

Anglican Parish of Avon

Priest in Charge The Rev. Dave Perryman

18 April, Third Sunday of Easter

8.30am All Saints Briagolong, Holy Communion

10am Holy Trinity Church Stratford,

A service of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion



Holy Baptism

**LUKE AARON GEOFFREY
VESPERMAN**

**Today we welcome Luke into
the family of God's Church**

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: '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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Welcome/Acknowledgement of Country

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.

The Sentence

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

(John 20. 21)

Preparation for Baptism

There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God’s call to us.

One Lord, one Faith, and Baptism,
One God and Father of all.

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ.
It marks the beginning of a journey with God
which continues for the rest of our lives,
the first step in response to God’s love.
For all involved it is a joyful moment
when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ.

Family, friends and the wider community of the Church are gathered
here in welcome,
promising support and prayer for the future.
Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity
to remember our own baptism and reflect on our faith journey,
which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church.

So we welcome you, Luke, with your sponsors, family and friends.
We give thanks for you, and pray that you may know God’s love and
faithfulness for ever.

The Confession

Let us affirm our trust in God’s mercy, and confess that we need
forgiveness.

Silence for self-reflection

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image.
Forgive us when we turn away from you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death. Rescue us
from slavery to sin.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship
with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our
lives.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

The First Reading

A Reading from the First Letter from Peter

8 Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind. ⁹Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were called—that you might inherit a blessing. ¹⁰For ‘Those who desire life

and desire to see good days,
let them keep their tongues from evil
and their lips from speaking deceit;

¹¹ let them turn away from evil and do good;

let them seek peace and pursue it. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for* a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

1 Peter 3. 8-11, 21-22

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

Gospel Reading

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles* from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad.* ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’ ¹⁹He asked them, ‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth,* who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.* Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they

did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.’ ²⁵Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah* should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us* while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’ ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!’ ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Luke 24. 13-35

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Early Talk

Homily

The Presentation

We welcome Luke who has come to be baptised. I invite his sponsors, Claire, Aaron, Meagan, Breanna and William to present him now.

We present Luke to be baptised.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Luke for baptism?

We will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of Luke?

We are.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage Luke in the life and faith of the Christian community?

We will, with God's help.

The Decision

We all wander far from God and lose our way:
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.
In baptism we respond to his call.
Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

The minister says to the sponsors

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

We will, with God's help.

The minister says to the congregation

We thank God for Luke who has come to be baptised today.

Christ loves him and welcomes him into his church.

Will you support him on his journey of faith?

We will.

Let us pray.

Grant, merciful God that Luke may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in him. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in him. **Amen.**

Give to his sponsors and their families the desire to share with him what you have revealed in your holy gospel. **Amen.**

May Luke know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May he proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ. **Amen.**

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith. Hasten that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ. **Amen.**

The Baptism

The minister pours water into the font and blesses it using the following prayer

We praise you, loving Father,
for the gift of your Son Jesus.
He was baptised in the River Jordan,
where your Spirit came upon him
and revealed him as the Son you love.
He sent his followers
to baptise all who turn to him.
Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,
that those who are baptised in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,
and, filled with your Spirit,
may know that they are loved as your children,
safe in Christ for ever.

The minister says to the sponsors and congregation

Let us affirm,
together with these who are being baptised,
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,

source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?
I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God.
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Parents and godparents of Luke do you ask for baptism in this faith?
We do.

The minister says to the sponsors and congregation

Luke Aaron Geoffrey Vesperman, I baptise you in the name of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The sponsors and the congregation answer

Amen.

After Baptism

Luke, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked
as Christ's own for ever.

The minister addresses Luke

Live as a disciple of Christ:
fight the good fight,
finish the race,

keep the faith.

The congregation responds, saying

**Confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

The minister addresses Luke

God has brought you out of darkness Luke, into his marvellous light.

The congregation joins the minister saying

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

The minister addresses Luke

God has called you into his Church.

The congregation joins the minister saying

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

The Greeting of Peace

In baptism, God has made us one in Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Hymn: '10,000 Reasons' – MP 1259

Refrain:

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;
O my soul, worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.//*

//I'll worship Your holy name.//

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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.

And now we give you thanks
because by water and the Holy Spirit

you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord;
you raise us to new life in him
and renew in us the image of your glory.

Therefore, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

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

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

**Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.**

**Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.**

**Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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 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

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**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: ‘Let the weak say’ – MP 1085

//1 Let the weak say, ‘I am strong’,
let the poor say, ‘I am rich’,
let the blind say, ‘I can see,
it’s what the Lord has done in me’.

Chorus:

*//Hosanna, hosanna
to the Lamb that was slain!
Hosanna, hosanna,
Jesus died and rose again.*

2 Into the river I will wade;
there my sins are washed away.
From the heavens mercy streams
of the Saviour’s love for me.

3 I will rise from waters deep
into the saving arms of God.
I will sing salvation songs:
Jesus Christ has set me free.
Hosanna hosanna...

Let the weak say, ‘I am strong’,
let the poor say, ‘I am rich’,
let the blind say, ‘I can see,
it’s what the Lord has done in me’.

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The Blessing

Christ has brought us together:
together in faith, together in hope, together in love.
Set your feet on the path of service and reconciliation.
Go in confidence that Christ walks with you, each step of the way,

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

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever. Help us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and joy and amazement as real as was theirs when he appeared to them.

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.

*We pray specially for Luke Aaron Geoffrey Vesperman, his parents, Claire Goodluck and Aaron Vesperman, and Godparents Meagan Goodlock, Breanna Goodlock and William George, as Luke is Baptise into God's Holy Church today.

*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, Lillas, 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 and for Jane and her family. Grant them your comfort and strength Lord.

Faithful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, surround the Queen and the Royal Family with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness and strength to meet the days to come.

NEWS AND NOTES.

Today, Dave will Baptise into the family of the Christian Church, Luke Aaron Geoffrey Vesperman. We warmly welcome Luke, his parents, Claire and Aaron, and Godparents Meagan, Breanna and William and pray for them at this important time.

Parish Council Reports are due this Tuesday, thank you.

This Friday, 23 April, marks The Bard's Birthday (Shakespeare born 23 April 1564, died 23 April 1616), a date that reminds us our **Ecumenical Traditional Service of Evensong is just 2 weeks hence – Sunday 2 May, 4.30pm.**

Bishop Richard will be presiding, Priest Dave assisting and The Reverend Nikolai Blaskow preaching. Also featuring the Stratford Singers. We will be hosting a light tea after the service.

*Please plan to keep this date free it will be a great evening . . . invite friends!

This Saturday, 24 April, the Women's Fellowship and Craft Group will commence at 10am in the Parish Hall.

Next Sunday 25 April, ANZAC day, Avon Parish Services will take place at the usual times: 8.30am St Mary's Munro and 10am Holy Trinity Stratford.

Thurs 29 April, Family Fun Fair Planning Meeting

Saturday 1 May, 10am to 3.30pm the Final Quiet Day and Thanksgiving Service for the Anam Cara Community will be held at the Cathedral. Dean Susanna will lead the Community in a final Quiet Day, a time of reflection, sharing in fellowship and giving thanks. Bishop Richard will lead the Thanksgiving Eucharist in the afternoon. A light lunch will be provided. RSVP is essential by Saturday 17 April to Jane: janegriff88@gmail.com

Please note time is marching on towards the Family Fun Fair on Saturday 22 May. Time frameworks for the next 6 weeks include forward notices in the Bulletin re:-

- Parishioners who are preserves makers, we are asking please, for donations of jams and pickles etc – thank you.
- Request to parishioners to please commence baking cakes, slices etc in early May and up to the Fun Fair.
- Request to parishioners to please bake biscuits for the tea and coffee stand.

As always, sharing of assistance and 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

- 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
7.30pm. 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

May 1 10am to 3.30pm. Final Quiet Day & Thanksgiving Service for the Anam Cara Community

Sunday 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

Sun 9 MOTHERS DAY

Congregational Meeting at Holy Trinity (2)
4pm Healing Service

Sunday 25 April, Fourth Sunday of Easter. ANZAC Day

Acts 4.5-12. Ps 23. 2nd Read 1John 3.16-24. John 10.11-18
Priest: Dave, Lit Assist: Gail. 1st Read Wendy. 2nd Sandra

Intercess: Gail. Org: Vic. Sides: Wendy, Jillian

Camera: Paul/Judy K. Flowers: Judy K.

MT. Sandra, TBA. Sac: Bev H.

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