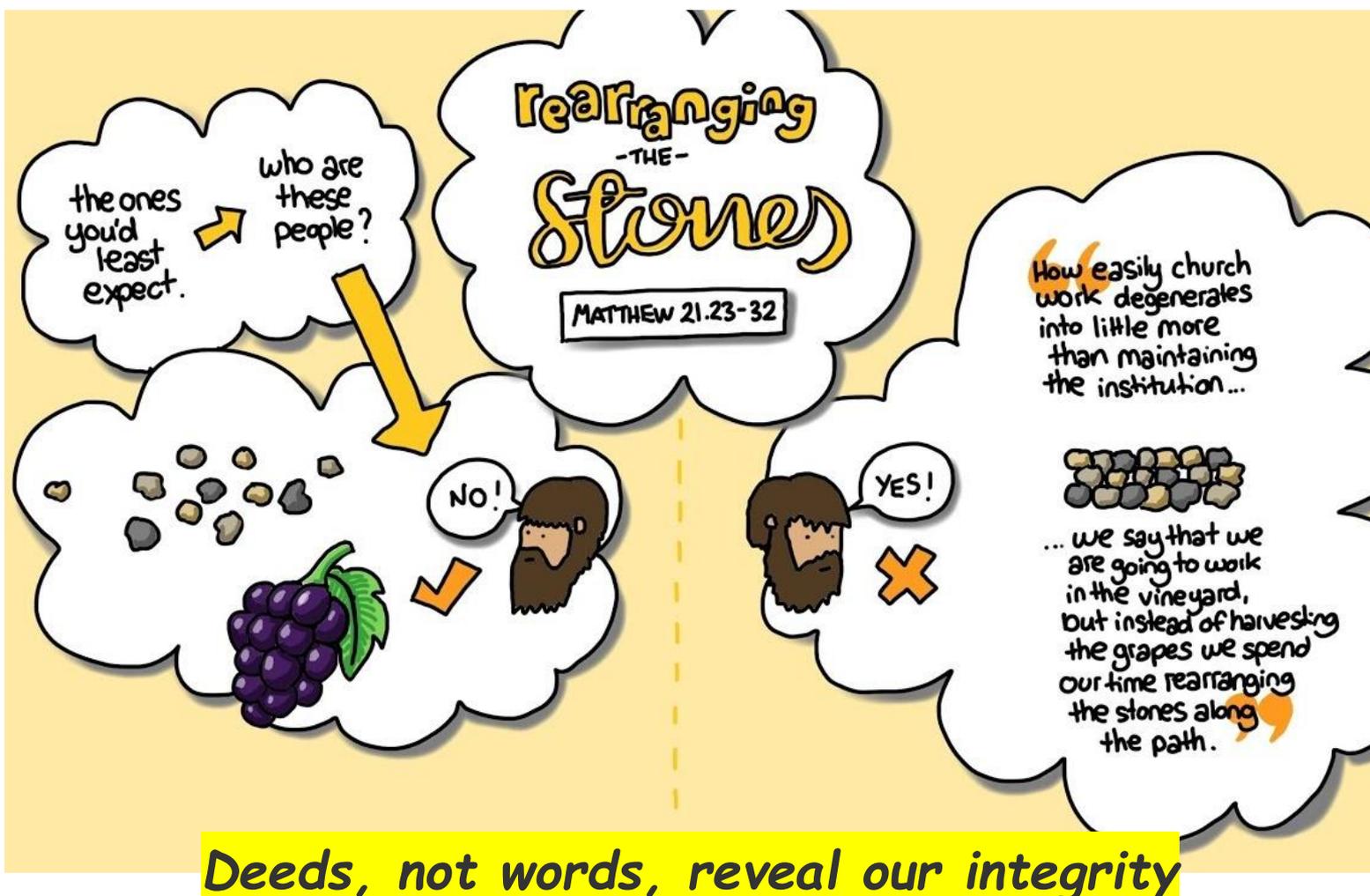


Anglican Parish of Avon

Sunday 27 September, Pentecost 17.

Priest in Charge, The Reverend Dave Perryman



Welcome – Wunan Njinda to: -
10am Worship at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford,
Via Zoom, Online, Facebook or 'Phone-in'.

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: 'At the name of Jesus' – TiS 231

1 At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of Glory now:
this the Father's pleasure
that we call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

2 Humbled for a season
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious,
when from death he passed.

3 When this same Lord Jesus
shall appear again,
in his Father's glory,
there with him to reign,
then may we adore him,
all before him bow,
as our hearts confess him
King of Glory now.

Public Domain

Welcome

Call to Worship & Greeting

Come, let us bow before the holy One.

Come, let us confess God's might.

Come, let us feel God's mercy.

Come, let us live in God's light.

As God's people, we lift our voices in praise.

Glory to you, gracious and loving God!

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.

The Sentence

“Come, let us return to the Lord, that we may live before him.

(Hosea 6. 1a, 2b)

Prayer of Preparation

**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

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

Silence for self-reflection

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

**God of patience,
forgive us when we wander off your path,
when we fail to follow through on our good intentions.
When we give our attention to trivial things;
gently call us back to you.
Empty our hearts of anger and pride.
Empty our souls of greed and selfishness.
As you poured out your very self
through your beloved Son,
pour your Spirit into our hearts today.
Forgive us our wrongdoing.
Reclaim us with your love.**

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

Grant, O merciful God,
that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus,
who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant,
and in humility became obedient even to death.
For you have highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,
Jesus Christ, the Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in everlasting glory. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

The First Reading

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

²If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love,
any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy
complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord
and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in
humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not
to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be
in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. *Phil. 2.1-13*

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78 – *We will say the Psalm together*

**1 Give heed to my teaching, O my people:
incline your ears to the words of my mouth;**

**2 For I will open my mouth in a parable:
and expound the mysteries of former times.**

**3 What we have heard and known:
what our forebears have told us,**

**4 We will not hide from their children,
but declare to a generation yet to come:
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
his mighty and wonderful works.**

**11 For he did marvellous things
in the sight of their ancestors:
in the land of Egypt, in the country of Zoan.**

12 He divided the sea and let them pass through:

he made the waters stand up in a heap.

**13 In the daytime he led them with a cloud:
and all night long with the light of fire.**

**14 He cleft rocks in the wilderness:
and gave them drink in abundance
as from springs of water.**

**15 He brought streams out of the rock:
and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.**

**16 But for all this they sinned yet more against him:
and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.**

Early Talk

Gospel Reading

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' 24 Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" 26 But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' 27 So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." 29 He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them,

'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him. *Matthew 21.23-32*

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

The 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.

Offertory Prayer

God of abundance,
From your rock, our blessings flow.
Accept what we give in return: our hearts, our hands, our gifts, our love.
Use them to answer the cries of a world in need. **Amen.**

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.

Loving God,
we thank you for this world of wonder and delight.
You have given it to us to care for,
so that all your creatures may enjoy its bounty.
Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that when we turned away from you,
you sent Jesus to live and work as one of us,
and bring us back to you.
He showed us how to love you
and set us free to love and serve one another.
Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that on the cross
Jesus took away our sin,
all that keeps us from each other and from you.
He frees us from hate and fear,
from all that destroys love and trust.
Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

And so with everyone who believes in you,
with all the saints and angels,
we rejoice and praise you, saying:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

And now we thank you
for these gifts of bread and wine;
may we who receive them,
as Jesus said,
share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said,
'Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks.
He shared the cup with them and said,
'This is my blood poured out
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

**You have gathered us together
to feed on Christ
and to remember all he has done for us:**

**Fill us with your Spirit
that we may follow Jesus
in all we do and say,
working for justice and bringing your peace
to this world that you have made.
Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours 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

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through 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: 'And all the people said amen'

You are not alone if you are lonely,
When you feel afraid you're not the only,
We are all the same in need of mercy,
To be forgiven and be free,

It's all you got to lean on,
But thank God it's all you need.

Chorus:

*And all the people said amen, whoa,
And all the people said amen,
Give thanks to the Lord for His love never ends,
And all the people said amen.*

2 If you're rich or poor well it don't matter,
Weak or strong you know love is what we're after,
We're all broken but we're all in this together,
God knows we stumble and fall,
And He so loved the world,
He sent His son to save us all.
And all the people said amen...

Bridge:

*Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart,
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart,
Blessed are the people hungry for another start,
For theirs is the kingdom the kingdom of God.*

And all the people said amen...

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The Blessing

May you go forth with humble hearts,
ready to serve your neighbour and a world in need,
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 for:-

Peace in places of conflict and violence. Provision of safe-haven for refugees. Inspiration of world leaders with creativity and wisdom.

Bless the work of negotiators, peacekeepers, aid providers and development workers.

For an end to the racial and social injustices in our own country.

For those all over the world who are struggling in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic . . . with illness, grief, loneliness and depression, those without work. We pray for the work of world medical scientists as they trial vaccines and other treatments.

For nations governments grappling to restore struggling economies.

May those with least not be forgotten, may their needs be adequately met.

For all front-line health carers, for their energy and safety.

We give thanks for the declining numbers of new cases of Covid-19 in Victoria.

For the worldwide church, our Diocese, and the churches in our local community. For guidance and inspiring energy for Dave as he leads the parish through this pandemic and into an intergenerational post pandemic parish.

For Emma and their 4 children.

All who preach and share your word. Inspire, lead and grow us as disciples to reach out to those in need in our community.

For our mainly music families, that we can continue to connect with them.

For our Retiring Offertory – The Bible Society

Gracious God, we raise before you those from our community who are ill, hospitalised or recuperating and for those we know within our families and circle of friends especially . . . *We pray especially for Julie, Brenda, Lillas, Marj, Keith, Ruth, Alice, Emma, Crystal, Daryl, Jan and Mick.*

We lift to you and pray that you enfold Julie and her family in your comforting love and peace following the sudden death of their beloved brother, Garry Hill. We ask that you walk with Garry's entire family and friends in their time of grief and that they will know your presence as they reflect and give thanks for the Blessings of his life with them.

We give thanks for the life of Jerry, an affectionately known member of this community, a faithful member of the Avon Parish Breakfast Group, the Segue community and a regular shopper at the op shop. We ask that you grant his family and friends your peace.

Faithful God, at the start of this new week, help us to be an example to others and show us the practical steps we need to take to develop consistency and integrity in all that we do in our lives.

NEWS AND NOTES

Greetings friends,

We welcome Dave back into the parish after just 3 days away, one of which was his day off!

The outcome of sponsorships for Dave's dedication to the week-long Ration Challenge raised \$1,600.76. A great effort Dave with thanks to sponsors from within the parish as well as elsewhere. Your week of living with hunger will assist refugees in great need.

The sermon today ia a pre-recorded presentation by David Lepore, the Church and Community Relations Coordinator of the Bible Society. We are privileged and thankful to receive David's message.

The Retiring offertory for this month is in aid of the Bible Society. Dave engaged David Lepore many months ago in line with his/our policy to engage, whenever possible, speakers from the missions we support.

Bible Society Australia is an Australian non-profit, non-denominational, Christian organisation. It is part of a worldwide network of Bible Societies. Bible Society Australia maintains that the Bible is a significant historic text which has deeply influenced society and culture and is still relevant today. The organisation is involved in translating, publishing, and distributing the Christian Bible, from print, to audio, to digital versions. Bible Society Australia is also involved in Bible advocacy, the publication of Bible reading materials, and the provision of literacy support, both in Australia and overseas. (Wikipedia)

I (Denise) have, for many years now, received each morning, a daily Bible reading, commentary, and prayer from the Bible Society in my email inbox. The

commentaries are written by different learned scholars each week, many are clergy but not all, and they come from all over Australia. I find them very worthwhile . . . bibles@biblesociety.org.au is where you can sign up to join the Daily Bible community. There is no charge.

Following the service, at 11.30am, we will re-join on Zoom for a time of social 'catch-up'. If convenient, please join in. It is a great opportunity to connect with each other.

News from Parish Council.

*We look forward to news from the Bishop regarding outcomes of a meeting of delegates from the Victorian Council of Churches and the Deputy Premier re occasions of gathered worship. Currently just 10 people and 1 leader can gather outside. Still no gatherings for regular worship inside churches at the time of this writing.

*Council endorsed Draft 4 of the Budget for 2020/21 and thanked Paul for his work in preparing the document which will go to the AGM of the Parish for adoption.

*The Holy Trinity church security alarm system upgraded to a new Bosch Alarm by B&L Electrical and Communications P/L is working very well. The alarm is armed at 9.30pm and disarmed at 7am. An app on Dave and Denise's phones notifies when each action has occurred.

*When we reach Covid-normal, hopefully by 2021, the postponed 2020 Family Fun Fair may be held on 22 May 2021 and the Trivia night on Saturday 5 June. The Family Movie Nights will be held on the 4th Friday evening of each month and the Women's Craft Group will meet on the 4th Saturday morning of each month. The seasonal Parish Dinners will resume in 2021. Hopefully, we will be able to hold a Parish Christmas party in some form this December 4th, 2020.

*Trading hours at the op shop will be increased from 3 days to 4 or 5 days from Monday 5 October. A meeting of the wardens with Dave today will discuss the way forward as we transition through the stages of emergence from Covid restrictions.

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH OF AVON

OCTOBER

Dave: - Clergy Retreat – Via Zoom

School resumes 4 October

Retiring Offertory: Act for Peace

Sun 4 October Eighteenth Day in Pentecost. Feast of St Francis of Assisi

10am All Age Family Worship at Holy Trinity

Blessing of the Animals. Day light Saving begins

Mon 5 3pm Meeting of the Op Shop Volunteers – *Tentative.*

Wed 7 **AGM Reports to the Secretary Please!!**

Sun 11 Nineteenth Day in Pentecost

4pm Healing Service at Holy Trinity.

Wed 14 Monthly Parish Council Reports Due

Sun 18 Twentieth Day in Pentecost

Tues 20 Monthly Parish Council Reports Due

Sun 25 Twenty-first Sunday in Pentecost

Tues 27 Monthly Parish Council Meeting

NOVEMBER OP Shop / Parish Raffle commences

Retiring Offertory: Gippsland Farmers

Sun 1 Twenty-second Sunday in Pentecost. All Saints Day.

Sale Show weekend

10am All Age Family Worship at Holy Trinity

Australian Anglicans & Roman Catholics pray for each other (General Synod 2001)

Tues 3 Melbourne Cup Day.

Sun 8 Twenty-third Sunday in Pentecost Prayer for the Defences Forces Aust.

AGM

4pm Healing Service at Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity Roster, 4 October, 18th Sunday in Pentecost.

Exodus 20.1-4.7-9.12-20, Ps 19. Phil 3 or 3.4b-14 Matthew 21.33-46

Priest: Dave. Lit Assist: Vic. Intercess: Vic. Org: Vic.

Flowers: Nola. Camera: Denise. Sac: Denise

Parish of Avon: The Reverend David Perryman: 0401 035 379.

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