



The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta
The Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
29th May 2016



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HYMNS 210, 245, 692 [tune 554], 563

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



The Faith of the Centurion

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

Thus says the one whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in a high and holy place, but I also live with those who are broken and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, to restore the courage of the broken.' *Isaiah 57.15*

THE COLLECT

Merciful Lord God, we do not presume to come before you trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great and abundant mercies. Revive our faith, we pray; heal our bodies, and mend our communities, that we may evermore dwell in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **AMEN.**

FIRST READING

1 Kings 18.20-21, 30-39

[Elijah challenges the prophets of Baal inviting them to build an altar and place a sacrifice on it, and then to call on their god for fire. When no fire comes, Elijah does the same, calling on God, who sends fire to consume the sacrifice, even though it is drenched in water.]

A reading from the book of Kings

Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. Elijah went before the people and said, 'How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.' But the people said nothing. Then Elijah said to all the people, 'Come here to me.' They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, 'Your name shall be Israel.' With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench round it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, 'Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood.' 'Do it again,' he said, and they did it again. 'Do it a third time,' he ordered, and they did it the third time. The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: 'Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.' Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, 'The Lord – he is God! The Lord – he is God!'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 96

[A song in praise of God as Lord over all nations, and inviting all people to declare God's glory, and to celebrate that God brings justice to the earth.]

Response: O sing to the Lord a new song; O sing to the Lord all the earth.



Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord and bless his name;
tell out his salvation from day to day./R

Declare his glory among the nations
and his wonders among all peoples.
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is more to be feared than all gods./R

For all the gods of the nations are but idols;
it is the Lord who made the heavens.
Honour and majesty are before him;
power and splendour are in his sanctuary./R

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;
ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;
bring offerings and come into his courts.
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him./R

SECOND READING

Galatians 1.1-12

[Paul confronts the Galatians because they are following a different Gospel than the one they received from Paul, and which he received not from human beings, but from a revelation of Jesus.]

A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

God so loved the world that he gave his | only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him should not perish,
but have e- | ternal life.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 7.1-10

[A centurion, whose servant is sick, asks Jesus to heal him, declaring that there is no need for Jesus to go into his house, but only to say the word. Jesus impressed by the centurion's faith does what he asks.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus entered Capernaum. A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death. When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, 'He is worthy of having you do this for him, for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us.' And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, 'Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, "Go", and he goes, and to another, "Come", and he comes, and to my slave, "Do this", and the slave does it.' When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, 'I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.' When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Holy God, you find all people worthy of your love and all are precious in your eyes; we pray for your world and for peace and prosperity for all nations; for respect for the environment and its creatures and wise stewardship of the earth's resources. Inspire and lead those who hold authority and guide us and all people in the ways of justice and righteousness.

For your love and goodness, **we give you thanks, O God.**

Heavenly Father, hear our prayer for all people of faith; for your Church in every place and all who bring alive faith and love to others; for the Church of the Province of South East Asia; for Bishop John and our parish, and grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you.

For your love and goodness, **we give you thanks, O God.**

Go-between God, look with kindness on our homes and families and those with whom we share our lives; keep us alive to the needs of our community and help us to share one another's joys and burdens; for the indigenous people of this land and pray that reconciliation may be realised; grant us the wisdom and strength to walk into the darkness in faith and bring your love to those fraught with the struggles of situation and circumstance.

For your love and goodness, **we give you thanks, O God.**

Ever-loving God, you bring comfort and healing to all who dare to put their trust in you: we pray for all in need of your life-giving words, for consolation for the desolate and hope for the despairing; for companionship for the lonely and acceptance for the outsider.

For your love and goodness, **we give you thanks, O God.**

God of hope and healing, we pray for those living with pain and terminal illness; for those with sickness of body or mind; we pray in faith that your word will bring hope and healing for those who cry out for relief, and bring wholeness to all who suffer. We pray for those on our hearts and those who have requested 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.

For your love and goodness, **we give you thanks, O God.**

Merciful and gracious God, you promise the joy of eternal life through faith in your son Jesus our Lord, we give thanks for all who have followed you in faith and hope and love; we pray for those who have died and those whose years mind occurs at this time.

29th Cameron Hiscock, Vera Buckingham; 31st Alice Johnson, Mary Adamson; June 1st David DeNiet, Jack Ashton; 2nd Edward Poulter, Alf Richards, Lance Burgess; 3rd Edwin Chapman, Murray Rowe, Jennifer Paisley-Koraus; 4th Tom Dorron, Ann Johnson.

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

God our hope, may your blessing empower our thanksgiving and prayer; for we put our trust in you, the living God, risking disappointment, risking failure, in sure and certain hope of your continual presence with us. Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray; **Our Father in heaven....** [Pg 124].

Reflections on the Readings

The Gospel reading seems almost to be in contradiction to the other readings for today. Where the Elijah story describes a conflict of faiths, the Psalm challenges all people to accept Israel's God alone, and the Epistle warns against following any other Gospel, yet the Gospel reading shows Jesus crossing the boundaries of race, culture, and religion to heal a Gentile's servant. In the light of this, perhaps the other readings must be revisited. In story of Elijah demonstrating the power of the Lord, the focus is less on a competition between Israel's God and other

gods, than it is about how God brings justice and goodness to all people. Elijah's duel with the prophets of Baal happened in a time when everything, from health care to politics, was defined by religion, and gods were seen as being in competition with each other. In this context, for Israel to turn to other gods was not just a religious choice, but was a betrayal of their national identity. Linked, of course, with this apostasy was the oppression and violence of the king who supported this idolatry and sought to execute the prophets of God. So, perhaps this was less about competing religions and more about the people choosing how they would live, and what values would guide them. Psalm 96, while it can be read in a triumphalist way, rather seems to be invitational. The "other Gospel" that Paul warns against, of course, was not another religion, but was a legalistic distortion of Christ's message, which would make the Gospel exclusive rather than inclusive and welcoming. So when all of these readings are held together, the message is invitational. God seeks to call all people into God's grace and justice, leading us all to be people of inclusion, welcome and love, who reject oppression, violence and factionalism. For there is no shortage of ways that we can divide and separate ourselves from one another. Besides the obvious categories of race and religion, there are issues of gender, sexuality, economic level, educational level, geographic location, political affiliation, and generation, let alone strangers and outsiders. If we so choose, any of these small differences can become the source of competition and conflict – and they have done throughout human history. The Gospel of Jesus, and the example he gave of how to live this Gospel out, is all about grace and inclusivity. It's about crossing boundaries and finding the connections rather than the conflicts. When we recognise that God is God of all – regardless of whether people believe in God or follow Jesus or not – we cannot help but heed God's call to learn to love and serve all – even our enemies. We then take the healing power of God trusting of God's presence in us to bring hope and comfort to all. When we recognise God as the God of all people and all creation, we cannot help but recognise that all is sacred, and when this realisation hits home, it changes everything.

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

Notices

Lay Ministry Licensing The process of Lay Ministry Licensing will begin next Sunday, Revd Maryann will be in Christ Church after the 9am service to help people complete the necessary checks. This applies to all parishioners undertaking any activity in the parish. Safe Ministry Check forms are to be completed, and requires obtaining a Working with Children Check and a Police Check. 100 ID points are necessary; information is available to assist with this. Some parishioners may have completed forms but these need to be reviewed to ensure they comply. If you have any questions or concerns contact Fr Kim or one of the wardens.



Five Cent Coin collection for missions please collect your five cent coins and invite family and friends to contribute as well. Collecting receptacle at the back of the Church.

Teddy Bears Picnic for Mums & Babies 2 pm Thursday 2nd June, 2 Cochrane Crt Wandong. If the weather is nice we will go to the local park. Please let rev Maryann know if you would like to come along.

Direct Debit/EFT 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 June

Wednesday June 1st 7.30pm Property Committee meeting @ Gavan Hall

Thursday 2nd 10.00am Eucharist St Matthew's

10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade

2.00pm Mums and babies Teddy Bear Picnic see notices

4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Friday 20th 10.00am – 4.00pm Op Shop Church House

11.00am Deanery meeting Yea

Saturday 21st 10.00am – 12noon Op Shop Church House

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 5th June 2016: Pentecost III

I Kings 17.8-24; Ps 146; Galatians 1.11-24; Luke 7.11-17

Christ Church	9am	Sung Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11am	Morning Prayer
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; Ph 5784 3007; 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

Visit our website www.anglicankilmore.org.au





Word Puzzle

L F Q S P T A M A Z E D T A G
R L G W N Y S W B C W A H U M
D S B R F W I R Q W E I Y T H
I H O X U N C W I R X H D H N
E B W L Y E K H G Y T Y B O K
Q V H B D W V U O R P H M R H
J J C N S I Q A O D I T B I I
C R X E E W E W O U D K B T J
R S H D N C G R E K A B E Y I
H T E P E T P I J G C R O W D
L E F R J S U F R I E N D S S
W T A A V L E R S H O U S E K
R E J L I A M R I X O H N G E
S T P L E T N E V O V B D B J
G K X D C D H T P E N J Y P U

AMAZED
DESERVE
AUTHORITY

CENTURION
HEALED
DIE

SOLDIER
SERVANT
GREAT

CROWD
SICK
FRIENDS

WORTHY
FAITH
HOUSE