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

The Feast of St Michael and All Angels

29th September 2024



The number of Angels is not defined in the divine Scriptures. Daniel says that thousands of thousands ministered before Him, and ten thousands of ten thousands attended upon Him -(Dan. 7:10).

9.30am Sung Eucharist

Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Maureen Beattie.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn—AHB 26 / TiS 108 (tune, Darwall)

- You holy angels bright, who wait at God's right hand, or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command, assist our song, or else the theme too high will seem for mortal tongue.
- You blessèd souls at rest, who ran this earthly race, and now, from sin released, behold the Saviour's face, his praises sound, as in his sight you now delight to see him crowned.
- You saints who toil below, adore your heavenly King, and onward as you go some joyful anthem sing; take what he gives and praise him still through good and ill, who ever lives.
- 4. All nations of the earth, extol the world's great King: with melody and mirth God's glorious praises sing. In him rejoice, and there proclaim his holy name with sounding voice.
- 5. My soul, take now your part: triumph in God above, and with a well-tuned heart sing out the songs of love; and all my days let no distress nor fears suppress his joyful praise.

Richard Baxter 1615–91 and John Hampden Gurney 1802–62 alt.

The Welcome and The 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.

The Sentence

Bless the Lord, all you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word.

Psalm 103. 20

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 Two Great Commandments

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your 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 your neighbour as yourself.'

Lord, have mercy (Kyrie eleison)

Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy

We have come to Mount Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to myriads of angels, to God the judge of all, and to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant.

Silence may be kept.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you, in thought, and 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. Standing, the priest says

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise, Gloria in excelsis.

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.

Let us pray.

The community may pray silently.

The priest says or sings the collect.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals:
Grant that, as your holy angels stand before you in heaven, so at your command they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the prophecy of Daniel [7. 9-10, 13-14]

As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne;
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.
A stream of fire issued

A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened.

As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.

To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

Hear the word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalm 138

Side A = plain. Side B = italics Altogether = bold

I will give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart: even before the gods will I sing your praises.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name: because of your faithfulness and your loving-kindness,

for you have made your name and your word supreme over all things.

At a time when I called to you, you gave me answer: and put new strength within my soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord: for they have heard the words of your mouth;

And they shall sing of the ways of the Lord: that the glory of the Lord is great.

For though the Lord is exalted, he looks upon the lowly: and he comprehends the proud from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of danger, yet will you preserve my life: you will stretch out your hand against the fury of my enemies, and your right hand shall save me.

The Lord will complete his purpose for me: your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever; do not forsake the work of your own hands.

A Reading from the Revelation of Saint John [12. 7-12a]

And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven proclaiming,

"Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,
for the accuser of our brothers and sisters
has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.
But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn TiS 150. tune, Lasst Uns Erfreuen

- 1. Ye watchers and ye holy ones, bright seraphs, cherubim and thrones, raise the glad strain: alleluia! Cry out, dominions, princedoms, powers, virtues, archangels, angels' choirs: alleluia! alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!
- 2. O higher than the cherubim, more glorious than the seraphim, lead their praises: alleluia!

 Thou bearer of the Eternal Word, most gracious, magnify the Lord, alleluia! alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!
- 3. Respond, ye souls in endless rest, ye patriarchs and prophets blest: alleluia, alleluia! alleluia! Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong, all saints triumphant, raise the song, alleluia! alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!
- 4. O friends, in gladness let us sing, supernal anthems echoing: alleluia, alleluia!
 To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, alleluia! alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!

John Athelstan Laurie Riley 1858–1945 Words and music from the *English Hymnal* by permission Oxford University Press

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [1. 45-51] Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?'

Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!'

Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The sermon

Short period of Silence for reflection

The Creed

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

The minister says

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Father in heaven, by his blood your Christ has ransomed us to you, and has made us a kingdom and priests to you our God. As the angels minister to you in heaven,

strengthen your Church to serve you here on earth.

We rejoice today with Shirley Brough-Smyth and Alan Jarrad on their baptism anniversaries and Sue Hicks on her confirmation anniversary. Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, when the angels greeted the birth of your Son they sang for joy 'Glory to God and peace on earth'. Bless with Christ's peace the nations of the world. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, your Son has promised to your children the care of the guardian angels who look upon your face. Protect by your mercy our neighbours, families and friends. We particularly pray at this time for all police and emergency services members who serve to protect our community. Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, you give your angels charge over those who trust in you to guard them in all their ways. Be with those in trouble ..., rescue them and show them your salvation. Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, your angel declares 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.' 'Blessed indeed,' says the Spirit, 'for they may rest from their labours, for they take with them the record of their deeds.'

Enfold in your love police and emergency services members who have died in the service of our community and those whose Year's Mind is this week: Joan Rickards, Ewen Gibson, and all who come in faith to your judgement seat in heaven.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, the angels sing by day and night around your throne: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.' With Michael, prince of the angels, who contends by our side, with Gabriel, your herald, who brings glad tidings, and with the whole company of heaven,

we worship you, we give you glory, we sing your praise and exalt you for ever. Amen.

Please stand

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Hear again the song of the angels: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: AHB 67 / TiS 133. Tune, Hanover.

- O worship the King all-glorious above,
 O gratefully sing his power and his love:
 our shield and defender, the ancient of days,
 pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.
- 2. O tell of his might, O sing of his grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space; his chariots of wrath the deep thunder-clouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
- 3. The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, your power has founded of old, established it fast by a changeless decree, and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.
- 4. Your bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light, it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.
- 5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail: your mercies how tender, how firm to the end, our maker, defender, redeemer and friend.
- O measureless might, ineffable love, while angels delight to hymn you above, the humbler creation, though faltering their praise, with true adoration shall sing all their days.

Robert Grant 1779–1838 alt. based on Psalm 104 and Psalm 18

Offertory Prayers

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Worship and praise belong to you, Father, in every place and at all times.

All power is yours.

You created the heavens and established the earth; you sustain in being all that is.

In Christ your Son our life and yours are brought together in a wonderful exchange. He made his home among us that we might for ever dwell in you.

Through your Holy Spirit you call us to new birth in a creation restored by love. As children of your redeeming purpose we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

JJJ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father, for the gift of your Son born in human flesh He is the Word existing beyond time, both source and final purpose, bringing to wholeness all that is made. Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross. By your power you raised him from the dead. He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end.

At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

Take

**Take

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:

"Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

♣

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father eternal, in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be 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 for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread, saying

God rains down manna for us to eat and gives us the grain of heaven.

So on earth we share the bread of angels.

Agnus Dei—sung

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.

Invitation

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia!
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.
Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.
Alleluia!

Communion Reflection: AHB 416/TiS 495. tune, St Clement

Father, we give you thanks, who planted your holy name within our hearts. Knowledge and faith and life immortal Jesus your Son to us imparts.

Lord, you have made all for your pleasure, and given us food for all our days, giving in Christ the bread eternal; yours is the power, be yours the praise.

Over your church, Lord, watch in mercy, save it from evil, guard it still, perfect it in your love, unite it, cleansed and conforming to your will.

As grain, once scattered on the hillsides, was in the broken bread made one, so may your world-wide church be gathered into your kingdom by your Son.

From the Didache c. 110 tr. Francis Bland Tucker 1895–1984 alt.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray

Lord of heaven,
in this eucharist you have brought us near
to an innumerable company of angels
and to the spirits of the saints made perfect:
as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage
we have shared their fellowship,
so may we come to share their joy in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

Hymn—TiS 687. Tune, Camberwell.

- God gives us a future, daring us to go into dreams and dangers on a path unknown.
 We will face tomorrow in the Spirit's power, we will let God change us, for new life starts now.
- 2. We must leave behind us sins of yesterday, for God's new beginning is a better way. Fear and doubt and habit must not hold us back: God gives hope, and insight, and the strength we lack.
- 3. Holy Spirit, teach us how to read the signs, how to meet the challenge of our troubled times.

 Love us into action, stir us into prayer, till we choose God's life, and find our future there.

Elizabeth J. Smith 1956– Words © E. J. Smith

Blessing

God keep you in the fellowship of his saints; Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels; the Spirit make you holy in God's service; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

Dismissal

The Lord commands his angels to keep you in all your ways.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels, mighty in power, who fulfil his command and heed the voice of his word.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his hosts, his servants that do his will.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his works, in every place where he rules, my soul, give thanks to the Lord.

For he commands his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

