
Anglican Parish of Avon

Sunday 21 June | Pentecost 4

YOU NEED AN **ENCOURAGER**



WHO'S
YOUR
Barnabas?

Welcome to Worship in our Parish

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: 'Be bold, be strong'

**Be bold, be strong,
for the Lord your God is with you;
be bold, be strong,
for the Lord your God is with you!
I am not afraid, (No! No! No!)
I am not dismayed, (Not me!)
for I'm walking in faith and victory:
come on and walk in faith and victory,
for the Lord your God is with you.**

*Words and music by Morris Chapman
Music arranged by Andy Silver
Mission Praise 49
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Greeting

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.**

Acknowledgement of Country/Welcome

Call to worship

Let God's praise be heard in the midst of the congregation.

Shout praise to the Lord of hosts!

Let God's praise be whispered in the spirits of the people!

We give you thanks for the many ways you have loved and guided us.

Let God's praise be proclaimed wherever we are.

May we praise God in all that we do and say.

The Sentence

Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord.

(Acts 11. 24)

Time of Thanks

Prayer of Thanks

**Gracious God, we humbly thank you
for life and health and safety,
for freedom to work, leisure to rest,
and for all that is beautiful in creation and human life.
But, above all, we praise you for our Saviour,
Jesus Christ,
for his death and resurrection;
for the gift of your Spirit;
and for the hope of sharing in your glory.
Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

**Generous God,
whose Son Jesus Christ has taught us
that it is more blessed to give than to receive:
help us by the example of your apostle Barnabas,
a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith,
to be generous and encouraging in our service;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

A Reading from the Books of Acts.

When Saul came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple.

But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus.

Acts 9. 26-27

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the Books of Acts.

Some time later, the church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to Antioch.

Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and full of faith. When he reached Antioch and saw how God had blessed the people, he was glad. He encouraged all the believers in Antioch.

He told them, “Never lose your faith. Always obey the Lord with all your hearts.” Many people became followers of the Lord.

Then Barnabas went to the city of Tarsus to look for Saul. When he found Saul, he brought him to Antioch. And for a whole year Saul and Barnabas met with the church. They taught many people there. In Antioch the followers were called Christians for the first time.

About that time some prophets came from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them was named Agabus. He stood up and spoke with the help of the Holy Spirit. He said, “A very hard time is coming to the whole world. There will be no food for people to eat.” (This happened when Claudius ruled.)

The followers all decided to help their brothers and sisters who lived in Judea. Each one planned to send them as much as he could. They gathered the money and gave it to Barnabas and Saul, who brought it to the elders in Judea.

Acts 11. 22-30

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Homily

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 shows great love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Silence for self-reflection

Therefore, let us confess our sins to God.

Our heavenly Father
thank you that you love us and care for us all the time.
We know that this week we have not always lived
the way you tell us.
We have done wrong things
and not done all the good things we should have done.
Only you can save us,
so please forgive us
and help us to live as your friends.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Absolution

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in 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: 'Forever'

1 Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King:

His love endures for ever.

For he is good, he is above all things:

His love endures for ever.

Sing praise, sing praise.

2 With a mighty hand and outstretched arm:

His love endures for ever.

For the life that's been reborn:

His love endures for ever.

Sing praise, sing praise,

sing praise, sing praise.

Chorus:

For ever God is faithful,

for ever God is strong.

For ever God is with us,

for ever, for ever.

3 From the rising to the setting sun:

His love endures for ever.

By the grace of God we will carry on:

His love endures for ever.

Sing praise, sing praise,

sing praise, sing praise.

For ever God is faithful...

Words and music by Chris Tomlin

Mission Praise 1046

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Offertory Prayer

God of faithfulness and love, bless these gifts,

that they may bring your message of faith and love to the world.

Build our church, build us, and build your world

into a household of love and justice –
the household you've envisioned since the beginning of time.
In faith and trust we pray. 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.

And now we give you thanks
that your glory is revealed in Barnabas and all the saints.
In their lives you have given us an example of faithfulness to Christ.
In their holiness we find encouragement and hope.
In our communion with them we share the unity of your kingdom
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.

He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.
Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

**So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.**

**Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.**

**And now with Barnabas and all your saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:

**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in your hearts with
thanksgiving.

The Sending Out of God's People

Eternal Father,
we thank you for nourishing us
with these heavenly gifts:
may our communion strengthen us in faith,
build us up in hope,
and make us grow in love;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Announcements

Missional Hymn: 'Oh how good it is'

**1 Oh how good it is,
when the family of God,
dwells together in spirit,
in faith and unity,
Where the bonds of peace,
of acceptance and love,
are the fruit of His presence,
here among us.**

Chorus:

***So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,
and with one heart we'll live out His word.
Till the whole earth sees,
the Redeemer has come,
for He dwells in the presence of His people.***

**2 Oh how good it is,
on this journey we share,
to rejoice with the happy,
and weep with those who mourn,
for the weak find strength,
the afflicted find grace,
when we offer the blessing,
of belonging.
*So with one voice...***

**3 Oh how good it is,
to embrace His command,
to prefer one another,
forgive as He forgives,
when we live as one,
we all share in the love,
of the Son with the Father,
and the Spirit.
*So with one voice...***

*Words and music by
Stuart Townsend
© Townend Songs*

The Blessing and Dismissal

God give you grace to follow Barnabas
and all the saints in faith and hope and love;

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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B. J. Beu and Mary Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025: Worship Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2024), 186.

BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS

Holy God, you have given us your only Son to be for us, both a sacrifice for sin, and an example of Godly life; Give us the grace to thankfully receive this wonderful gift, and to always strive ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life.

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 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 God 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.

Faithful God in the week that lies before us may we reflect your love in our families, our church and our community and in doing so, show everyone we meet that we are followers of Christ with a true desire to draw them into our Christian faith.

NEWS AND NOTES

Thank you again to those who assisted in running the raffle on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings last week at the Avon Hotel. The raffle raised approximately \$837.

It was a joy to see a couple of our parishioners win prizes.

Parish Council will meet at 7pm this Tuesday evening.

Dave will attend Clergy Conference from Monday to Thursday this week. He will then take a much-needed break from 30 June to 13 July inclusive. We pray this will be a time of rest and refreshment for Dave, and a joyful time for Emma and their children as they enjoy family time together.

Further to the video screened last Sunday we may like to read about the Fred Hollows Foundation today – a wonderful story!

It started around Fred and Gabi's dinner table. Four years after he was diagnosed with cancer, and knowing he didn't have much longer to live, [Fred](#) and [Gabi](#) Hollows decided they needed to find a way to continue his work. They started The Foundation with a group of friends and supporters to keep alive Fred's dream: that everyone, no matter whether rich or poor, would have the right to high quality and affordable eye care. They promised to continue to fight for the change Fred so badly wanted.

Gabi Hollows raised 5 children. Cam is now a Dr.

Since its humble beginnings in Fred and Gabi's kitchen, The Foundation now works in more than 25 countries and has restored sight to over three million people.

The Foundation states: -

We are driven by Fred's vision to eliminate avoidable blindness, for [Indigenous Australians](#) to have access to quality health services and to stand up for what is right. We believe that collaboration, getting things done with integrity, and empowering local communities is the best way to make a difference.

Today, there are 43 million people in the world who are blind – but many don't need to be. We focus on preventable and treatable diseases such as cataract, trachoma and diabetic retinopathy. Our in-country work involves local [training](#) and providing affordable [technology](#), so doctors, nurses and health care workers can recognise, diagnose, refer and treat eye problems in their communities. We use [research](#) to improve our understanding of avoidable blindness, then use our findings to implement strategies and [advocate](#) for change.

We know exactly how to help mothers who are pulling out their eyelashes in agony from [trachoma](#). We know how to treat [children](#) who are needlessly blind from [cataract](#) and to get them back to school. We know how to prevent people with [diabetes](#) going irreversibly blind because they can't access quality eye care.

We know how to help, but there's a lot of work still to be done across the world and in

Indigenous communities in Australia. Eliminating avoidable blindness can be achieved – with the help of our partners and, most importantly, you, our invaluable supporters.

The Foundation is overseen by our Board of Directors, which includes Gabi Hollows. CEO Ross Piper leads day-to-day operations, and we're still advised by Fred's great mate and fellow humanitarian, Dr Sanduk Ruit. We are independent, not-for-profit, politically unaligned and secular.

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 22.1-14. Romans 6.12-23. Matthew 10.40-42

**PIC Dave. LA Vic. Chalice Judy T. 1st Read Bev T. 2nd Theresa
Intercessions: Vic. Org: Vic. Sides: Bev T, Wendy.
Camera: David S, PPT. Miriam. Flowers: Judy T
Morning Tea: Judy K. Nola.**

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

JUNE

Thursdays *mainly music. 9.30am during school term.*
Fridays *9.30am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity*
Wednesdays *7.30pm Bible Studies*
Winter school holidays Saturday 27 June to Sunday 12 July

Clergy Conference 22-25 June.

Retiring Offertory: Fred Hollows Foundation

Tues 23	7pm Parish Council
Fri 26	Family Movie Night
Sun 28	Pentecost 5
Mon 29	St Peter & St Paul, Apostles.

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 in July, to be confirmed.

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

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

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