

THE Anglican Parish of Woodend-Trentham

A member of the Central Highlands Cluster Ministry

Live Stream via Facebook 11am Sundays



20th September, 2020 – Sixteenth 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

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2.8–9

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

Loving and righteous God,
your boundless generosity exceeds all that we can desire or
deserve,
and you give to the last worker all you promised to the first:
liberate us from all jealousy and greed,
that we may be free to love and serve others,
and in your service may find our true reward;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the book of Exodus chapter 16 verses 2 to 15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction

or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Psalm 105.1-6, 37-45

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.

He brought Israel out with silver and with gold:

and not one among their tribes was seen to stumble.

Egypt was glad at their going:

for dread of Israel had fallen upon them.

He spread out a cloud for a covering:

and fire to lighten the night.

The people asked, and he brought them quails:

and satisfied them with the bread from heaven.

He opened a rock, so that the waters gushed:

and ran in the parched land like a river.

For he had remembered his holy word:

that he gave to Abraham his servant.

So he led out his people with rejoicing:

his chosen ones with shouts of joy;

He gave them the land of the nations:

and they took possession of the fruit

for which other peoples had toiled,

So that they might keep his statutes:

and faithfully obey his laws. O praise the Lord.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians chapter 1 verses 21 to 30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary

for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

Alleluia Alleluia

We confess that you are Lord, that you are our way, truth, and life

Alleluia Alleluia

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew chapter 20 beginning at the 1st verse

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the

last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

Ever-creating God, Your glory fills the skies, from the transient sparkle of the fleeting meteor to the unexpected spectacle of a comet, Spring wind, rain and storms,
hear the prayers we offer:

pierce the darkness of our world and of our understanding.

Brokenness and loss of trust in leaders is dividing us. When trust is broken and discrimination and injustice becomes commonplace, when daily survival is precarious, then fear and division flourish.

Jesus, Light of the World,

pierce the darkness of our world and of our understanding.

We celebrate and give thanks for those, black and white, who confront racial discrimination with strength, offering the transformative way through a firm, unswerving stand for justice, truth, love and mercy. They remind us that we are all one family created from God’s loving heart.

God, while giving us free will, longs for us to choose to return and follow the Divine way, not our way. Come in your loving compassion;
Jesus, Light of the World;

pierce the darkness of our world and of our understanding.

Words can be clumsy tools at times like this, but let us meet the Christ within – in the still center in each of us where you tell us that the kingdom of God already is... come in your loving compassion. Heal our selfishness and help us reset our values to where each one of us truly looks out for one other as one human family under God. May we support those ‘doing it tough’ as best we can. Protect us as restrictions are lifted from rogues who would spread the virus amongst us.

Jesus, Light of the World

pierce the darkness of our world and of our understanding.

Help us to dare to travel the road to a new way of living in your Light and be open to the promptings of your Holy Spirit. Bless Bishop Matt, Reverend Mel and all who guide church communities in this time of change yet again. We pray for your healing light to accompany those who have asked our prayers: Jeanette, Carmela, Jim, Michael and Sue, Nic, Sarah, James, Helen and Uldis

We pray too for those who have gone before us to their eternal rest with all the Saints..... May they enjoy eternal refreshment light and peace.

And finally, we pray for ourselves. As we self-isolate, mourn, or rejoice and party, Lord, you know our lives and we place them in your safe and secure hands. Hear us, loving, living God, as we pray from the depths of our broken hearts:

pierce the darkness of our world and of our understanding. Amen

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!*

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

**foodbank – we still have our foodbank operating from St Mary's if you or one of your neighbours is in need.*

**Tuesday evening bible study by Zoom. Everyone is welcome.
Contact Rev. Mel for the zoom meeting details.*

**Pets' Blessing – if you're in Trentham keep October 3 available, and
October 4 in Woodend.*

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

**Happy birthday today to Jane Monk*

Let's sing the hymn together You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Response

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "You sa - tis - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat: come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat." The chords are: D, Bm, Em, Bm, F#m, F#m, D, A, Bm, G, F#m, Bm, Em, A, D.

Verses

1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his
voice, so when you call your fam-ily, Lord, we fol-low and re-joice.

As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
they know and heed his voice,
so when you call your family, Lord,
we follow and rejoice.

Response

With joyful lips we sing to you
our praise and gratitude
that you should count us worthy, Lord,
to share this heavenly food.

Response

The mystery of your presence, Lord,
no mortal tongue can tell:
whom all the world cannot contain
comes in our hearts to dwell.

Response

You give yourself to us, O Lord;
then selfless let us be,
to serve each other in your name
in truth and charity.

Response

Omer Westendorf 1916–

Words and music by permission the Archdiocese of Philadelphia

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*

It has been an exciting week in some ways – seeing tables outside of cafes again and people enjoying food together was great; but with that is the anxiety that the virus is still active and we all need to continue to be extremely careful.

Over the past week your Parish Council have received documents from our Bishop to help us plan for how we move forward safely, and each Parish Council member has been invited to join Bishop Matt in a conversation session to discuss our options.

There are two truths in all these conversations:

1. The virus is still active. Nothing has changed in that regard. All of the reasons for closing our doors still exist. We have had to truly *live* being the church outside of the church building.
2. The size of our church buildings and the need to be physically distanced mean that we are still very restricted with what we can do, however the Spring / Summer weather might give us options to gather in safe numbers outside.

Please know that the parish leadership group are exploring all of our options and working through the details, but at all times the safety and well being of the members of the parish will be the guide.

I know that many of you have taken this time to reflect deeply on what

it means to be the church, how special it is to be able to share the sacrament of communion together, and how much we love to gather each week. These will be the learnings that keep us together during all of this, and we will bring those learnings back to church with us when we can once again gather as a renewed community...whenever that will be.

Please pray for your Parish Council, Wardens, and Bishop Matt as we work through all of these things – and please do keep in touch with each other and remember that despite our buildings being closed, THE CHURCH is still open! We are the church, the body of Christ and his Spirit is indeed with us!

Blessings and love as we pilgrim together, Mel

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.

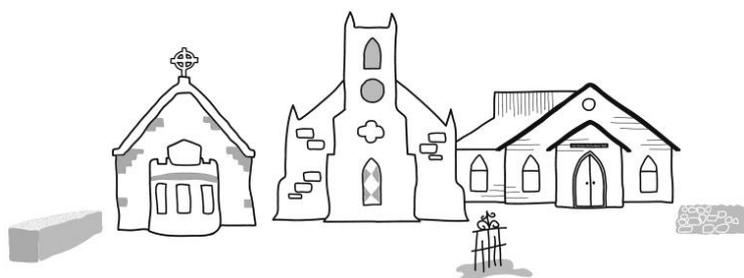
Next week's readings – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16.2-15

Psalms 105.1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1.21-30

Matthew 20.1-16



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Rev. Mel's days off are Thursday and Friday

Cover artwork is Crossing the Red Sea by Yoram Raanan.