



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA
PAROCHIAL DISTRICT OF WANGARATTA WEST & THE WARBYS

8.00am Eucharist & 9.30am Sung Eucharist
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5th 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Opening Hymn: AHB 305/TiS 385. tune: Darwall

1. **Now is eternal life,
if risen with Christ we stand,
in him to life reborn,
held firm within his hand;
no more we fear death's ancient dread,
in Christ arisen from the dead.**
2. **For God, the living God,
stooped down to share our state;
by death destroying death
Christ opened wide life's gate.
He lives, who died, he reigns on high;
who lives in him shall never die.**
3. **Unfathomed love divine,
come reign within my heart;
from you no depth or height,
not life or death can part;
my life with you in God shall be,
now and through all eternity.**

George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959) alt

Greeting

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

He is Risen Indeed! ALLELUIA!

The Sentence

Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.'

John 15.16.

Let us pray.

**Father of glory, holy and eternal,
look upon us now in power and mercy.
May your strength overcome our weakness,
your radiance transform our blindness,
and your Spirit draw us to that love
shown and offered to us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Confession & Absolution

In baptism we died with Christ,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,
we might walk in newness of life.

Let us receive new life in him

as we confess our sins in penitence and faith cf Romans 6.4

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.
Have mercy on us,
forgive us all that is past,
and grant that we may serve you
and live a new life to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of love and power,
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise is said or sung.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Priest sings or says the Collect

Loving God,
your Son has chosen us
and called us to be his friends:
give us grace to keep his commandments,
to love one another,
and to bear fruit which will abide;
through him who is the true vine,
the source of all our life,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles [10. 44-48]

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

Psalm 98. AHB 196/TiS 56. Tune St Fulbert or St Magnus

- 1. O sing a new song to the Lord
for marvels he has done;
his right hand and his holy arm
the victory have won.**
- 2. His justice and his righteousness —
the Lord has made them known,
his constant love for Israel
all ends of the earth have seen.**

3. **Let all the earth now to the Lord
send forth a joyful noise;
lift up your voice aloud to him,
sing praises and rejoice.**
4. **With harp, with harp and voice of psalms
unto Jehovah sing;
let trumpets and the echoing horn
acclaim the Lord our King!**
5. **Let seas with all their creatures roar,
the world and dwellers there,
and let the rivers clap their hands,
the hills their joy declare**
6. **before the Lord: because he comes,
to judge the earth comes he;
he'll judge the world with righteousness,
his folk with equity.**

Scottish Psalter 1650 alt.
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A reading from the First Letter of John [5.1–12]

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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

Gradual Hymn: AHB 401/TiS 641. tune, Suantrai.

- 1. 'This is my will, my one command,
that love should dwell among you all.
This is my will, that you should love
as I have shown-that I love you.**
- 2. No greater love can be than this:
to choose to die to save one's friends.
You are my friends if you obey
what I command that you should do.**
- 3. I call you now no longer slaves;
no slave knows all his master does.
I call you friends, for all I hear
my Father say you hear from me.**
- 4. You chose not me, but I chose you,
that you should go and bear much fruit.
I chose you out that you in me
should bear much fruit that will abide.**
- 5. All that you ask my Father dear
for my name's sake you shall receive.
This is my will, my one command,
that love should dwell in each, in all.'**

James Quinn 1919-

Words from Praise for all Seasons (1994) by permission Cassell plc, London

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [15. 9-17]
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples:

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

A period of silence for reflection follows the sermon

Let us reaffirm our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Risen Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, Peace be with you!

Alleluia!

The peace of the Risen Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Alleluia!

All may exchange a Greeting of Peace.

Offertory Hymn: AHB 452/TiS 533 (tune: St Botolph or Kilmarnock)

- 1. I come with joy to meet my Lord,
forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall
his life laid down for me.**
- 2. I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.**
- 3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.**
- 4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord,
his presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known:
we see, and praise him here.**
- 5. Together met, together bound,
we'll go our different ways,
and as his people in the world
we'll live and speak his praise.**

Brian Arthur Wren 1936–

Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
In your loving care you spread before us the table of life
and give us the cup of salvation to drink.
Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour and our Shepherd,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER

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.

All glory and honour, be yours now and always,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

He is the true Paschal Lamb who was offered for us
and has taken away the sin of the world.

And now we give you thanks
that you raised him in triumph from the dead.
By his death, he has destroyed death
and by his rising to life again
has restored us to eternal life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing/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 name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.**

And now, Father, we pray that we who receive these your gifts of
bread and wine according to our Saviour's word
may be partakers of his body and blood. ✠

For on the night Jesus was betrayed he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, his almighty Father,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying

"Take, eat. This is my body which is 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

which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ✠

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory.**

We offer our prayer and praise, Father,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
through Jesus Christ our Lord:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us we are confident 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 forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread, then says

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.**

Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

The invitation to Communion is given:

The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ.

**Be known to us, Lord Jesus,
in the breaking of the bread.**

We are one body, alleluia,
for though many we share one bread.

**Be known to us, Lord Jesus,
in the breaking of the bread.**

*An invitation is extended to all Christian people
to make their Communion here today.
To receive a blessing and not communion,
simply keep your hands behind your back
as the signal that this is what you seek.*

After Communion Hymn: tune, Pastor Pastorum

1. Faithful Shepherd, feed me in the pastures green;
faithful Shepherd, lead me where your steps are seen:
2. Hold me fast, and guide me in the narrow way;
so, with you beside me, I need never stray:
3. Daily bring me nearer to the heavenly shore;
make my faith grow clearer, help me love you more:
4. Consecrate each pleasure, every joy and pain;
you are all my treasure, all I hope to gain:
5. Day by day prepare me as you purpose best,
then to heaven bear me to my promised rest.

Jubilate Hymns version of 'Faithful shepherd, feed me',
Thomas B Pollock (1836 - 1896) © Jubilate Hymns Ltd

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.

**Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.**

**Keep us in this hope that we have grasped;
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Notices may be given at this point

Concluding Hymn: AHB 567/TiS 631 [tune: Abbot's Leigh]

- 1. Father, Lord of all creation,
ground of being, life and love;
height and depth beyond description
only life in you can prove:
you are mortal life's dependence:
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;
yours is every hour's existence,
sovereign Lord of time and space.**
- 2. Jesus Christ, the Man for Others,
we, your people, make our prayer:
let us love as sisters, brothers,
all whose burdens we can share.
Where your name binds us together
you, Lord Christ, will surely be;
where no selfishness can sever
there your love we all may see.**
- 3. Holy Spirit, rushing, burning,
wind and flame of Pentecost,
fill our hearts afresh with yearning
to regain what we have lost.
May your love unite our action,
nevermore to speak alone:
God, in us abolish faction,
and through us your love make known.**

David Stewart Cross 1928–89

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The Blessing and Dismissal

Almighty God,
who redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ,
and has brought us out of slavery into everlasting freedom,
give you joy and peace in faith
and bring you to your eternal inheritance;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia!