

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



9th August, 2020 – Tenth 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

They cried out in fear, but Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' Matthew 14.26–27

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

Mighty God and ruler of all creation,
give new strength to our faith,
that we may recognise your presence
even when all hope seems lost.
Help us to face all trials with serenity
as we walk with Christ through the stormy seas of life
and come at the last to your eternal peace.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever, **Amen.**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the book of Genesis chapter 37 verses 1 to 4 and 12 to 28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was

the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Psalm 105 verses 1 to 6, and verse 16 to 22

O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name:
tell among the peoples what things he has done.

**Sing to him, O sing praises:
and be telling of all his marvellous works.**

Exult in his holy name:
and let those that seek the Lord be joyful in heart.

**Seek the Lord and his strength:
O seek his face continually.**

Call to mind what wonders he has done:
his marvellous acts, and the judgements of his mouth,

**O seed of Abraham his servant:
O children of Jacob his chosen one.**

Then he called down a famine on the land:
and destroyed the bread that was their stay.

**But he had sent a man ahead of them:
Joseph who was sold into slavery,**

Whose feet they fastened with fetters:
and thrust his neck into a hoop of iron.

**Till the time that his words proved true:
he was tested by the Lord's command.**

Then the king sent and loosed him:
the ruler of nations set him free;

**He made him master of his household:
and ruler over all his possessions,**

To rebuke his officers at will:
and to teach his counsellors wisdom.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans chapter 10 verses 4 to 15

For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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 22nd verse*

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

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!

We pray for those who work for peace and justice:

Peace between neighbours

Peace between kindred

Peace between lovers

In the name of the Prince of Peace

We pray for those who work for healing:

O our soul's healer, keep us at evening

Keep us at morning, keep us at noon.

We am tired, astray and stumbling,

Shield me and keep us.

We pray for those who work for a proper sharing of resources:

Bless to us O God the earth beneath our feet

Bless to us O God the path whereon we go

Bless to us O God the thing of our desire

Evermore of evermore, bless to us our rest.

We pray for those engage in public service:

Our Eternal one

Each day, each night, each light, each dark,

Be near us, uphold us, our treasure, our delight.

We pray for those who enhance our lives:

God to enfold us, God to surround us

God in our speaking, God in our thinking
God in our lives, God on our lips
God in our souls, God in our hearts.

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

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 **TOMORROW**.*

**Masks –If you need a mask to go shopping or to an appointment and don't have one please let Rev. Mel know. Please don't be stuck at home because you don't have one* 

**Prayers on Monday morning at 9am via live stream – this week from St Mary's*

Let's sing the hymn together O Jesus I have Promised

WOLVERCOTE 76.76 D

595

William Harold Ferguson
1874-1950

(♩ = 100-112)

I O Je - sus, I have pro - mised to serve you to the

end; Lord, be for e - ver near me, my ma - ster and my

friend: I shall not fear the bat - tle if

you are by my side, nor wan - der from the

path - way if you will be my guide.

O Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
Lord, be for ever near me,
my master and my friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide.

Still let me feel you near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
and tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw me nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
Lord, speak to reassure me,
to chasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
true guardian of my soul.

Lord, let me see your footmarks
and in them plant my own;
that I may follow boldly
and in your strength alone;
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my friend.

John Ernest Bode 1816–74 *alt.*

Music by permission Oxford University Press

Reproduced with permission

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*

The below poem entitled 'Forty Days' was written by a woman named Beth Barnett.

As readers of scripture we know that forty days in the bible is always accompanied by struggle or temptation or destruction...but there is also always a sign from God that we are not alone. Whether that be in the form of an angel for Jesus after his temptation in the wilderness (Matt 4.11), or in the form of a rainbow after the flood (Genesis 9.13) God's hope shines through.

from today...

forty days of Stage Four Care protocols for one another

*forty days of living out a radical hope that we can save at least some
from suffering and death*

*Forty days of measures to draw us into thinking and acting as a
community*

forty days of finding out if we think one another are worth it

forty days that will be more costly, more difficult, more stressful, more taxing, more depleting, more impossible for some than for others

forty days in which our deep inequalities are laid bare

forty days in which our dark anxieties and dysfunctions will be challenged as if by the Satan, the accuser, the one who scoffs at love and sacrifice and relinquishing control, and resisting the intoxication of power, and asserting a freedom that degrades another

forty days of a spiritual discipline – not for the sake of lent or an out of whack northern hemisphere medieval ecclesial calendar, but the real spiritual life of shared connectedness, in which we are all – whether we like it or not –

*Premier Dan,
and Bunnings Karen,
and our healthcare workforce,
and the elderly in aged care lockdown
watching death work its way around the corridor,
and the immuno-suppressed,
and those in industries who haven't had a shift since March,
and those homeless,
and those in long life-patterns of domestic violence lockdown*

forty days in the midst of two and half thousand days in detention for asylum seekers

forty days in which finger pointing is pointless

*forty days of covenant with one another,
with those who have the least
resources, hope, choices, support*

forty days in the wilderness together.

forty days for real.

Next week's readings – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45.1-15

Psalm 133

Romans 11.13-32

Matthew 15.21-28

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.



THE Anglican Parish of Woodend-Trentham

PO Box 699, Woodend, VIC 3442 |

www.woodendanglican.org.au Priest: Rev'd Melissa Clark 0411 722 718

Wardens: Greg Donaldson 0401 994 453 Robyn Leeder 0415 216 711



www.facebook.com/woodendanglican/

Rev. Mel's days off are Thursday and Friday

**cover painting Joseph and his coat of many colours by
Suzanne Tornquist*