



ANGLICAN PARISH OF AVON

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Priest in Charge- The Reverend Dave Perryman

**WELCOME TO SERVICES OF:
8.30AM ALL SAINTS BRIAGOLONG - HOLY COMMUNION
10AM HOLY TRINITY STRATFORD - FAMILY ALL AGE SERVICE**

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the traditional custodians 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: 'Come as you are' – TiS 693

1 Come as you are: that's how I want you.
Come as you are; feel quite at home,
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven.
Come as you are: why stand alone?

2 No need to fear, love sets no limits;
no need to fear, love never ends;
Don't run away shamed and disheartened,
rest in my love, trust me again.

3 I came to call sinners, not just the righteous;
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.
Each time you fail to live by my promise,
why do you think I'd love you the less?

4 Come as you are; that's how I love you;
come as you are, trust me again.
Nothing can change the love that I bear you;
all will be well, just come as you are.

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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

Arise; shine, for your light has come!
We are called out of our darkness into light.

Lift up your eyes and look around.
We rejoice in the gift of light.

Come let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.
**We come to kneel at the cradle of the babe,
the light made like us.**

The Sentence

“God has destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.”

(Ephesians 1. 15–16)

Time of thanks

Prayer of thanks

Let us pray,

**Gracious God, we humbly thank you
for life and health and safety,
for freedom to work, leisure to rest,
and for all that is beautiful in creation and human life.
But, above all, we praise you for our Saviour,
Jesus Christ,
for his death and resurrection;
for the gift of your Spirit;
and for the hope of sharing in your glory.
Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

**Ever patient God,
we are a people who live in darkness.
Forgive us our sins and lead us into all righteousness.
Help us to be people of the light, shining your light of love, peace,
and joy into all the dark places of our lives and world.
Turn our wanderings into a journey of purpose guided by your
star.
Let the light break into our lives and our world and transform us
into people of the light. 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

**Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's end
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew

¹ Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea during the time when Herod was king. After Jesus was born, some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem. ² They asked, “Where is the baby who was born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east. We came to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard about this new king of the Jews, he was troubled. And all the people in Jerusalem were worried too. ⁴ Herod called a meeting of all the leading priests and teachers of the law. He asked them where the Christ would be born. ⁵ They answered, “In the town of Bethlehem in Judea. The prophet wrote about this in the Scriptures:

⁶ ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are important among the rulers of Judah.
A ruler will come from you.
He will be like a shepherd for my people, the Israelites.’”

⁷ Then Herod had a secret meeting with the wise men from the east. He learned from them the exact time they first saw the star. ⁸ Then Herod sent the wise men to Bethlehem. He said to them, “Go and look carefully to find the child. When you find him, come tell me. Then I can go worship him too.”

⁹ The wise men heard the king and then left. They saw the same star they had seen in the east. It went before them until it stopped above the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When the wise men saw the star, they were filled with joy. ¹¹ They went to the house where the child was and saw him with his mother, Mary. They bowed down and worshiped the child. They opened the gifts they brought for him. They gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² But God warned the wise men in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they went home to their own country by a different way.

Matthew 2:1-12

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

Early Talk

Homily

Time of discussion

The Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power
from on high.**

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.

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.

And now we give you thanks
because, in the incarnation of the Word,
a new light has dawned upon the world,
that all the nations may be brought out of darkness
to see the radiance of your glory.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

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

We are here because on the night before he died
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

There he took some bread
and gave thanks to you, God.
He broke it into pieces, and gave it to them.
“This is my body,” he said,
“Do this, and know that I am with you.”

Later, he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to you.
he shared it with them, and said
“This is my blood, which brings new life.
Do this, and know that I am with you.”

And so, remembering Jesus, who died,
was raised to new life by you,
and is alive forever,
we are glad to share that life and live in him
And proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.

**Send your Holy Spirit
so that this bread and wine
can be for us the body and blood of Jesus,
and through this food
give us strength to live as your people.**

**Help us to care for your world and for each other
in the way that Jesus showed us.
Until he comes again,
with all your people
in every time and every land
we worship you in songs of everlasting praise.**

**Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
Here and everywhere,
Now and forever. 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

Lord God,
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, 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: 'I will offer up my life' – MP 990

1 I will offer up my life
in spirit and truth
pouring out the oil of love
as my worship to You.
In surrender I must give
my every part;
Lord, receive the sacrifice
of a broken heart.

Refrain:

*Jesus, what can I give,
what can I bring
to so faithful a friend,
to so loving a king?
Saviour, what can be said?
What can be sung
as a praise of Your name
for the things You have done?
Oh, my words could not tell,
not even in part,
of the debt of love that is owed
by this thankful heart.*

2 You deserve my every breath,
for You've paid the great cost;
giving up Your life to death,
even death on a cross.
You took all my shame away,
there defeated my sin,
opened up the gates of heaven
and have beckoned me in.
Jesus, what can I give...

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The Blessing

Go forth to shine for all the world to see.
Go to spread the good news of light and love,
righteousness and justice.
Go now and follow the star that will guide you on your journey
this week, this year, and forever,
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.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS

We pray:-

*For safety and protection of our beautiful world. Effective and safe management of climate change.

*For peace in places of conflict and violence. Provision of safe-haven and new beginnings for refugees.

*For an end to the racial, social and domestic violence and social injustices around the world and particularly in our own country

*For those living with ill health, grief, social unrest and economic hardship especially in the wake of the world-wide pandemic, particularly those nations where Covid-19 is raging, the USA and England.

*We give thanks for your miracle work through our world scientists who have developed vaccines against Covid-19. May they be safe and save millions of lives.

For all our defence personnel who dedicate their lives to protecting us and others from aggression, may they receive the respect and appreciation due to them and not be tarnished by the actions of very few.

For a time of refreshment and safety for school teachers, students, our mainly music families and op shop volunteers and all who are travelling and on vacation this the holiday season.

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

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

May the New Year 2021 be a time of healing and peace in our Diocese.

*For Dave as he supports Bishop Richard from his role as Chaplain.

*For guidance, inspiration, and energy for Dave as he leads the ministry,

discipleship and pastoral caring in our parish and community.

*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 a fruitful resumption of mainly music in February.

*Healing God, we lift to you those who are suffering in our parish. Those with physical, mental, or emotional illness, all carers and for those who are mourning.

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

For all who are sad and grieving.

For Jill, her family and friends following the death of Robert.

For Sandra, Keith and families following the death of a loving and beloved Father.

May you enfold them all in your comfort and peace Lord, Amen.

God of all, you reveal yourself to the world, and we share in the promise of your glory;

open our eyes to find you today that we may neither carelessly miss nor wilfully ignore your presence among us.

May we, like the sages of old, read the signs of our coming, follow your light and be drawn to adoration in your presence.

NEWS AND NOTES

Greetings friends,

We pray that your year will be a blessed one!

Dave will be on leave after Sunday 10 January for approximately 2½ weeks.

We will need to finalise our orders for the 'Disciplines' daily devotionals soon. If you want a copy, please let Dave know by next Sunday 10 January so these can be ordered. Cost is \$28.50.

WHATS ON IN THE PARISH

JANUARY 2021

Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity (resumes 29 Jan)

School resumes Thursday 28 January 2021

***Dave & family will be on Annual Leave after Sunday 10th for approximately 2 ½ weeks.*

Retiring Offertory: CBM plus completion of Act for Peace Christmas Bowl

Sun 3 Second Sunday of Christmas.
All Age Family Worship at Holy Trinity

Wed 6 The Epiphany of Our Lord.

Sun 10 1st Sunday after Epiphany. The Baptism of Jesus
Healing Service

Sat 16 8.30am Men's Breakfast

Sun 17 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Tues 19 Parish Council Report due

Fri 22 Family Movie Night

Sun 24 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Tues 26 Australia Day.

Thurs 28 Parish Council Meeting **School resumes**

Fri 29 Summer Parish Dinner at Briagolong (1)

Sat 30 10am to 3.30pm. Women's Craft in the Parish Hall.

Sun 31 4th Sunday after Epiphany
Combined Avon Parish Churches Service at All Saints
??Ecumenical Service ?St Patricks

Sunday 10 January, The Baptism of our Lord

Genesis 1.1-5. Ps 29. Acts 19.1-7. Mark 1.4-11.

Priest: Dave. Lit Assist: Denise. 1st Reading: Sandra.

2nd Reading: Julie Ferg.

Intercessions: Denise. Org: Vic. Camera: Paul. PP: Judy K

Flowers: Nola. Morning Teas: Bev T, Judy T Sac: Bev H

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