



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*

18th July 2021 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook
9:30am Service of Scripture and Prayer, on Zoom

Welcome...

...whether you are sharing in worship online or reading this pew sheet quietly at home. The life of our parish continues, as we share in prayer together for the world, the church, our community and each other.

We look forward to gathering again in person as soon as possible.

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 (including to Pay The Rent to local First Nations people).

SHARING THE PATH OF FAITH

reflections from the clergy and our parish community

So many cancelled plans this weekend! I must admit I have been thinking with envy of some of St Paul's word: *"I have learned to be content with whatever I have... In any and all circumstances, I have learned the secret...of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."* (Phil. 4.11-13)

'In any and all circumstances'. That's the bit that gets me. Paul is speaking of uncertainties about having food, shelter, clothing – none of it could be taken for granted on his apostolic journeys.

I faced very different uncertainties over the past few days: do we have to cancel playgroup again? Can the church gather to glorify God this Sunday? Do I have to cancel my dinner plans tomorrow night?

For others the questions might be different: Is my soccer game cancelled? Will I be able to go to work? Can I afford not to? Will I be allowed to sit down for a coffee at the shops?

Perhaps at a deeper level: how isolated will I be in the coming week? Who will be isolated or anxious around me?

In the face of such uncertainties, O for Paul's equanimity! What was his 'secret'?

Well, for one thing, Paul had a purpose that was relevant to any and every circumstance: to invite Jesus to meet him in the midst of it all, to inspire his thoughts and reactions (*"I can do all things through him who strengthens me"*); to let his every joy and trial deepen his knowledge of God's nature in Christ: *"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings...Not that I have already...reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own..."*

Whatever the circumstances he couldn't control, he could devote himself to this task: *"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry...but in everything...let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."*

Whatever delights or disappointments come our way this week, nothing can stop us, either, from sharing in that purpose that gave shape and meaning to Paul's life. Nothing prevents us from praying, sometimes in confusion, sometimes as an act of the will rather than really 'feeling it', yet always with hope and trust: *daily to a deeper faith, move us, daily draw us nearer to you.*

Yours in peace, Katie

PRAYERS AND READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

THE COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

Eternal God,
author of our life and end of our pilgrimage:
guide us by your word and Spirit amid all perils and
temptations,
that we may not wander from your way,
but may run our course in safety
until we come to our eternal rest in you;
through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the second book of Samuel

When the king was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "Look! I'm living in a cedar palace, but God's chest is housed in a tent!"

Nathan said to the king, "Go ahead and do whatever you are thinking, because the LORD is with you."

But that very night the LORD's word came to Nathan: Go to my servant David and tell him: This is what the LORD says: You are not the one to build the temple for me to live in. In fact, I haven't lived in a temple from the day I brought Israel out of Egypt until now. Instead, I have been travelling around in a tent and in a dwelling. Throughout my travelling around with the Israelites, did I ever ask any of Israel's tribal leaders I appointed to shepherd my people: Why haven't you built me a cedar temple?

So then, say this to my servant David: This is what the LORD of heavenly forces says: I took you from the pasture, from following the flock, to be leader over my people Israel. I've been with you wherever you've gone, and I've eliminated all your enemies before you. Now I will make your name great—like the name of the greatest people on earth. I'm going to provide a place for my people Israel, and plant them so that they may live there and no longer be disturbed. Cruel people will no longer trouble them, as they had been earlier, when I appointed leaders over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies.

And the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make a dynasty for you. When the time comes for you to die and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your descendant—one of your very own children—to succeed you, and I will establish his kingdom. He will build a temple for my name, and I will establish his royal throne forever. I will be a father to him, and he will be a son to me.'

(7.1-14a; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

I have found my servant David: and anointed him with my holy oil.

My hand shall uphold him: and my arm shall strengthen him.

No enemy shall deceive him: nor shall the wicked hurt him.

I will crush his adversaries before him: and strike down those that hate him.

My faithfulness and loving-kindness shall be with him: and through my name his head shall be lifted high.

I will set the hand of his dominion upon the Western Sea: and his right hand shall stretch to the streams of Mesopotamia.

He will call to me "You are my Father: my God, and the Rock of my salvation."

I will make him my first-born son: and highest among the kings of the earth.

I will ever maintain my loving-kindness toward him: and my covenant with him shall stand firm.

I will establish his line for ever: and his throne like the days of heaven.

If his children forsake my law: and will not walk in my judgements;

If they profane my statutes: and do not keep my commandments,

Then I will punish their rebellion with the rod: and their iniquity with blows.

But I will not cause my loving-kindness to cease from him: nor will I betray my faithfulness.

I will not profane my covenant: or alter what has passed from my lips.

Once and for all I have sworn by my holiness: I will not prove false to David.

His posterity shall endure for ever: and his throne be as the sun before me;

Like the moon that is established for ever: and stands in the heavens for evermore.

(89.21-38)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

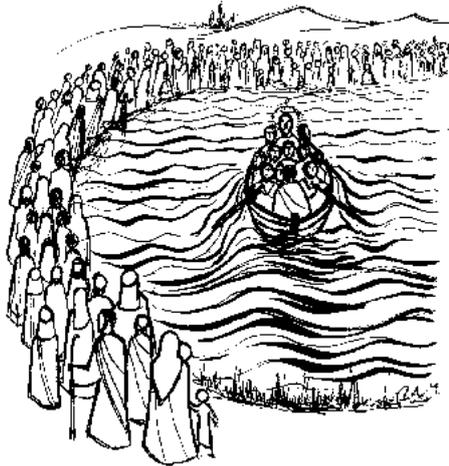
So remember that once you were Gentiles by physical descent, who were called "uncircumcised" by Jews who are physically circumcised. At that time you were without Christ. You were aliens rather than citizens of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of God's promise. In this world you had no hope and no God. But now, thanks to Christ Jesus, you who once were so far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Christ is our peace. He made both Jews and Gentiles into one group. With his body, he broke down the barrier of hatred that divided us. He cancelled the detailed rules of the Law so that he could create one new person out of the two groups, making peace. He reconciled them both as one body to God by the cross, which ended the hostility to God.

When he came, he announced the good news of peace to you who were far away from God and to those who were near. We both have access to the Father through Christ by the one Spirit. So now you are no longer strangers and aliens. Rather, you are fellow citizens with God's people, and you belong to God's household. As God's household, you are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. The whole building is joined together in him, and it grows up into a temple that is dedicated to the Lord. Christ is building you into a place where God lives through the Spirit.

(4.13-5.1; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

The apostles returned to Jesus and told him everything they had done and taught. Many people were coming and going, so there was no time to eat. He said to the apostles, "Come by yourselves to a secluded place and rest for a while." They departed in a boat by themselves for a deserted place.

Many people saw them leaving and recognized them, so they ran ahead from all the cities and arrived before them. When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. Then he began to teach them many things.

...

When Jesus and his disciples had crossed the lake, they landed at Gennesaret, anchored the boat, and came ashore. People immediately recognised Jesus and ran around that whole region bringing sick people on their mats to wherever they heard he was. Wherever he went—villages, cities, or farming communities—they would place the sick in the marketplaces and beg him to allow them to touch even the hem of his clothing. Everyone who touched him was healed.

(6.30-34, 53-56; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Readings for next Sunday: 25th July (James, apostle and martyr)

Jeremiah 45; Psalm 126; Acts 11.27-12.3; Matthew 20.20-28

Take some time to prepare for worship together by exploring the readings beforehand. Some things to notice might be:

Is anything here particularly relevant to my situation at this time?

Is there anything here that doesn't immediately make sense to me?

What comes just before and just after this section of the Bible?

Does this remind me of something elsewhere in the Bible?

NOTES AND NEWS

for your information and prayers, from around and beyond the parish

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group resumes this Friday, 23 July, 5pm. We will meet **either in person or by Zoom**, depending on restriction updates. Anyone in school years 5-12 is welcome!

Each school term, we meet fortnightly on Friday evenings at 5 pm (alternating between in person and on Zoom). Please contact Rev'd Katie for further details.

GROCERY DONATIONS

The work of food relief goes on and continues to be much needed. If you are in the vicinity of St Eanswythe's, contributions of non-perishable food items can be left in the bookshelves beside the office (on Bent Street, around the corner from the main entrance) and they will be passed on to the Salvation Army. Contributions can also be delivered directly to Laverton Community Integrated Services, at the Laverton Hub (95-105 Railway Avenue, Laverton).

PRAYER

The rhythm of prayer also goes on. Each weekday morning of the lockdown, at 9am Morning Prayer is shared online (see details on the next page). If you are able, gathering (virtually speaking) for prayer is a rather beautiful way to pause and find some spiritual sustenance near the beginning of the day, by turning to our Lord to bless him for the gift of it. On Monday and Tuesday, Evening Prayer is shared online at 5:30pm.

For our prayers:

The world and nation: For the people of South Africa amid protests and conflict, for the healing of persistent wounds of division.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church in Djibouti and Somalia. For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: Diocese of North Queensland (Bp Keith Joseph, clergy & people).

Diocese of Melbourne: Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; St John's Bentleigh (David Powys).

Our parish & community:

For all whose home life is unstable, who struggle with the isolation measures.

Agencies supported by our parish:

Latitude Youth Services, Altona—supporting at-risk young people.

Those with particular needs at this time: Hannah, Jemma, Kay, Vicky, Tania.

The communion of saints:

Those who have died recently: Elly Bechaz.

Year's mind: Doris Truman (18), Stephen Briggs (18), Alfred LeRoy (19), Doug Grant (20), Lawrence Hudson (23), Robert Norman (23), Robert Muir (23), Olice Malin (24), Ellie Doloughan (24).

If you have a prayer request for our clergy and people, please contact Chris or Katie (see contact details below). Your prayers will be kept confidential or added to the public pew sheet list, depending on the situation and your wishes.

Keeping in touch...

- ⇒ Pew sheets are available on our website at www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets
- ⇒ Visit www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav for photos, links, news and other updates.
- ⇒ If you don't already receive our weekly email including news, changes of service times, and other updates, please send your email address to parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Giving...

- ⇒ 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 pledge giving please include your name or envelope/reference number. For further details see anglicanaltlav.org.au/giving

The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

www.anglicanaltlav.org.au

(03) 9398 1005 parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au PO Box 48, Altona VIC 3018

Vicar:

The Rev'd Chris Lancaster
0423 199 850 chris.lancaster@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Curate:

The Rev'd Katie Bellhouse
0416 378 748 katie.bellhouse@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Priest & Maori Minister:

The Rev'd Danny McRoberts
0448 841 196 dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

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 18th June

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook
9:30am Service of Scripture and Prayer, on Zoom
5pm Parish Council, on Zoom

Monday 19th

9am Morning Prayer, on Zoom
5:30pm Evening Prayer, streamed on Facebook

Tuesday 20th

9am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook
5:30pm Evening Prayer, on Zoom

[PENDING RESTRICTION UPDATES...]

Wednesday 21st

8am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
9:30am Holy Communion, St Clement's
5pm Evening Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Thursday 22nd

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
10am Holy Communion, St Eanswythe's
10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open

Friday 23rd

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
9:30am Clementines playgroup, St Clement's
10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open
5-6:30pm Youth group, St Clement's

Sunday 25th June

James, apostle and martyr

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
8:45am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's

Services on Facebook can be accessed at www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav

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