



THE Anglican Parish of Woodend-Trentham

A member of the Central Highlands Cluster Ministry

St George's, Trentham 9.00am | St Mary's, Woodend 11.00am



2nd August, 2020 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

We acknowledge the Jaara Jaara people,
the custodians of this land where we gather.
We pay our respects this day and always to elders past, present and
emerging, and we pray for true listening that leads to true
reconciliation.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The Lord is near to all who call on him in truth. He fulfils the desire of all that fear him, hears their cry, and saves them. Psalm 145.18–19

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

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 Shema

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all you heart, and with all you 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 you neighbour as yourself.’

With those words in our hearts and on our lips we confess our sins, with faith and confidence that God's forgiveness is ours in abundance.

The Confession

**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

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us pray

O God, giver of life and health,
whose Son Jesus Christ has called us
to hunger and thirst for justice:
refresh us with your grace,
that we may not be weary in well-doing,
for the sake of him who meets all our needs,
Jesus Christ our Saviour;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the book of Genesis chapter 32 verses 22 to 31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I

will not let you go, unless you bless me.” So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.” Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.” The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Psalm 17 verses 1 to 7, and verse 16

Hear my just cause, O Lord, give heed to my cry:
listen to my prayer, that comes from no lying lips.

**Let judgement for me come forth from your presence:
and let your eyes discern the right.**

Though you search my heart, and visit me in the night-time:
though you try me by fire, you will find no wickedness in me.

**My mouth does not transgress, like the mouth of others:
for I have kept the word of your lips.**

My steps have held firm in the way of your commands:
and my feet have not stumbled from your paths.

**I call upon you, O God, for you will surely answer:
incline your ear to me, and hear my words.**

Show me the wonders of your steadfast love,
O saviour of those who come to you for refuge:
who by your right hand deliver them
from those that rise up against them.

**And I also shall see your face, because my cause is just:
when I awake and see you as you are, I shall be satisfied.**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans chapter 9 verses 1 to 8

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit — I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

It is not as though the word of God had failed. For not all Israelites truly belong to Israel, and not all of Abraham's children are his true descendants; but "It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you." This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as descendants.

For the word of the Lord **thanks be to God**

Alleluia Alleluia

Your word O Lord, shines as a light on our path

Alleluia Alleluia

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew chapter 14 beginning at the 13th verse

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them,

“They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

For the Gospel of the Lord **praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

The Sermon

May the words of my lips and the meditations of all our hearts be acceptable to you Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer.

The Prayers of the People

In our isolation, we recognise the wilderness in the world.

In our isolation, we know that God is near.

Dispersed, yet together, we hold on to hope.

Dispersed, yet together, we connect with each other.

In our homes, we sing, "Alleluia!"

In our homes, we trust that love is stronger than hate.

Despite the challenges of this time, we celebrate in God's hope.

Despite the challenges of this time, we sing.

On this day, we trust that nothing can separate us from God's love.

Let us worship our Holy God! Alleluia!

This week our intercessions will include periods of silence so that we can include our own prayers

We pray for the places of the world in conflict:

We give thanks for places of the world showing us the example of peace:

We pray for world leaders, local leaders, community leaders, and for those who depend on their wisdom and justice:

We pray that we, your church, will share your good news through prayer and action:

We pray for those we know who are sick or grieving, especially Jeanette, Carmela, Jim, Michael and Sue, Yvonne, Gerard, Nic, and Sarah.

The Greeting of Peace

Regardless of where we experience worship this day:

We are the body of Christ

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We give thanks for the offered gifts

Blessed be God,

by whose grace creation is renewed,

by whose love heaven is opened,

by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

Blessed be God forever

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God as it is right to do.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your spirit was born of Mary

and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
forever 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
Blessed is he who comes in the Lord's name
Hosanna in the Highest**

Merciful God,
we thank you for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.
On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples,
saying, 'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.**

Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again, we celebrate,
with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for
the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*With our hearts set on the kingdom and our hands open to serve,
we pray as Jesus taught us...*

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as it is 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 forever. Amen**

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed
on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so,

Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth.

Prayer after communion...

**Eternal God, as a dispersed and faithful people,
we recommit ourselves to you.**

**In this time when we cannot receive the sacrament of bread and wine,
we give thanks for the energy of the Holy Spirit;
sent to help us share your Good News,
sent to equip us to care for the lost and lonely,
sent to inspire us to strengthen our community.**

**Give us the courage to love you,
to love those around us,
and to love ourselves in this time of isolation.**

**Remind us, lest we forget,
that nothing can separate us from your love
as revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Give us the calm reassurance that this time will pass,
and that we shall gather again once more. Amen.**

Rev'd Elizabeth Breakey

The Sending out of God's people

Notices!

**Don't forget to tune in on Saturdays at midday for Story Time!*

**Are you on the intercessions roster, or would you like to be? Please email Rev. Mel if you'd like to assist in this precious ministry that we share.*

**the editors of The Spirit are keen to hear "Stories of Faith" from lay people: reflections on what we have learned about our faith while COVID-19 has substantially changed the way we do church.. If you would like to contribute the articles must be no more than 300 words and must mention Jesus. Accompanying photos are welcome.
Please provide submissions by **Monday 10 August.***

**Masks –If you need a disposable mask to go shopping or to an appointment and don't have one please let Rev. Mel (she has a stash 😊)*

**Happy belated birthday to Rebecca Caminiti (nee Young) and Ariel Caminiti, happy birthday today to Gwen Gisborne and Anthony Caminiti and later in the week to Ray Carnovale.*

Let's sing the hymn together Love Divine, all loves excelling

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of five staves of music. The first staff has a key signature change from Bb to C major. Chords are indicated above the notes. The melody is primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and slurs. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Love divine, all loves excelling,
 joy of heaven, to earth come down,
 fix in us thy humble dwelling,
 all thy faithful mercies crown:
 Jesus, thou art all compassion,
 pure unbounded love thou art;
 visit us with thy salvation,
 enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave:
thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

Charles Wesley 1707–88 *alt.*

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The Blessing and Dismissal

God be your comfort, your strength;
God be your hope and support;
God be your light and your way;
and the blessing of God, the Creator, Christ,
and Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

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

****some thoughts from Rev. Mel*

This week I've been thinking a lot about today's gospel reading; the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand men, (plus all of the women and children!). I like to close my eyes and try to picture the gospels so that I can get a visual perspective as well as just hearing the words. But when I did that this week something strange happened – I started to feel sad. I was sad because I thought about how wonderful it would be to gather in a group together as friends, family, neighbours, community. I'm not usually someone who likes large crowds but the idea of being able to gather in any great number is suddenly very appealing.

Back in March when lockdown began I was having dreams about being in rooms full of people and I was hugging everyone – not just a quick hug but one of those big *smooshy* hugs that can't help but express love. But those dreams stopped as I got used to the new way of life we have now...don't get me wrong I still can't wait to hug friends and family but other things have taken priority in my mind so those dreams didn't happen once we got past Easter.

This gospel reading made those feelings come rushing back for me and I wondered what it was that I was meant to be learning from this, so I re-read our collect for today (the prayer after the confession and absolution) and these words jumped off the page at me:

*refresh us with your grace,
that we may not be weary in well-doing,
for the sake of him who meets all our needs.*

I think this was God's way of saying not to get disheartened by the terrible news of the day, the nasty comments about Victorians, the selfish folks who are not willing to wear a mask in order to protect others...God was saying 'don't worry I am with you, grace is yours, and I will carry you if you need me to'.

That message was my loaves and fish miracle this week, and exactly what I needed.

Blessings and love, Mel

Next week's readings – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28

Psalm 105.1-6, 16-22

Romans 10.4-15

Matthew 14.22-36

Mission and Parish Giving

To continue your financial commitment to the parish you can use the direct debit giving option:

BSB 633 000, Account 1498 24906, Ref: Parish Giving.



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Rev. Mel's days off are Thursday and Friday