Philippi. Lydia, from Thyatira (thus, a foreigner) is one of those who receive the Gospel message, and she immediately offers hospitality to Paul and his friends.]

*A reading from the book of Acts*

One night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. From there we travelled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshipper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message. When she and the members of her household were baptised, she invited us to her home. ‘If you consider me a believer in the Lord,’ she said, ‘come and stay at my house.’ And she persuaded us.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 67**

[An invitational psalm encouraging all the nations to praise God, to enjoy God’s mercy and receive God’s provision.]

John McCann

### Response

v. 3 Let the peo-ples praise you, O God, let all the peo-ples praise you.



**Response: Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you.**

God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,  
That your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations./R

O let the nations rejoice and be glad,  
for you will judge the peoples righteously  
and govern the nations upon earth./R

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,  
and God, our own God, will bless us.  
God will bless us,  
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him./R

## SECOND READING

**Revelation 21.10-14, 22.1-5**

[John's vision of the New Jerusalem, where the gates are never closed, but no evil can enter. God's security and hospitality are offered to the nations.]

### *A reading from the book of Revelation*

John the Divine writes, 'One of the seven angels 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. I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendour into it. On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. The glory and honour of the nations will be brought into it. Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.'

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 14.23-29**

[Jesus promises the gift of the Holy Spirit – God making God's home within those who love God.]

*A reading from the holy gospel according to John*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "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. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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## THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Reconciling God, we pray for the peace of the world and peace in our hearts. Persevere with your divine patience for us, so we may learn to know the way of peace that world cannot give; we pray for all working for peace and those protecting the lives of people in war torn countries; may all leaders of governments, nations, cities, towns, and villages be filled with your wisdom; may your desire for life be fulfilled; may those who suffer injustice and exploitation be filled with hope in the Spirit.

God whose passion is peace: **grant out prayer.**

Holy God, you make your home amongst us; may your Church be filled with your Spirit to proclaim the good news of peace and justice; we give thanks for the work of all mission societies in Australia and overseas and pray for those helping others in their spiritual journey; pray for the Anglican Communion and Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; for the *Nippon Sei Ko Kai*, the Anglican Church in Japan, offering ministry in a predominantly non-Christian context; for our Diocese and for Bishop John and all who minister in your name; we pray for our Parish and our life together that we may model your way of peace.

God whose passion is peace: **grant out prayer.**

Reconciling God, we pray for Australia, and for those who seek to lead us; for the indigenous peoples of this land, and for all who have come seeking refuge and a new life of acceptance and opportunity; may we be a generous and welcoming community, and may prejudice, fear and intolerance cease and your people live together in mutual goodwill and respect.

God whose passion is peace: **grant out prayer.**

Ever loving God, may suffering of body, mind, or spirit be healed through your love, and realised through our faith; embrace us deeply and in grace and love take our troubled hearts and fears, and free us to love as your Son has commanded. We pray for all those in need and those on our hearts this day, and those who have asked for 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 Grimmwade, John Leonard.*

We give thanks for healing and blessings wherever received.

God whose passion is peace: **grant out prayer.**

God of the new Jerusalem, we commend to your gracious keeping the recently departed, and those years mind occurs at this time.

*May 1st Penelope Roberts, Frankie Walter, Ray Drummond, Beryl Russell; 3rd Heidi Weiher, Lynette Chandler; 4th Joyce Jones; 5th Raymond Pitman, Evelyn Carboon; 6th Mabel Fullard.*

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

God whose passion is peace: **grant out prayer.**

Lord Jesus you said let not your hearts be troubled; hear us as we pray for ourselves .....; still our fears and anxieties that agitate and perturb us; keep us confident that your Spirit guides and strengthens us in all we do and are; that we may find that peace which is beyond all understanding.

God whose passion is peace: **grant out prayer.**

Those things good Lord that we have prayed for, give us the grace to work for, and in the purposes of your love answer our prayers, and fulfil our hopes for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

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### **Reflections on the Readings**

Taking last week's vision of inclusivity even further, the readings this week offer us a vision of hospitality as the model of God's work in those who love God, and of the life which flows from it. In Acts, Lydia, the new convert, immediately understands that a life of following Christ is a life of hospitality – and offers hospitality to Paul and friends. In Psalm 67, all nations are invited into God's mercy, security and provision – a vision of adoration for God's hospitality. In Revelation, the vision of the New Jerusalem is one of God's hospitality offered to all nations, providing security, healing and food. In the Gospel, the vision is beautifully reversed – God, by God's Spirit, seeks to enjoy the hospitality of the human heart, coming to indwell us, and then lead us into lives of obedient love. A vision of a hospitable world is a vision of hope and peace, and also a challenge to

the ways in which we fall short of this ideal. In so many ways, our world has developed a culture of suspicion and inhospitality. But, arguably the primary characteristic of Jesus' first followers as they sought to live out the Gospel was hospitality, reflected in feeding the hungry (current equivalent: global debt relief and removal of unjust trade restrictions?), inviting strangers into their homes (current equivalent: humane and just immigration laws?), and serving and praying for the sick, the widow and the orphan (current equivalent: equitable health care and social security systems?). For those of us who seek to follow Christ, our vote, and our voice in public dialogue, on these key issues are a significant influence in creating a more hospitable world. Hospitality is the essential challenge of the Gospel. Matthew Fox, in his book *Original Blessing* (1996), suggests that the true meaning of "holiness" is hospitality, which at its essence is the offer of safety, comfort, nourishment and friendship to both friend and stranger. The Scriptures show that this is a high ideal in God's purposes. What this means for us is, initially, an opening of our hearts to welcome the stranger and friend, offering safety, comfort and love. Then, this must overflow into practical hospitality, opening our 'homes' – our communities, our churches, our neighbourhoods and, yes, even our literal homes, to those who need shelter, safety, nourishment, acceptance and friendship. How, in your church and its worship, can you become more welcoming and more hospitable to those who are homeless and friendless?

*Adapted from John van de Laar (2016). © Sacredise - [www.sacredise.com](http://www.sacredise.com)*

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### **Hymn Praise the one [Tune 477]**

1. Praise the one who breaks the  
darkness with a liberating light.  
Praise the one who frees the prisoners,  
turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the one who preached the  
Gospel,  
healing every dread disease,  
calming storms and feeding thousands  
with the very bread of peace.

2. Praise the one who blessed the  
children with a strong yet gentle  
word.  
Praise the one who drove out  
demons with a piercing two-edged  
sword.  
Praise the one who brings cool water  
to the desert's burning sand.  
From this well comes living water,  
quenching thirst in every land.

3. Praise the one true love incarnate:  
Christ who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose for many  
that we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
seeing what our God has done.  
Praise the one redeeming glory,  
praise the One who makes us one.

# Notices

**Brief Meeting TODAY for Christ Church congregation** - people are asked to remain for a meeting over the morning cuppa to discuss the future rosters (morning tea, dusting, vacuuming, reading, sides people and grounds). Please all stay and join in the discussion.

**Parish Directory:** At the back of each centre there is a copy of the current Parish Directory. Please check the names, and if you aren't listed, and wish to be included in the 2016 edition, please fill in your name, address (residential, postal and email), and phone number/s. If your details have changed, please amend. All names on the current list will automatically go into the new edition unless you choose to delete your details.

**Parish Monthly BBQ next Sunday 8th May 12.30pm** - we will be welcomed at Piva House next to St Matthews Bradford by host Maryann and John Leonard. Bring own meat, salad and desert to share and refreshments. All welcome and don't fret there is always plenty.

**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. **This only applies to those who do things in and around the Parish.** 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

First week of May

Tuesday 3rd 5.00pm Bishop in Council Extraordinary Meeting, Wangaratta

Wednesday 4th 7.30pm Property Committee Meeting

Thursday 5th 10.00am Eucharist St Matthew's  
10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade  
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Friday 6th 10.00am – 4.00pm Op Shop Church House

Saturday 7th 10.00am – 12noon Op Shop Church House

### SERVICES

**Next Sunday: 8th May 2016: Sunday after the Ascension**

Acts 16.16-34; Ps 97; Revelation 22.12-21; John 17. 20-26

<b>Christ Church</b>	9am	Sung Eucharist
<b>St Matthews</b>	11am	Holy Eucharist
<b>St Stephens</b>	11am	Holy Eucharist
<b>Transfiguration</b>	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, Piva House, 78 High Street,  
Broadford, 3658; Ph 57843007; 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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