

Anglican Parish of Avon

Sunday 28 June, Pentecost 5

Vocations Sunday



Welcome to services of Holy Communion at
8.30am St Mary's Munro
10am Holy Trinity Stratford

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the original custodians 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: 'The Servant Song'

1 Brother, sister, let me serve you;
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I might have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey;
We are family on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the miles and bear the load.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joys and sorrows
Till we've seen this journey through.

5 When we sing to God in Heaven
We shall find such harmony,

Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

6 Brother, sister, let me serve you;
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I might have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.

*Comp: Richard Gillard
Arr: Betty Pulkingham
Together in Song 650
CCLI # 72673*

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

Called by God, we have come to worship.
Called by Christ, we have come to follow.

Called by the Spirit, we have come to rejoice.
Called together, we will listen and pray.

The Sentence

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one
another in love.

(Eph 4. 1-2)

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

**Holy God, we gather to sing your praise and hear your word.
Speak to us now,
that we may be discerning to perceive your call.
Strengthen us now,
that we may be brave enough to answer when you call.
Guide us now,
that we may follow
where you would have us go
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Confession

We remember that the Lord Jesus died to take away our sins.

Silence for self-reflection

Loving God,
You have invited us into
relationship with You, and others.
For the times when we have turned away and
broken the bonds between us.
Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

You have given us many gifts to
share with one another.
For the times when we have used
them without regard for others.

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

You invited us to be to be Your
disciples in the world.

For the times when we have rejected Your
invitation and taken our own path.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

The Absolution

God forgives us.

Let us forgive others;

Let us forgive ourselves.

Amen.

The Prayer of the Day – *Together*

Let us pray.

Lord, who lifts us up, reside in our hearts today.

Help us to listen closely for your word and call to us.

**Remind us that you are always with us,
throughout all of our lives.**

Give us confidence in your presence,

so that we may go into your world

ready to witness to your love

through our works and our deeds,

for we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen

The Ministry of the Word

Psalm 106 – *We will say the Psalm together*

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.**

A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

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.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 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 coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be

anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, 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. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me but had no opportunity to show it. Not that I am referring to being in need, for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. In any case, it was kind of you to share my distress.

Philippians 4.1-14

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Early talk

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 Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare the faith of the Church:

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.**

**We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.
Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**

**We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end. Amen.**

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 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: 'Here I am, Lord'

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Chorus:

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go, Lord,

if You lead me.

I will hold Your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord...

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give My life to them.

Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord...

*Words and music by
Daniel Schutte
Together in Song 658
© Oregon Catholic Press*

Offertory Prayer

**Heavenly Father,
as we set before you these gifts of bread and wine,
bless also the gift of our hearts and minds
as we offer our lives in your service;
for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
heavenly Father, source of all that is,
for you have called our world into existence,
and filled it with abundant life.

You called a chosen people as your own,
and led them in the way of holiness.
You called your beloved Son,

in whom you were well pleased,
to give his life for us on the cross,
and rise again in glory.

And now we give you thanks
that you call men and women
to equip your holy people for the work of ministry,
for the building up of the body of Christ.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever 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 are you, most holy, in your Son;
On that night before he died
he took bread and gave you thanks.
He 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 gave you thanks.
He gave it to them and said:
Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant,
shed for you, shed for all,
to forgive sin;
do this to remember me.

Therefore with this bread and wine
we recall your goodness to us.
God of the past and present,

we your people remember your Son.
We thank you for his cross and rising again,
we take courage from his ascension;
we look for his coming in glory
and in him we give ourselves to you.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

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.

Let us draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with thanksgiving.

The Sending Out of God's People

Lord, we pray that your grace
may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Through Christ, and with all your saints,
we offer ourselves
and our lives to your service.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit,
to stand with you in your world.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant,
our friend and brother. Amen.**

Announcements

Missional Hymn: 'The Summons'

1 Will you come and follow me,
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown?
Will you let my name be known?
Will you let my life be grown
in you and you in Me?

2 Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

3 Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around?
Through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me.

4 Lord Your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where Your love and footsteps show,
thus I'll move and live and grow,
in you and you in me.

*Words and music by
Graham Maule and John L. Bell
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CCLI # 4668756*

The Blessing and Dismissal

May the boldness of the Spirit transform you,
may the gentleness of the Spirit lead you,
may the gifts of the Spirit equip you
to serve and worship God;
and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life 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

Holy God, we raise our prayers to you in the power of the Spirit which unites us with Christ Jesus trusting that you will hear our prayers and use them to accomplish your will for the world and for the church.

May your Holy Spirit walk with Bishop Richard and Priest Dave in all the ministry, administration and pastoral care that they give and do. Bless their families.

We pray for school chaplains, for Dr Steve's ministry and care for school students.

Give our clergy, lay leaders and parishioners the grace to care for the marginalized and boldly proclaim your good news.

Creator God, we pray for people in parts of the world where life is precarious, whether through disaster, poverty, disease, or war. We pray that the time may be hastened when there is peace on earth and goodwill between all people. Especially we pray for our precious world; help us to be good stewards so that we can pass it on in good order to the generations yet to come.

Mighty God; intervene and move within our nations especially in Ukraine, The Middle East and Sudan.

We pray for the victims of the Venezuela earthquakes. For the injured, for those still not released from the collapsed buildings, for those who mourn.

We pray for the First Peoples of this ancient land, that the gift of their culture and love of country will be accepted by the whole nation. That the path to reconciliation will be walked with intention and grace.

Father God, we pray today for our friends, our families and our Christian community, that united by our common baptism we may always welcome the newcomer, the stranger and all who are vulnerable. Help us always to follow Jesus' words and advice on hospitality and generous giving and realise that accepting someone's help is as good as giving someone help.

Gracious God, we pray for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit and for those who care for them. We pray for the sick; for those who mourn; for those without faith, hope or love. We especially pray for *Kerrie, Gail, Barb, Fiona, George, Paul, Edie, Tim, Keith, Angela, Cynthia, Lloyd, Dawn, Mick, Judy, Deb, Joy, Marion, Jan and Graeme*.

Merciful God, we remember before You those who have died and those who are bereaved by their passing. We give back to you, Lord, those whom you gave to us. Your son taught us that life is eternal and that love cannot die. So death is only a horizon, and a horizon is only the limit of our sight. Open our eyes to see more clearly, and draw us closer to you, so that we may know we are nearer to our loved ones, who are with you.

Loving God, we offer ourselves to you in faith and confidence. Show us as we go out into the world how we can best prepare ourselves to be part of your response to our prayers. Fill us with the Spirit of life which was in Christ Jesus, your Son and our Saviour

NEWS AND NOTES

Today we are celebrating “Vocations”. Vocations Sunday is an annual event where the church encourages congregants to reflect on their personal calling from God. It highlights that every Christian has a vocation—whether in everyday life, lay ministry, or ordained roles like becoming a priest or deacon.

We warmly welcome The Reverend Anne and Lance Perryman. In her sermon, Reverend Anne will share her experience of being “called” by God.

We can reflect, a vocation is God's unique calling for one's life, guiding us to find our purpose, serve others, and grow in holiness.

God's call can take many forms. It may begin as an inviting thought, a growing desire to serve, or a deep reflection on what God is asking of us. This calling may be lived out in marriage, single life, our profession or daily work, always helping to meet the needs of God and God's people.

Dave has returned from Clergy Conference and will commence two weeks annual leave commencing this week. We wish Dave, Emma, Timmy, Eli, Jacob, and Luci a wonderful 2 weeks of rest, relaxation and family fun time.

Gail and Paul have moved into their new home. We pray they enjoy many years of health, happiness, and joy there.

ACTinG Bulletin #22

Acting for Creation Together in Gippsland

June 2026

Save the date!

Season of Creation Launch

at the Anglican Schools Evensong

23 August at 5pm

St Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Sale

Speaker: Jo Knight, CEO of Anglican Overseas Aid and author of
Called to Care – for people and planet

Followed by light refreshments

Inquiries: davidp@gippslandanglicans.org.au

This month's bulletin from Bishop Richard addresses another ACTinG aim: to 'study the theology of creation and incorporate it into our worship': <https://www.gippslandanglicans.org.au/acting/about-us>

Bishop Richard writes:

'It was a joy to be at The Abbey for a 'Hush Day' on Creation Care and the Hebrew Bible / Old Testament in June. On St Barnabas' Day, we reflected on Bruce Hutton's gorgeous stained glass windows in the Chapel of St Barnabas, which artistically render the first creation story in Genesis (Gen 1:1 – 2:3).

As we listened to that great poem / hymn again – trying to hear it on its own terms through the commentary of Australian biblical scholar Norman Habel – we heard the 'jarring' note struck by the appearance of humankind on the sixth day.

And as we gazed through the clear glass east window behind the altar-table out to Lake Victoria we pondered the goal of creation in this story as God's sabbath rest on the seventh day.

Of course, as the Hebrew Bible narrates in many and various ways, this rest is not for God to enjoy in 'splendid isolation'. It is that peace – that great 'shalom' – into which all creatures are invited to share equally. And it is so much more than simply a 'day off' each week.

The sabbath ordinance is one of the earliest commands given to Biblical Israel in the wilderness in connection with the gathering of manna (see Exod 16:4-30), and it is a weekly reminder of God's will for the flourishing of all, which governs all time.

Sabbath is about giving rest – to labourers, animals, the earth itself – as much as taking rest. It is the great leveller, which mitigates against exploitation and the accumulation of wealth (see Exod 16:27). Sabbath has more to do with justice than with leisure.

Recovering a theology of sabbath has profound ecological and economic implications, as well as some ecclesial ones!

G.P. Wagenfuhr and Amy J. Erickson (who teaches at St Mark's National Theological Centre in Canberra) put it this way in their recently published book *Sabbath Gospel* (Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2026):

‘Insofar as Sabbath is God’s enthronement, we could say that Sabbath is the shape of God’s sovereignty. It is a sovereignty that does not dominate by force but by lavish capaciousness. God’s Sabbath rest is also the ground for humanity’s freedom to rest from its own aspirations and plans – and in this to respect the freedom of others [Exod 20:8-11]. Human freedom and rest is established by God’s freedom to rest. And as with God’s rest, this is not a freedom *from* others but a freedom *for* and *with* others ...’ (page 61, original emphases.)

How might we better model this as individuals, as households and communities, and as a church?’

This bulletin comes to you from Acting for Creation Together in Gippsland ACTinG seeks to encourage and equip Gippsland Anglicans to study the theology of creation; and to pray and act to safeguard, sustain and renew the life of the Earth.

Email us: acting@gippslandanglicans.org.au We would love to hear from you.

Please forward this email to anyone you think would appreciate it.

Looking to support us (our parish)? Here are the ways you can give:

- Via the offertory bags during Sunday services (sealed envelopes are also available)
- By bank transfer: Anglican Parish of Avon — BSB: 063526, Account number: 10493155
- Or by using the QR code



READINGS AND ROSTER FOR THIS COMING SUNDAY

SUNDAY 28 JUNE. PENTECOST 5

Genesis 24.34-38 & 24.42-49,58-67. Romans 7.14-25

Matthew 11.15-19 (20-24) 25-30

**PIC Dave. LA Gail. Chalice Judy K. 1st Read Kevin. 2nd Denise
Intercessions: Gail. Org: Vic. Sides: Bev H, Wendy.
Camera: Paul, PPT. Wendy. Flowers: Judy K
Morning Tea: Jenny & Theresa**

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

JULY

Thursdays. mainly music. 9.30am Parish Hall. During school term.

Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayers at Holy Trinity

Wednesdays Bible Studies during school term.

Winter school holidays Saturday 27 June to Sunday 12 July

Dave on leave till 13 July

Retiring Offertory: Aboriginal Ministry

Holy Trinity Church NAIDOC observances to be both Sundays.
Suggested a change of church presentation for NAIDOC week.
? Auntie Phyllis coming to the parish

Sun 5	Pentecost 6 10am All-age Family Worship at Holy Trinity and 5pm at Briagolong First day of NAIDOC Week. Sun, 5 July 2026 – Sun, 12 July 2026
Sun 12	Pentecost 7. Last Day of NAIDOC Week observances Stewardship Sunday Sea Sunday. Healing Service
Sat 18	Men's Breakfast
Sun 19	Pentecost 8 All-age services ? Community Carols Reading
Tue 21	Parish Council Reports due.
Fri 24	Family Movie Night
Sun 26	Pentecost 9. Hosting Deans, preaching and ?presiding.
Tues 28	Parish Council Meeting

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

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