

Anglican Parish of Avon

Sunday 10 Sept. Pentecost 20

Welcome to

Services of Holy Communion

8.30am St Mary's Munro

10am Holy Trinity Stratford

Also on Zoom & Facebook

***MANY THAT ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST,
AND THE LAST FIRST.***

-MARK 10:31

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.

Opening Hymn: 'Take my life'

1 Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

3 Take my silver and my gold,
nothing, Lord, would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

4 Take my love: my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Public Domain

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.

Acknowledgement of Country/Welcome

Call to Worship

Let us come and worship.
God is here.

Let us listen for God's word.
It is alive and active.

Let us draw near to the source of mercy.
The God of grace is with us.

The Sentence

“There is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for Jesus' sake, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.”

(Mark 10. 29–30)

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Confession

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Silence for self-reflection

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day

Merciful God,
in your Son you call not the righteous but sinners to repentance:
draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction,
and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant,
that in seeking your truth,
and obeying your will,
we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus our Saviour;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

The First Reading

A Reading from the Book of Job

¹ Then Job answered:

² ‘Today also my complaint is bitter;
his hand is heavy despite my groaning.

³ O that I knew where I might find him,
that I might come even to his dwelling!

⁴ I would lay my case before him,
and fill my mouth with arguments.

⁵ I would learn what he would answer me,
and understand what he would say to me.

⁶ Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power?
No; but he would give heed to me.

⁷ There an upright person could reason with him,
and I should be acquitted for ever by my judge.

⁸ ‘If I go forward, he is not there;
or backward, I cannot perceive him;

⁹ on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.

¹⁶ God has made my heart faint;
the Almighty has terrified me;

¹⁷ If only I could vanish in darkness,
and thick darkness would cover my face! *Job 23. 1-9, 16-17*

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

Psalm 22. 1-15

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me:
why are you so far from helping me
and from the words of my groaning?

**2 My God, I cry to you by day, but you do not answer:
and by night also I take no rest.**

3 But you continue holy:

you that are the praise of Israel.

**4 In you our forebears trusted:
they trusted, and you delivered them;**

5 To you they cried and they were saved:
they put their trust in you and were not confounded.

**6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man:
the scorn of all and despised by the people.**

7 Those that see me laugh me to scorn:
they shoot out their lips at me
and wag their heads, saying,

**8 ‘He trusted in the Lord—let him deliver him:
let him deliver him, if he delights in him.’**

9 But you are he that took me out of the womb:
that brought me to lie at peace on my mother’s breast.

**10 On you have I been cast since my birth:
you are my God, even from my mother’s womb.**

11 O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand:
and there is none to help.

**12 Many oxen surround me:
fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.**

13 They gape wide their mouths at me:
like lions that roar and rend.

**14 I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint:
my heart within my breast is like melting wax.**

15 My mouth is dried up like a potsherd:
and my tongue clings to my gums.

The Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

¹² Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. ¹⁴ Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4.12-16*

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

Early Talk

Gospel Reading

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

¹⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, ‘Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ ¹⁸ Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: “You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.”’ ²⁰ He said to him, ‘Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.’ ²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, ‘You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.’ ²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. ²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!’ ²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, ‘Children, how

hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.’ ²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, ‘Then who can be saved?’ ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, ‘For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.’ ²⁸ Peter began to say to him, ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you.’ ²⁹ Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.’
32 They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him,
Mark 10. 17-32

For the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:
**We believe in one God,
who made and loves all that is.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was born, lived, died and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.
We believe in the Holy Spirit
who calls, equips and sends out God’s people,
and brings all things to their true end.
This is our faith, the faith of the Church:
We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. 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

We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Hymn: 'God who gives life'

1 God who gives to life its goodness,
God creator of all joy,
God who gives to us our freedom,
God who blesses tool and toy;

Teach us now to laugh and praise you,
Deep within your praises sing,
Till the whole creation dances
For the goodness of its King.

2 God who fills the earth with beauty,
God who binds each friend to friend,
God who names us co-creators
God who wills that chaos end;
Grant us now creative spirits,
Minds responsive to your mind,
Hearts and wills your rule extending
All our acts by Love refined.

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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.

O God, eternal Wisdom,
all you have made is beautiful and good.
We thank you for darkness and light,
for this earth and for our bodies,
for growth and change
and all that lies beyond our knowledge and imagination.

In every generation you befriend your people.
You gave us your holy Law, sent the prophets,
and called us back to the truth whenever we turned away.

You were vindicated in your servant Jesus
who came with forgiveness, feasting, and stories of your grace.
Though we rejected him,

death on a cross could not quench the fire of his love.

You raised him up for us,
the firstborn from the dead,
to build a new community of hope
where all are honoured as Christ's equal friends.

And so we praise you
with Mary, mother of the living Word,
and with all your faithful friends,
as we join the angels' song:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

God of the feast, your household is hungry
for the bread of heaven and the cup of life.
Send your Spirit on us and on our celebration,
so that we may eat at this table and be satisfied
with the sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

On the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with the people he loved.
He took the bread, gave you thanks,
broke it to share with them, and said:
"Take and eat this: it is my body."

Then he took a cup of wine.
Again he thanked you and told them:
"Drink this, all of you: it is my blood,
shed for you and for many
so that sins may be forgiven.
Whenever you do this, do it in memory of me."

So we delight to remember Jesus:
the faithfulness of his life,
the victory of his cross,
the glory of his resurrection,
the joy of the Holy Spirit poured out for the Church.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

**O God, holy Wisdom, merciful and generous,
accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.**

**Make us good stewards of creation,
with justice in our hearts, courage in our actions
and power in our speech
to bear witness to the truth.**

**Protect us with your glory,
unite your church in loyalty and love,
and bring us home with all your saints to feast with you for ever.**

**Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
and in the Spirit's grace,
with heart and soul and mind and strength
we love and worship you alone, O God,
for ever and 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.

Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with thanksgiving.

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

Holy and blessed God,
you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son
and filled us with your Holy Spirit:
may we honour you,
not only with our lips
but in lives dedicated to the service
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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: '10,000 Reasons'

Chorus:
Bless the Lord, O my soul;
O my soul, worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
it's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.
Bless the Lord, O my soul...

2 You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
Bless the Lord, O my soul...

3 And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near and my time has come,
still my soul will sing Your praise unending:
ten thousand years and then for evermore!
Bless the Lord, O my soul...

Ending:

I'll worship Your holy name.

Yes, I'll worship Your holy name.

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The Blessing

Go and follow Jesus on the pathway of love.
Share the good news of mercy and grace. Dare to let go.
Find the courage and see what adventures God has in store for you.
May the blessing of the Holy One give you courage,
for with God, nothing is impossible,
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

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BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS

We pray:

Holy God your servant Paul teaches us that your word is living and active and so we pray that our Church life will also be full of life and activity and that day by day we will grow to know you more clearly and love you more dearly.

- *Loving God we pray for the preservation of the world you have given us.
- *For care of fauna, flora and prudent use of resources.
- *For the people of our world who are less fortunate than ourselves.
- *For peace in all those parts of the world torn apart by war and terrorism.

*We unite with Christians around the world in prayer for the people of Afghanistan engulfed in a humanitarian crisis. May the Taliban not be the brutal organisation it currently is, may leaders find a heart to be caring and just for all people under the regime.

*For the newly forged AUSKUS PACT. May this alliance be for the benefit of all in the Indo-Pacific region. May its purpose always be to promote stability, freedom, and peace.

*For countries whose populations are being ravaged by the Covid-19 virus, where the virus is out of control and treatments inadequate.

For our own country. For widespread uptake of vaccine.

For those who have lost their businesses and income, for others who are struggling to keep their business afloat. May our lives return to being 'normal' in the ways that we were privileged to enjoy.

May there be relief for those living in poverty and homelessness.

*For our Diocese, our Parish, and the churches in our local community.

For Bishop Richard and his family and for our priest Dave and his family.

For Dave's ministry in our parish and the Diocese. For our ministries and support of Dave.

*We pray for your blessings upon all who are preparing for Baptism, for parents and Godparents.

*For safety of volunteers and patrons at our op shop. For our mainly music program expected to resume this week. For an increase in mainly music families.

*For our Retiring Offertory: Act for Peace supporting the displaced people of Afghanistan.

*Healing God, we hold before you those who are burdened with illness, physical or mental, those who seek your healing and those who are lonely or sad:- We raise before you: -

Julie, Paul, Kate, Joy, Ron, Cliff, Nathan, Val, Marion, Bev, Brenda, Lillas, Keith, Ruth, Alice, Emma, Crystal, Jan and Mick.

Merciful Lord, your love reaches beyond the grave.

We give thanks for the life of Daryl Mildenhall, may he rest in peace and rise in glory. Grant your comfort and peace to Val, Deidre, all family members, and his many friends.

NEWS AND NOTES



Good morning, friends,

The Blessing of Pets service in celebration of the Feast of St Francis was a great occasion of worship. Dave was a brilliant gopher. Dr Steve Postlethwaite's address was, as always, excellent!!

Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions we were unable to advertise the service, however we can be very thankful parishioners were able to gather in person with their furry and feathery friends.

The service and morning tea had a great 'feel'. We certainly regained some of our parish momentum, often absent following the long lockdowns of last year and this year.

This afternoon there will be a Healing Service in Holy Trinity commencing at 4pm.

Next Saturday 16th, the Men's Breakfast Group will meet at 8.30am.

NB AGM reports were due from the 5th of October. Thank you to those who have submitted their reports.

A great number of Stratford and district residents are saddened by the death of Daryl Mildenhall. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Val, Deidre, their family members and very many friends.

Daryl is a direct descendant, on his mother's side, of John King, probably a great grandson.

Re John King: On the 7th of September 1865, the year the Avon Shire was declared, a meeting was called at Matthew's Royal Hotel, chaired by the Rev. George McCartney, Rector of Tarraville, to discuss the building of a church at Stratford. A committee of seven men was elected with the objective of building a place of Anglican worship. That very first committee comprised John King, Lemuel Bolden, George Latham, Samuel Swan, Alexander Hamlyn, Thomas Boucher and Henry Leaker . . . many of these names are familiar to older residents of this district. After much fund raising and planning the building was opened on 2nd September 1868. John King became a member of the first trustees of the church (1874), later known as the Board of Guardians and Trustees, and by 1908, was known as the Vestry.

OCTOBER

Thursdays *mainly music. 9.30am Parish Hall during School Term.*

Fridays *9.30am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity*

School resumes 3 October **Retiring Offertory: Act for Peace, in support of the people of Afghanistan.**

Re schedule The Parish Dinner.

Sat 16 **Men's Breakfast**

Sun 17 **Twenty-first Day in Pentecost**

Tues 19 **Monthly Parish Council Reports Due**

Fri 22 **Family Movie Night**

Sun 24 **Twenty-second Day in Pentecost. Baptism of Maeve Gold.**

Tues 26 **Monthly Parish Council Meeting**

Sun 31 **Twenty-third Day in Pentecost**

Combined Avon Parish Churches Service at St Mary's Munro

Ecumenical Service. World Community Day: UCA

NOVEMBER

OP Shop / Parish Raffle commences

Thursdays *mainly music. 9.30am Parish Hall during School Term.*

Fridays *9.30am Morning Prayers at Holy Trinity*

Rev'd Inni preaching sometime this month. Chaplain, Mission to Seafarers-Victoria

Retiring Offertory: Rwanda.

Sun 7 **Twenty-fourth Sunday in Pentecost All Saints Day from the 1st November**

All Age Family Service

Prayer for the Defences Forces of Australia may be offered today, The Sunday nearest Remembrance Day (General Synod 2014) **AGM of the Parish**

Sunday 17 October, Pentecost 21.

Job 38.1-7 (34-41) Ps.104.1-10, 26 Hebrews 5.1-10. Mark 10(32-34) 35-45

Priest: Dave. Lit Assist: Vic. 1st Read: Sandra. 2nd Kerrie S

Intercess: Vic. Org: May. Sides: Nola, Kerry C.

Camera: David S. PPT Denise: Flowers: Judy T.

MT. Sandra, Kerrie S. Sac: Kerrie S.

Parish of Avon: The Reverend David Perryman: 0401 035379.

Email:davidjrperryman@gmail.com