



ANGLICAN PARISH OF AVON

ALL AGE FAMILY WORSHIP

MUSIC & FUN!

10am Sunday 11 April,

Second Sunday of Easter.

Holy Trinity Church Stratford

Priest in Charge, The Rev. Dave Perryman

We'd love to see you
there!

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the original inhabitants of this land. We acknowledge their elders past and present and their children who are their hope for the future.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Opening Hymn: 'Because he lives' – MP 52

1 God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal, and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
an empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.

Refrain:

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow;
because He lives all fear is gone;
because I know He holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because He lives.*

2 How sweet to hold a new-born baby,
and feel the pride and joy he gives;
but greater still the calm assurance,
this child can face uncertain days because He lives.
Because He lives...

3 And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
and then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.
Because He lives...

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Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Welcome/Acknowledgement of Country

Call to Worship

What great joy we have!
Our Lord is risen!

Believe with your whole heart in the miracle of resurrection.
We open our hearts to the good news of God's faithfulness to us.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia!
Alleluia!

The Sentence

“Peace be with you,” says the Lord. ‘As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’”

(John 20. 21)

Time of thanks

Prayer of thanks

Let us pray,

**Thank you for your amazing power
and work in our lives,
thank you for your goodness
and for your blessings over us.
Thank you that you are able to bring hope
through even the toughest of times.
Thank you for your great love and care for us every day.
Keep us thankful and gracious for everything you bless us with.
In Jesus name. Amen.**

The Confession

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

Silence for self-reflection

Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**Christ Jesus, you know us so very well.
You know our doubts and our questions,
and you love us enough to welcome such doubts
and questions.**

**You know our fractures and divisions,
and you love us enough to invite us
to forgive one another and live in unity.**

Holy Lord forgive us our sins.

**Thank you for loving us
and for inviting us on the journey of love.**

**Help us embrace this journey,
that we may walk in the light,
and live in unity together.**

In your gracious love, we pray. Amen.

Absolution

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Prayer of the Day

**Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

The Gospel Reading

A Reading from the Gospel of John

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’ ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’ ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ ²⁸ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ ²⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’ ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. *John 20. 19-31*

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Early Talk

Homily

Time of discussion

The Affirmation of the Resurrection

Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen.**

The Prayers

Please sit or kneel for prayer as you are able.

Response:

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayers.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Greeting of Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Hymn: 'Oh how good it is'

1 Oh how good it is,
When the family of God,
Dwells together in spirit,
In faith and unity,
Where the bonds of peace,
Of acceptance and love,
Are the fruit of His presence,
Here among us.

Chorus:

*So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,
And with one heart we'll live out His word.
Till the whole earth sees,
The Redeemer has come,
For He dwells in the presence of His people.*

2 Oh how good it is,
On this journey we share,
To rejoice with the happy,
And weep with those who mourn,
For the weak find strength,
The afflicted find grace,
When we offer the blessing,
Of belonging.
So with one voice...

3 Oh how good it is,
To embrace His command,
To prefer one another,

Forgive as He forgives,
When we live as one,
We all share in the love,
Of the Son with the Father,
And the Spirit.
So with one voice...

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The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Congregation: Why is it right to give thanks and praise?
Minister: Listen, and we will hear.

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

You give us your love,
even when things go wrong.
Jesus knew hurt and pain.
Through him you wipe away our tears,
and fill us with your peace.

You made us all,
each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels
and sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Congregation: Why do we share this bread and wine?

Minister: Listen, and we will hear.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

**So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.**

Congregation: How do we follow Jesus Christ?

Minister: Listen, and we will hear.

**Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,**

and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

**And now with all your saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

**We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Let us draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with thanksgiving.

Please come forward to receive Communion and when receiving feel free to stand or kneel.

Due to COVID our communion will be served in one kind (bread only). We have gluten free wafers available. Please indicate to the minister if you would prefer either of these.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

If you are seeking prayer for healing/anointing, please come towards the end of communion and remain kneeling.

For those unable to receive Holy Communion this Sunday, you may like to practice the tradition of 'spiritual communion' as you watch and listen, the following prayer may be helpful:

O Lord Jesus Christ, through your tender mercy grant that as the hem of your garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch your body, so the soul of this your servant may be healed by like faith in you, whom I cannot now sacramentally receive. In union with the faithful at every altar-table in your Church I desire to be united with you and pray that you will come spiritually into my heart. Let nothing ever separate me from your love, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Sending Out of God's People

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Father,
we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.

Announcements

Final Hymn: 'Have faith in God' – MP 1214

1 O Lord, You lead me
by the still waters,
quietly restoring my soul.
You speak words of wisdom,
the promise of glory,
the power of the presence of God.

Chorus:
Have faith in God,
let your hope rest on the faith
He has placed in your heart.
Never give up,
never let go of the faith
He has placed in your heart.

2 O Lord, You guide me
through all the darkness,
turning my night into day;

You'll never leave me,
never forsake me,
the power of the presence of God.
Have faith in God...

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The Blessing

Go now with the love of God, the grace of the Risen Jesus Christ,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.
Go to share your faith and your lives.
Go to proclaim the good news of Easter,
and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be
among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS

Faithful God, we praise you for the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ from the dead. Shed his glorious light on all Christian people that we may live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross.

We pray:-

*For care of the environment and world-wide conscientious efforts to control climate change.

*Merciful God, we pray for peace in our troubled world. Wherever nations are at war and people are suffering we pray for true reconciliation. Protect all Christian people in the nations of the world, and help them to influence their country for the good of all and continue to pray for a fair and equitable distribution of the Coronavirus vaccine.

*Especially for the People of PNG suffering dreadfully from the scourges of the Covid-19 virus which is out of control in their country.

*For an end to the racial, social, and domestic violence and violence against women and children.

*We pray for our Diocese, and the churches in our local community.

*For Bishop Richard and his family as, he leads the faith-life of the Diocese.

*For Dave as he leads the ministry, discipleship and pastoral caring in our parish and community, that we can share the load.

*For Emma and their 4 children.

*For all who support the op shop. Coordinator Bev, volunteers, and all who donate to our ministry and mission.

*For the mainly music team, and for the families who gather here each Thursday morning.

*For safety and refreshment for all those on end of term holidays

*For our Retiring Offertory – **BCA**

We raise before you now, those who need healing in their lives and give you thanks where healing has taken place.

We pray especially for Nathan, Val, Marion, Cliff, Paul, Bev, Julie, Liliias, Keith, Ruth, Alice, Emma, Crystal, Daryl, Jan and Mick.

Loving God we pray for the family and friends of the late Phyl Brady. For John and his family, for Jane and her family. Grant them your comfort and strength Lord.

Gracious God, your Son Jesus Christ, stands among us, and we have seen the marks of your saving love. Breathe on us with the power of your Holy Spirit and send us out to share the peace of Christ with all who may cross our paths in the weeks ahead.

NEWS AND NOTES.

Our journey through the Great Week of the Christian Year . . . Holy Week, was deeply meditative and reflective as together we celebrated Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, commemorated the Last Supper and establishment of the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday, the solemn Passion and Death of Jesus on Good Friday and the celebration of his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. A big thank you to Dave for his spiritual dedication to making the meaning of each commemoration so intensely palpable through a range of means . . . silence, actions, beautiful sermons and homilies, interactive challenges, objects, visuals, parishioner participation and music . . . all done with much compassion, we were and are very blessed!

This afternoon at 4pm there will be a Healing Service in Holy Trinity . . .
A Celebration of Healing and Wholeness. All are most welcome!

Next Saturday the Men's Breakfast Group will meet at 8.30am in the Parish Hall.

Next Sunday there will be a service of Holy Baptism in Holy Trinity.

Time is marching on towards the Family Fun Fair on Saturday 22 May. The planning meeting convened last Thursday set time frameworks for the next 6 weeks which includes forward notices in the Bulletin re:-

- Adoption of the flyer to be used in advertising and circulated widely.
- Parishioners who are preserves makers, we are asking please, for donations of jams and pickles etc – thank you.
- Notice of request to parishioners to please commence baking cakes, slices etc 2-3 before the Fun Fair.
- Notice of request to parishioners to please bake biscuits for the tea and coffee stand.

As always, sharing of assistance and your support is greatly appreciated.

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

April

Thursdays 9.30am mainly music in Parish Hall during School Term. School Holidays 2 April to 18 April.

Retiring Offertory BCA

- Sat 17** Men's Breakfast
Sun 18 Baptism at Holy Trinity. Third Sunday of Easter
Mon 19 School Resumes
Tues 20 Parish Council Reports Due
Fri 23 Family Movie Night
The Bard's Birthday. Shakespeare April 23, 1564 – April 23, 1616.
St Mary's Anniversary. Licensed 23/4/1922
Sat 24 10am-3pm. Women's Craft Day
Sun 25 Fourth Sunday of Easter.
ANZAC Day. Dawn and 9am Services in the Memorial Park
Also 'Armed Forces Day' in Australia & New Zealand.
Tues 27 Parish Council Meeting
The Reverends Jenny and Tony Wicking to be formally inducted in the Parish of Yarram.

MAY

Thursdays mainly music, 9.30am. Parish Hall, During School Term

On the second Sunday in the Shakespeare Festival, ie

May 2. 4.30pm Traditional Service of Evensong. Bishop Richard Treloar, The Reverend Nikolai Blascow, The Reverend Dave Perryman.

Light tea to follow the service.

Retiring Offertory: Leprosy Mission

- Sun 2** Fifth Sunday of Easter.
All Age Family Worship at Holy Trinity
Shakespeare Fair Day 4.30pm. Shakespeare Service at Holy Trinity

Sunday 18 April, Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3.12-20. Ps.4. 2nd Read 1John 2.15-17; 3.1-6
Luke 24.36b-48

Priest: Dave, Lit Assist: Vic. 1st Read Lillas. 2nd Julie Ferguson

Intercess: Vic. Org: May. Sides: Bev T, Sandra.

Camera Bev H/Denise. Flowers: Kerry C.

MT. Wendy, Judy K. Sac: Denise.

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