



# ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA / LAVERTON

St Eanswythe's Altona :: St Clement's Altona Meadows :: O Te Wairua Tapu Ki Poipiripi



*To proclaim God's love and life in Christ:  
growing in faith † serving others † nurturing a common life*

## 20th September 2020 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook

9:30am Service of Scripture and Prayer, open to join on Zoom

### Welcome...

...whether you are sharing in worship online or reading this pew sheet quietly at home. The life of our parish continues!

This includes our ongoing care for each other—please don't hesitate to contact someone else in the parish, or the Vicar, if there's anything you need.

*Our parish lies on the traditional country of the Yaluk-ut Weelam people within the Boonwurrung clan, part of the greater Kulin nation.*

*We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over countless generations, and we pay our respects to their elders, past and present.*

*We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing.*

### From your priest...

Dear friends,

*Give us today our daily bread.* In these words, so familiar to us, Jesus taught his disciples to place their trust in God for their sustenance, day by day. For many of his listeners, this was indeed a daily concern—work and wages came in one day at a time, and a day without work might well mean a day without food for the family. So Jesus' prayer models a trust which is constantly tested, renewed and fulfilled. Maybe for us it might not be bread, but it's worth noticing where we too might need to renew our trust in God's provision, day by day.

Those around Jesus would also have remembered the story in the scriptures that we hear this morning, where the people of Israel were indeed provided with daily bread—"manna" from heaven—as they travelled in the desert towards the land of promise. Reading on in this chapter from Exodus, there are further instructions and experiences which teach them that there is enough for everyone's need, but that no one may hoard extra for another day.

The same theme can be found in today's gospel reading: the parable of the labourers in the vineyard. Clearly Jesus' point is to shock his listeners with the apparent injustice of equal pay for unequal work—even children can spot when life is apparently unfair to us! But as the owner of the vineyard points out, no wrong has been done. Instead, the vineyard owner has taken responsibility for ensuring that everyone has enough to go home and feed their families, and that no one is left behind.

So the parable addresses our society too, and never more so than during the current crisis, when millions of people are at risk of being left behind. Even before the pandemic, there were growing calls from business and community groups to increase the unemployment benefit, which at \$40 a day was well below the poverty line, and insufficient to cover basic expenses of food, rent, utilities, and medical care. The coronavirus supplement to that payment has been a lifeline to many, and now there is all the more reason to raise the base rate—given, for example, that in NSW and Victoria, there are ten jobseekers for every available job. (Archbishop Philip has this week added his voice to this debate: see <https://www.melbournarchbishop.org.au/2020/09/16/jobseeker-lets-raise-the-rate-for-good/>)

The vineyard owner asks: "Are you resentful because I'm generous?" Instead, when we pray, "give us today our daily bread", let that be a prayer not just for ourselves but for all who must live in trust for their daily needs. And as always, may our prayer flow into our lives and actions.

With my prayers for each of you, Chris

## PRAYERS AND READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

### COLLECT

Loving and righteous God, your boundless generosity exceeds all that we can desire or deserve, and you give to the last worker all you promised to the first: liberate us from all jealousy and greed, that we may be free to love and serve others, and in your service may find our true reward; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### PARISH PRAYER

**Creator God, your love gives life in abundance, and makes us whole again and again. Draw us closer to Jesus, we pray, and give us a heart for all your beloved children. By your Spirit, may our parish bring blessing to young and old, and may our lives be good news for a hungry world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### FIRST READING *Exodus 16.2-15*

The whole Israelite community complained against Moses and Aaron in the desert. The Israelites said to them, "Oh, how we wish that the LORD had just put us to death while we were still in the land of Egypt. There we could sit by the pots cooking meat and eat our fill of bread. Instead, you've brought us out into this desert to starve this whole assembly to death."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I'm going to make bread rain down from the sky for you. The people will go out each day and gather just enough for that day. In this way, I'll test them to see whether or not they follow my Instruction. On the sixth day, when they measure out what they have collected, it will be twice as much as they collected on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "This evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt. And in the morning you will see the LORD's glorious presence, because your complaints against the Lord have been heard. Who are we? Why blame us?" Moses continued, "The LORD will give you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning because the LORD heard the complaints you made against him. Who are we? Your complaints aren't against us but against the LORD."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole Israelite community, 'Come near to the LORD, because he's heard your complaints.'" As Aaron spoke to the whole Israelite community, they turned to look toward the desert, and just then the glorious presence of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

The LORD spoke to Moses, "I've heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat. And in the morning you will have your fill of bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening a flock of quail flew down and covered the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew all around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the desert surface were thin flakes, as thin as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" They didn't know what it was.

Moses said to them, "This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

(CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM *105.1-6, 37-45*

O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name: tell among the peoples what things he has done.

**Sing to him, O sing praises: and be telling of all his marvellous works.**

Exult in his holy name: and let those that seek the Lord be joyful in heart.

**Seek the Lord and his strength: O seek his face continually.**

Call to mind what wonders he has done: his marvellous acts, and the judgements of his mouth,

**O seed of Abraham his servant: O children of Jacob his chosen one.**

He brought Israel out with silver and with gold: and not one among their tribes was seen to stumble.

**Egypt was glad at their going: for dread of Israel had fallen upon them.**

He spread out a cloud for a covering: and fire to lighten the night.

**The people asked, and he brought them quails: and satisfied them with the bread from heaven.**

He opened a rock, so that the waters gushed: and ran in the parched land like a river.

**For he had remembered his holy word: that he gave to Abraham his servant.**

So he led out his people with rejoicing: his chosen ones with shouts of joy;

**He gave them the land of the nations: and they took possession of the fruit for which other peoples had toiled,**

So that they might keep his statutes: and faithfully obey his laws. O praise the Lord.

### SECOND READING *Philippians 1.3-8, 27-30*

I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers. I'm thankful for all of you every time I pray, and it's always a prayer full of joy. I'm glad because of the way you have been my partners in the ministry of the gospel from the time you first believed it until now. I'm sure about this: the one who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job by the day of Christ Jesus. I have good reason to think this

way about all of you because I keep you in my heart. You are all my partners in God's grace, both during my time in prison and in the defence and support of the gospel. God is my witness that I feel affection for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

...

Most important, live together in a manner worthy of Christ's gospel. Do this, whether I come and see you or I'm absent and hear about you. Do this so that you stand firm, united in one spirit and mind as you struggle together to remain faithful to the gospel. That way, you won't be afraid of anything your enemies do. Your faithfulness and courage are a sign of their coming destruction and your salvation, which is from God. God has generously granted you the privilege, not only of believing in Christ but also of suffering for Christ's sake. You are having the same struggle that you saw me face and now hear that I'm still facing.

(CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 20.1-16*

Jesus said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. After he agreed with the workers to pay them a denarion, he sent them into his vineyard.

"Then he went out around nine in the morning and saw others standing around the marketplace doing nothing. He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I'll pay you whatever is right.' And they went.

"Again around noon and then at three in the afternoon, he did the same thing. Around five in the afternoon he went and found others standing around,

and he said to them, 'Why are you just standing around here doing nothing all day long?'

"'Because nobody has hired us,' they replied.

"He responded, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

"When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the workers and give them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and moving on finally to the first.' When those who were hired at five in the afternoon came, each one received a denarion. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But each of them also received a denarion. When they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 'These who were hired last worked one hour, and they received the same pay as we did even though we had to work the whole day in the hot sun.'

"But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I did you no wrong. Didn't I agree to pay you a denarion? Take what belongs to you and go. I want to give to this one who was hired last the same as I give to you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with what belongs to me? Or are you resentful because I'm generous?' So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last."

(CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



**Readings for next week: 27 September (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)**

*Exodus 17.1-7; Psalm 78.1-4, 11-16; Philippians 2.1-13; Matthew 21.23-32*

**GROWING IN FAITH CONVERSATIONS** conclude with this week's meetings: everyone is welcome to join, and no prior knowledge is needed. Why not join in and see what you discover?

**Sunday 20th at 10:45am**—*When I pray* (hosted by Kathleen Alleaume-Ross)

**Tuesday 22nd at 7:30pm**—*Richard Rohr's chapter "Two Witnesses to Jesus and Christ"* (hosted by Dean Mason)

**Thursday 24th at 7:45pm**—*Sharing faith in our families* (hosted by Anna and Chris Lancaster)

For further details, Zoom links (these are different for each group) and any materials to read beforehand, visit <https://anglicanaltlv.org.au/growing-in-faith-august-september-2020/>

**READERS AT 8AM** If you would like to be one of two readers at the 8am Morning Prayer service on a Sunday, please let Rev'd Chris know. The readers join in from home via Zoom, and the service is also live streamed on our parish Facebook page.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who has found a way to continue giving to the parish over the last six months. Deposits can be made to the parish Bendigo Bank account at any time (BSB 633 000, account number 157 594 722, account name "St Eanswythe's Altona with St Clement's Laverton Anglican Churches"). For further details see the *giving* page on our parish website: [anglicanaltlv.org.au/giving](https://anglicanaltlv.org.au/giving)

## For our prayers:

The world and nation: For those in places where medical facilities and resources are overwhelmed by coronavirus.

### The Church:

*World Council of Churches:* For the Church in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Peru. For Christians who are persecuted and martyred today, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

*Anglican Church of Australia:* Diocese of Ballarat.

*Diocese of Melbourne:* Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; hospital chaplains; Parish of St Paul's, Inverleigh with St John's, Bannockburn and Church of the Epiphany, Meredith.

Our parish & community: For those who will struggle to make ends meet if unemployment payments are reduced.

### Those for whom prayers have been asked:

*Particular current prayers:* Peter, Faye, Susan, Gustavo.

### The communion of saints:

*Year's mind:* James Barger (21), Yvonne Atkins (21), Archie Burt (22), Nesta Barassi (23), Ivy Shillington (23), Betty Priest (25).

### Ongoing prayers (remembered at Morning Prayer through the week):

Sharilyn, Ruby, Paul, Mavis, Belinda, Joseph, Daniel, Stuart, Nick, Vahid, Malek, Davey, Jimmy, Jayden, Ashlee, Tanatha, Julia, Anna W, Elly, Patricia M, Tim.

*To add names to the prayer list, either those needing prayers now (with their agreement) or those to be remembered on the anniversary of their death, please send details to [anglicanaltlav@gmail.com](mailto:anglicanaltlav@gmail.com) or give to the Vicar.*

### A prayer for these times:

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us  
from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.



## Keeping in touch...

- ⇒ Pew sheets are available on our website at [www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets](http://www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets)
- ⇒ Visit [www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav](https://www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav) for photos, links, news and other updates.
- ⇒ If you don't already receive emails regarding news, arrangements for services, and other updates, please send your email address to [anglicanaltlav@gmail.com](mailto:anglicanaltlav@gmail.com)
- ⇒ Please send all material for the pew sheet to [anglicanaltlav@gmail.com](mailto:anglicanaltlav@gmail.com)

## The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

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### Vicar:

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### Assistant Priest & Maori Minister:

The Rev'd Danny McRoberts  
0448 841 196 [dann.mcroberts@gmail.com](mailto:dann.mcroberts@gmail.com)

### Theological student:

Dr Kathleen Alleaume-Ross

### Churchwardens:

Lily Griffin  
Anita McAnda  
Scott Pitcher

### Child Safe Officers:

Sandra Hansen (St Clement's)  
Anita McAnda (St Eanswythe's)

## This week in our parish:

### Sunday 20th September

#### Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook  
9:30am Service of Scripture and Prayer, on Zoom  
10:30am Children's time, on Zoom  
10:45am Growing in faith conversation, on Zoom  
5pm Parish Council

### Tuesday 22nd

9am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook  
7:30pm Growing in faith conversation, on Zoom

### Wednesday 23rd

9am Morning Prayer, on Zoom

### Thursday 24th

9am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook  
7:45pm Growing in faith conversation, on Zoom

### Friday 25th

9am Morning Prayer, on Zoom

### Sunday 27th September

#### Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook  
9:30am Service of Scripture and Prayer, on Zoom  
10:30am Children's time, on Zoom

Services on Facebook can be accessed at [www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav](https://www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav)

Services on Zoom can be accessed at [zoom.us/j/9726172254](https://zoom.us/j/9726172254) (passcode 93981005)  
(Or by phoning (03) 7018 2005—when prompted, enter 9726172254#;  
then when asked for a participant ID, press #.)