



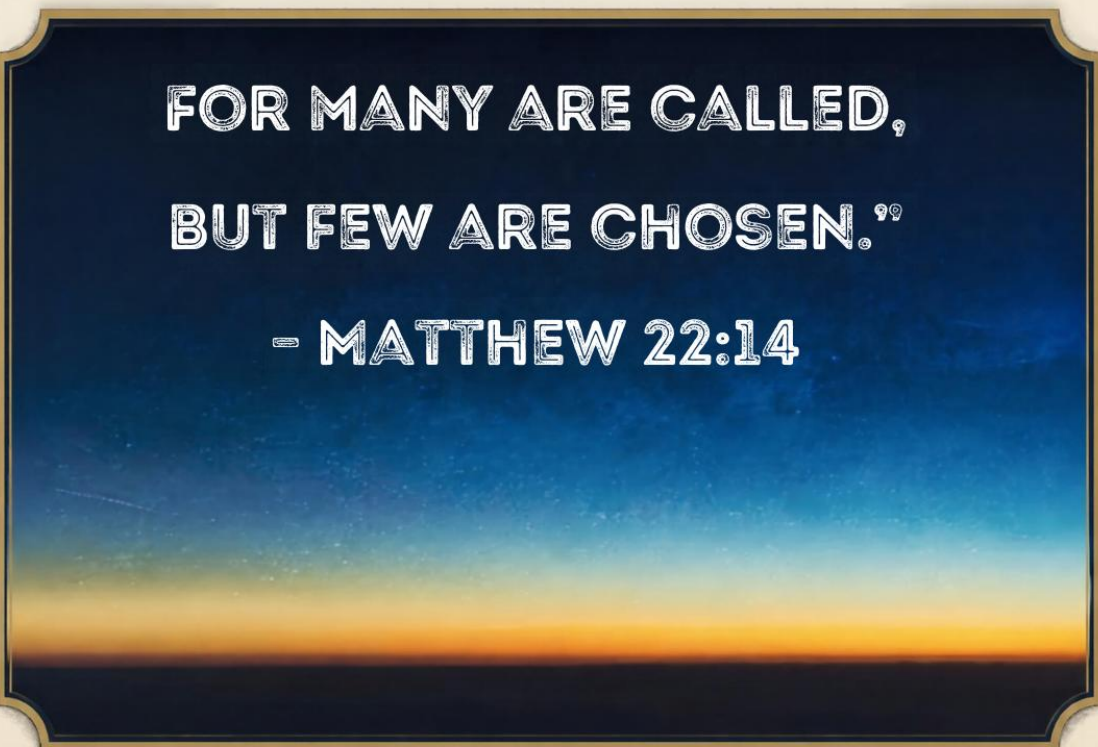
Anglican Parish of Avon

♦ Sunday 11 October, Pentecost 20 ♦

Welcome to Worship in our Parish

FOR MANY ARE CALLED,
BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN.”

- MATTHEW 22:14



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.

Holy Trinity is fitted with a hearing loop

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Opening Hymn: 'Here in this place'

1 Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness, vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat, the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

3 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven light years away,

but here in this space, the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in, and hold us forever;
gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*Words and music by Marty Haugen, 1950-
Together in Song 474
Words by permission of G. I. A. Publications, Inc.*

Greeting

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Acknowledgement of Country/Welcome

Call to worship

Rejoice in God always. Again I say, Rejoice!
Take heart; the Lord is near.

Make it known among the people: God reigns.
Proclaim it from the rooftops.

Let gentleness and mirth be your guide.
Rejoice in God always. Again I say, Rejoice!

Take heart; the Lord is near.

The Sentence

This is our God for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

(Isaiah 25.9)

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

**Holy God, we come before you this day
with praise on our lips
and songs of joy in our hearts.
When we abide in your kingdom
and live according to your ways,
love is stronger than hate,
and truth wins the day.
Focus our hearts and minds
on things that are worthy of praise,
and bless us with a peace
that passes all understanding. Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day – *Together*

Let us pray.

**Saving and healing God,
you have promised
that those who have died with Christ shall live with him:
grant us grace to be continually thankful
for all you have done for us,
and in that thankfulness
to be eager to serve and live for others,**

**so that we and all your children may rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

The First Reading

A Reading from Exodus

¹ When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, ‘Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ ² Aaron said to them, ‘Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.’ ³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.’ ⁶ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel. ⁷ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”’ ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’ ¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, ‘O Lord, why does your wrath

burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth”? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.” ’ ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people. *Exodus 32.1-14*

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 106 – *We will say the Psalm in alternate half verses*

1 Praise the Lord;
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
and his mercy endures for ever.

2 Who can express the mighty acts of the Lord:
or fully voice his praise?

3 Blessed are those who act according to justice:
who at all times do the right.

4 Remember me, O Lord,
when you visit your people with your favour:
and come to me also with your salvation,

5 That I may see the prosperity of your chosen:
**that I may rejoice with the rejoicing of your people,
and exult with those who are your own.**

6 We have sinned like our ancestors:

we have acted perversely and done wrong.

20 At Horeb they made themselves a calf:
and bowed down in worship to an image.

21 And so they exchanged the glory of God:
for the likeness of an ox that eats hay.

22 They forgot God who was their saviour:
that had done such great things in Egypt,

23 Who had worked his wonders in the land of Ham:
and his terrible deeds at the Red Sea.

24 Therefore he thought to destroy them:
**had not Moses his servant stood before him in the breach,
to turn away his wrath from destroying them.**

The Second Reading

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians

¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,

if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. *Philippians 4.1-9*

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Early Talk

The Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ ‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there

will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.’ *Matthew 22.1-14*

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Time of Discussion

During the time of discussion, we move into groups with those around us to discuss questions as displayed on screen, arising from the sermon’s themes.

If you’d prefer to remain by yourself in silence, prayer or reflection, please indicate by placing your hands over your heart.

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 Confession

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Silence for self-reflection

Faithful God, you give us chance after chance, opportunity after opportunity, when we do not take them,
forgive us and help us, we pray.

You entrust to us things that are precious, and life-giving, when we do not share them,
forgive us and help us, we pray.

You offer us a share in your kingdom, a path to fulfilment, when we want our own way and go our own way,
forgive us and help us, we pray.

You invite us to work for the future, to bless the next generation, when we live for ourselves and look only at now,
forgive us and help us, we pray.

The Absolution

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour

forgive us our sins
and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

Offertory Hymn: 'Be thou my vision'

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, thy child let me be;
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

3 Be thou my armour, my sword for the fight,
be thou my dignity, thou my delight;
thou my soul's shelter and thou my high tower:
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

4 Riches I scorn and the world's empty praise,
thou my inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only the first in my heart;
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

5 High King of heaven, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

*Words: Gaelic c.8th cent.
tr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1880-1931
versified by Eleanor Henrietta Hull 1860-1935 alt.
Tune: Slane
Together in Song 547
CCLI # 7056332*

Offertory Prayer

**God of steadfast love, your bounty knows no bounds.
For the abundant gifts in our lives,
we thank you.
For the peace that passes all understanding,
we praise you.
Receive the gifts we bring you this day. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here.
God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God,
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
the pioneer of our salvation,
one of us, yet from the heart of God.

For with your whole created universe,
we praise you for your unfailing gift of life.
Your love is shown to us, for while we were yet sinners,

Christ died for us.

In that love, dear God,
righteous and strong to save,
you came among us in Jesus Christ,
our crucified and living Lord.

You make all things new.
In Christ's suffering and cross
you reveal your glory
and reconcile all peoples to yourself
their true and living God.

Through Christ you gather us,
new-born in your Spirit,
a people after your own heart.
Therefore with saints and martyrs,
apostles and prophets,
with all the redeemed,
joyfully we praise you and say:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ,
the one perfect offering for the world,
who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread,
and when he had given thanks,
broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you.

This is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you, and for many, to forgive sin.

Do this as often as you drink it
to remember me.

Therefore, God of all creation,
in the suffering and death of Jesus our redeemer,
we meet you in your glory.
Here and now, with this bread and wine,
we celebrate your great acts of liberation,
ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come.

With thanksgiving and hope we say:

**Glory to you, Lord Christ;
your death we show forth;
your resurrection we proclaim;
your coming we await;
Amen! Come Lord Jesus.**

**Send your Holy Spirit,
that we who receive Christ's body
may indeed be the body of Christ,
and we who share his cup
draw strength from the one true vine.**

**Called to follow Christ,
help us to reconcile and unite.
Called to suffer,
give us hope in our calling.**

**For you, the heavenly one, make all things new;
you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first,
to whom we bring our songs of everlasting praise.**

**Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
here and everywhere,
now and forever. 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.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Let us draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with
thanksgiving.

The Sending Out of God's People

Holy and blessed God,
you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son
and filled us with your Holy Spirit:
may we honour you,
not only with our lips
but in lives dedicated to the service
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Send us, we pray, in the strength of this meal,
to tell the Good News to neighbours and strangers
with creative words
and compassionate service,
walking the way of Christ.**

Announcements

Missional Hymn: 'All my hope on God is founded'

1 All my hope on God is founded;
all my trust he will renew,

through all change and chance he guides me,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

2 Daily the almighty giver
will his bounteous gifts bestow;
in his will our souls find pleasure,
leading us where'er we go.
Love will stand
at his hand,
joy shall wait for his command.

3 Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Hear Christ call
one and all:
those who follow shall not fall.

Words by Robert Bridges, 1844-1930 (alt.)

Composed by Herbert Howells, 1892-1983 Tune: Michael Together in Song 560i CCLI # 761276

The Blessing and Dismissal

Go in Jesus' name, restored and renewed.
May you know God's face shining on you,
and the God's Spirit flowing through you,
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go, walk gently on country to love and serve our God.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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Bulletin Prayer Points

Everlasting God, you promised that your presence would always go with your chosen people, the Jews, and we pray that feeling your presence will comfort them at this time of grief. We pray that we too may always find you accompanying us on our life journey and that ultimately, we would find your deep peace in our lives

Creator God, we pray for the peoples of the world that they may enjoy unperverted justice whether they be poor or rich, great or small. We pray that those who use violence and terror to bring about their desires and those who then so readily seek revenge following acts of terrorism may instead pursue all that makes for peace. We pray especially for the people of Ukraine struggling through a brutal war and the Middle East, living with grief and devastation. We pray especially for the Jews of our world mourning the massacre of October 7 and the Bondi massacre.

We pray for Bishop Richard and his family and give thanks for our Priest Dave. May your Holy Spirit guide and sustain Dave in all his ministries, including his forthcoming second tenure in our parish and his work at the registry. Guide us all as we shape a new vision for the parish.

Bless Emma and their children.

We pray for all who preach your word, inspire and lead us. Help us grow discipleship as we reach out to our community, our country and the world.

For School Chaplains, especially Dr Steve.

We pray for our outreach ministries. For ongoing success of our op shop, the Men's Breakfasts, our ministries to families, mainly music, the Movie Nights, the Family Fun Fair, the Stratford Community Christmas Carols and Family Fun Time, deliveries to our supporters in the community and others.

Father God, we thank you for our families, friends and for our community.

Loving God, friend of those in need, your Son Jesus has loosened our burdens and healed our spirits. We lift before you those still burdened, those

seeking healing, those in need within the church and the world. For Dylan, Kerrie, Gail, Paul, Barb, Fiona, George, Edie, Tim, Keith, Angela, Cynthia, Lloyd, Dawn, Mick, Judy, Deb, Joy, Marion, Jan and Graeme.

Give comfort to those who grieve give to their troubled hearts the light of hope and strengthen in all of us the gift of faith, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Faithful God, at the start of this new week and recognising your trust in us to live and preach the Gospel make us always more ready to please you rather than to seek the praise of the secular world. AMEN

NEWS AND NOTES

Good morning, friends.

David Luxford's book, *The Spirit of MUNRO*, was launched yesterday – what a well-deserved celebration! David says his book is a revised edition of the delightful writing: “*Sap in Their Veins: A History of Munro (1988)*”.

We look forward to hearing from those who attended Saturday's launch and the special 8.30am service facilitated by Dave at St Mary's Church this morning.

AGM reports are now due. The AGM is scheduled for Sunday 8 November, although it may be postponed until 15 November.

The proposed secularisation of All Saints, Briagolong, is scheduled for Wednesday 4 November at 3 pm. All are welcome.

Dave writes: -

Shape the Future of Our Church: Take the NCLS!

Our church is participating in the 2026 National Church Life Survey (NCLS), and we want to hear from you! If you are aged 15 years or over, you are warmly invited to complete the Attender Survey.

The survey asks about your experiences of our church, your thoughts on our ministries, and your personal spiritual journey. Your confidential,

anonymous feedback helps our local leadership assess our church health, understand our strengths, and plan directions for the future.

- Time required: 15–20 minutes
- How to participate on paper: On Sunday 25th October, we'll be filling out the surveys during our service.
- How to participate online: Go to attendersurvey.ncls.org.au and enter our unique Church Code: Stratford - ANV01101 , Briagolong - ANV01102 , Munro - ANV01103

Thank you for helping us reflect and grow together! For more general info about the survey, visit [NCLS Research](https://nclsresearch.org.au).

Many thanks,

Dave

The Men's Breakfast Group will meet this Saturday at 8.30 am.

Looking to support us? Ways to give:

- Via the offertory bags passed around during our Sunday services (sealed envelopes also available)
- Via bank transfer –
Anglican Parish of Avon, BSB – 063526,
Account number – 10493155.
- Or follow the QR code below:



READINGS AND ROSTER FOR THIS COMING SUNDAY

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER. PENTECOST 21

Exodus 33.12-23 1Thess 1.1-10 Matthew 22.15-33

PIC Dave. LA Vic. Chalice Judy T. 1st Kevin. 2nd Gail.

Intercessions: Vic. Org: Vic. Sides: Wendy, Nola

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

Morning Tea: Bev H. Gail W

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

OCTOBER

Thursdays mainly music. 9.30am Parish Hall during School Term.

Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity

Wednesdays 7.30pm Bible Studies

October World Community Day - the last Friday in October. but we will celebrate on the last Sunday in October this year.

Retiring Offertory: Catherine Hamlin Fistula Foundation: Australian Charity in Ethiopia working to Eradicate Fistula (repeat from 2025)

AGM Reports are now due

Sun 11 Pentecost 20

4pm Healing Service at Holy Trinity.

Sat 17 **Men's Breakfast**

Sun 18 Pentecost 21 **All-age services**

Tues 20 Parish Council Reports

Fri 23 **Family Movie Night**

Sun 25 Pentecost 22 World Community Day, Ecumenical Service at St Andrews UCA Usually the last Friday in October

Parish of Avon: The Reverend David Perryman: 0401 035 379.

Email:davidjrperryman@gmail.com