

All Age Worship
Pentecost 10

"He handed out gifts above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, filled earth with his gifts." - Ephesians 4. 9

Welcome to services of:

8.30am All Saints Briagolong - Holy

Communion +

10am Holy Trinity Stratford - Holy

Communion

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: 'Mighty to save' - MP 1168

1 Everyone needs compassion, love that's never failing; let mercy fall on me. Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a saviour; the hope of nations.

Chorus:

Saviour,
He can move the mountains,
my God is mighty to save,
He is mighty to save.
Forever,
author of salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave,
Jesus conquered the grave.

2 So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures, fill my life again.
I give my life to follow everything I believe in, now I surrender.
Saviour, he can move...

Bridge:

//Shine your light
and let the whole world see,
we're singing
for the glory of the risen King,
Jesus.//

Bridge

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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.

Acknowledgement of Country/Welcome

Call to worship

Encourage one another: to live as people worthy of God's calling.

As one body of Christ, we gather together this day.

Blessed by one Spirit, we gather in unity and love.

The Sentence

"Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love"

(*Ephesians 4. 1-2*)

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

God shows great love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Silence for self-reflection

Therefore, let us confess our sins to God.

Gracious God, we want to live as people worthy of your calling.

Help us recognize your gifts and blessings, that we may live up to our calling and bless others with our words and our lives. When we fall short, have mercy on us and forgive our sins. When we don't know our mistakes, speak truth to us with your loving guidance. Create a new heart within us, a heart full of love and gratitude. Nourish us with the grace of your presence, that we may indeed live as people worthy of your calling. Amen.

The Absolution

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day

God of forgiveness and new beginnings, you feed our hearts with compassion, and nourish our souls with the bread of heaven. As Jesus fed the hungry crowds, knowing that they needed both physical bread and the bread of heaven, fill us with your generous spirit and make us one with Christ. Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

¹⁻² In light of all this, here's what I want you to do. While I'm locked up here, a prisoner for the Master, I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run!—on the road God called you to travel. I don't want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don't want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere.

⁴⁻⁶ You were all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together, both outwardly and inwardly.

You have one Master, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness.

⁷⁻¹³ But that doesn't mean you should all look and speak and act the same. Out of the generosity of Christ, each of us is given his own gift. The text for this is,

He climbed the high mountain, He captured the enemy and seized the plunder, He handed it all out in gifts to the people.

He handed out gifts above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, filled earth with his gifts.

He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ's followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ's body, the church, until we're all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God's Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ.

¹⁴⁻¹⁶ God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love—like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love.

Ephesians 4. 1-16

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 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: 'The Table'

//1 I will feast at the table of the Lord, I will feast at the table of the Lord, I won't hunger anymore at His table.//

Chorus:

Come all you weary come and find, His yoke is easy His burden is light, He is able He will restore, At the table of the Lord.

2 There is peace at the table of the Lord There is peace at the table of the Lord I won't worry anymore at His table

3 There is healing at the table of the Lord, there is healing at the table of the Lord, oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table. *Come all you weary come and find...*

Bridge:

I know He has a place for me Oh what joy will fill my heart With the saints around the mercy seat of God

Chorus:

Come all you weary come and find, His yoke is easy His burden is light, He is able He will restore, At the table of the Lord.

4 I'm invited to the table of the Lord, I'm invited to the table of the Lord, He says come just as you are to His table.

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The Great Thanksgiving

God is here.

We praise God together.

Let us say thank you to God who has done so much for us.

God, you made us, and the world and everything in it. All the good we see comes from you. You have always loved us but people have not always loved you. You sent Jesus to show us how to live and to bring us back to you again.

Amen. We are alive in Jesus.

He died for us on the cross so that through your Spirit we can all be your people.
And so with thanks we praise you.
Amen. We are alive in Jesus.

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." Amen. We are alive in Jesus.

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."

Amen. We are alive in Jesus.

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. 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 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 and say:
We praise you.
We thank you.
We bless you.
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.

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

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Father,
we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
though 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: 'Hear our praises'

1 May our homes be filled with dancing, may our streets be filled with joy, may injustice bow to Jesus, as the people turn and pray.

Chorus:

From the mountain to the valley, hear our praises rise to You, from the heavens to the nations, hear our singing fill the air.

2 May our light shine in the darkness, as we walk before the cross, may Your glory fill the whole earth, as the water over the seas. *Chorus*

Bridge:

///Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.///

Chorus:

From the mountain to the valley, hear our praises rise to You, from the heavens to the nations, hear our singing fill the air

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The Blessing

In the Spirit of peace, we go into the world.

May we share the unity and love we have found here,
that others may touch the presence of Christ's peace,
and the grace of God's love,
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.

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BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS

Lord Jesus, giver all, you equip each of us for the journey of following you.

In this time of prayer, we thank you for supplying all our needs and offer you the love of our hearts as we pray for our Churches here in Avon Parish and for all its varied ministries; for the youngest to the oldest; for those of certain faith and for those who struggle with doubts.

*Creator God we pray for the people of our world who are less fortunate than we are, especially those who live in the third world, in countries where there is very little governmental stability and in countries where there is drought or famine and where there is a shortage of Covid vaccine. Help us to remember those who are weary with the relentless struggle to keep alive; for those who can never look forward to a good meal and a comfortable bed, and those who barely have the necessities of life, much less so many material luxuries which we so often take for granted.

*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, may current lockdowns succeed and life return to Covid normal. For those who have lost their businesses and income, for others who are struggling to keep their business afloat.

*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 own ministries and support of Dave.

Guide us in our ministries as we live each day determined to give care and support to those who are in need.

*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. We pray for a successful new term in mainly music.

*For our Retiring Offertory: CMS

*Healing God, we raise before you those who are sick. We ask that you will ease their pain and heal the damage done to them in body, mind or spirit. Be present with them through the support of friends and in the care of doctors and nurses, fill them with the warmth of your love now and always. We pray for any who are in special need of our prayers at this time, especially those known personally to us. We raise them now before you:

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

Merciful God we offer our thanks for lives well lived and have now come to an end. Be close to those bereaved by their passing and console them with your unfailing love:-

For Claudette, Bishop Arthur's wife, daughters Sharon, Sandra, and Elizabeth, their families and friends.

For Barb Logan, well known to so many clergy and laity in our Diocese. O God, enfold her, her family, and friends in your loving comfort.

For Anne Peters, her family and friends as they come to terms with Tony's death. Grant them your comfort Lord and give them peace.

NEWS AND NOTES

Good morning friends,

We are very thankful for the easing of restrictions that have allowed us to meet together once again for worship.

Whilst we give thanks for this, with the ongoing vigilance required and with the tightness around some areas, a lot of parish programs and activities will remain in recess.

The current restrictions are in place until 10 August.

Friday Morning prayers have recommenced at Holy Trinity. You are most welcome to join us.

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

AUGUST

Thursdays. mainly music, 9.30am in the Parish Hall during School Term.

Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayers in Holy Trinity.

Retiring Offertory: CMS

Tues 3 National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day

Thurs 5 9-10.30am Intergenerational Pathways Online Workshop.

Fri 6 The Transfiguration of Jesus

Sun 8 Eleventh Sunday in Pentecost. The Transfiguration of Jesus

Healing Service

International Day of the World's Indigenous People (2014

UN) Actual Day is August 9.

Thurs 12 11am Budget Planning Meeting

Sat 14 Men's Breakfast.

Sun 15 Twelfth Sunday in Pentecost

Baptism at Holy Trinity

Tues 17 Parish Council Reports Due

Sat 21 Women's Fellowship and Craft Day

Sun 22 Thirteenth Sunday in Pentecost.

Congregational Meeting at Holy Trinity (3)

Mon 23 – 26 Clergy Conference

Tues 24 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting

Fri 27 Family Movie Night

Sat 28 Op Shop Fashion Parade.

Sun 29 Fourteenth Sunday in Pentecost.

10am Combined Church Centres Worship at Stratford

Day of Prayer for Refugees (General Synod 2001)

Social Justice Sunday

7.30pm Ecumenical Worship at Holy Trinity

Sunday 8 August Pentecost 11.

2 Sam 18. 5-9, 14, 31-33. Ps. 130 Eph 4. 25 - 5.2 John 6. 35, 41-51

Priest: Dave, Lit Assist: Gail. 1st Read: Denise 2nd Read: Vic

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

Camera: Paul. PPT: Denise. Flowers: Judy K

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