

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



**19th July, 2020 – Seventh 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

You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Psalm 86.15

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

Saving God,
in Jesus Christ you opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and constant wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
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 28 verses 10 to 19

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know

that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel

Psalm 139 verses 1 to 11 and 23 and 24

O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:
you know when I sit or when I stand,
you comprehend my thoughts long before.

**You discern my path and the places where I rest:
you are acquainted with all my ways.**

For there is not a word on my tongue:
but you, Lord, know it altogether.

**You have encompassed me behind and before:
and have laid your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:
so high that I cannot endure it.

**Where shall I go from your spirit:
or where shall I flee from your presence?**

If I ascend into heaven you are there:
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.

**If I spread out my wings towards the morning:
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

Even there your hand shall lead me:
and your right hand shall hold me.

**If I say ‘Surely the darkness will cover me:
and the night will enclose me’,**

The darkness is no darkness with you,
but the night is as clear as the day:
the darkness and the light are both alike.

**Search me out, O God, and know my heart:
put me to the proof and know my thoughts.**

Look well lest there be any way of wickedness in me:
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans chapter 8 verses 12 to 25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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 13
beginning at the 24th verse*

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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!

Faithful God, we pray in silence and in words:

For the preservation of the earth.

Silence

We give thanks for the beauty and abundance of the earth. Give us grace to live in harmony with your creation, wisdom and generosity in our use of its bounty. Give strength to those who rescue and rehabilitate endangered animals and birds. Protect our kangaroos on our roads. Keep us all safe on icy roads and rainy days.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

For peace and shared prosperity

Silence

We give thanks for leaders who serve the common good. Give wisdom to those who have responsibility and authority at all levels of government. May we share with justice the resources of the world, and work together in trust.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

For our nation.

Silence

We give thanks for the safety of our nation. Bless all who are working to care for us through this crisis of COVID 19, doctors, nurses, epidemiologists, scientists, cleaners, teachers, emergency workers and ADF personnel. Give us courage to call out inappropriate behaviour so this virus may be brought under control soon. May we reach out to those who don't share our values and by our living show them your way of love and forgiveness.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

For the Church and its mission. *Silence*

You have promised to make us son and daughters by adoption. Help us to search our hearts and keep us in the narrow way. Bless those who are persecuted for their faith and those struggling with belief.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

For ourselves and our community. *Silence*

We give thanks for the fellowship of the communities in which we live and work. We praise you for the safe arrival of Percy, for James and Carmen, Niamh and Rupert

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

For those in need. *Silence*

We give thanks that you are the God who brings mercy and wholeness. We hold up to your healing mercies those on our parish prayer list: Maisy, Wendy, Jeanette, Carmela, Jim, Michael and Sue, Neil and Stephen, Gerard, Marion, Sam, Emma, Yvonne and Ella.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

For the faithful departed. *Silence*

We give you thanks for your servants in every age. Grant that we, with Jacob, our forefathers, all your saints, especially George and Mary, may be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of your kingdom.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

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.*

**Happy birthday to Jordyn Barker*

Let's sing the hymn together O God, you search me

O God, you search me and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down, you are before me,
Ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising.
You discern my purpose from afar,
And with love everlasting you besiege me:
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
You have known its meaning through and through.

You are with me beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past and future too.

Although your Spirit is upon me,
Still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me,
Gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

O God, you search me and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down, you are before me,
Ever the maker and keeper of my days.

Bernadette Farrell

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*

When we first went into lockdown back in March I started an evening prayer group via video chat with some of my all old college friends in Melbourne.

It was a vital support network for all of us in those initial weeks when we had no idea how we were going to keep our parishes together, whether or not we could have services (and if so how), not to mention the general worry about a virus that was steadily getting more difficult to contain.

As the weeks and months went on our little group lost a bit of momentum – we were still praying of course but not as much in our little group. With the second lockdown in Melbourne though and the worrying numbers being reported each day this group has fired back up again as those who had opened their doors have had to re-close and once again are facing the question ‘what does this second closure mean for our parish’.

Locking down for a second time is different. Those who did it tough the first time have a dread that this time will be longer and more difficult; those who breezed through and made sour dough and did ‘iso clean outs’ have realised that their first lockdown activities are not sustainable. Locking down now shows us that, even though we might have all done the right thing the first time, the virus is still there and able to take hold.

And so our group has all come back together to do what we know helps us through tough times – we’ve come back together to pray. It’s the thing that we know we can do to hold each other close, and stay in touch with what it is that God is asking of each of us...and it’s a way to keep thanking God for each of our parishes too.

If I could offer any advice to you right now it is to keep praying. Stay in touch with God and with each other through prayer. Those of you who receive the monthly prayer packs have a special prayer partner – why not give them a call as well as praying for them each day?

We are indeed all in this together and we will get through this together; apart from each other but definitely a part of each other.

Please reach out if you need support, or a chat.

With love, Mel

Come, Holy Spirit!
Give us new confidence in your grace,
new words for the mission we share,
new strength to go where you send us,
new spring in our step, as we set out
to spread our faith in changing times,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



**shared by the Archbishop of Perth via Facebook*

Next week's readings – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29.15-28

Psalm 105.1-11

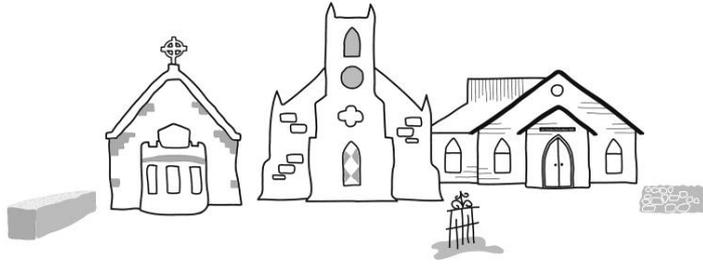
Romans 8.26-39

Matthew 13.44-58

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

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



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Rev. Mel's days off are Thursday and Friday