



# 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*

## 8th August 2021 ELEVENTH 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 together we praise the Lord, reflect on God's word, and pray 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

A thought on today's Gospel...

There are many claims that confront us in this world – in advertisements, in our social lives – which are worth taking with a grain of salt. One advertisement might claim, *Use this facial moisturiser, and it will prevent your skin from aging.* Another, *Use this protein powder and you will bulk up in no time.* Then there are the subtler, less explicit claims, the way an online gambling app, for instance, might present itself to a person as a diversion from loneliness – a refuge, even.

A person might be searching for something all their life – be it bread, companionship or personal fulfilment – and confront a thousand sketchy claims of companies and people to provide what they seek, only to be disappointed.

And then there is the claim of Christ in the Gospel: *'Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."' (John 6.35)*

It's as if he is saying: *That Something you are searching for, I am it. If you come to me, I will provide for you. I will fulfil you.*

I don't think there is any way of 'testing out' the authenticity of his claim in advance, before one comes to him. For it is not only a claim, but a promise.

One has to draw near with faith, make a reciprocal commitment of trust, to find for oneself that his word is true. He will nourish and sustain each one of us through it all:

- 1, Because you will never have to go far in the world to find other disciples of Jesus, who will help feed and support you when you need it, and who will befriend you – sometimes whether or not you seek it...! Each one of us has a role open to us, to be among the channels of this Grace.
- 2, Because a person who is open to the grace of God, will, in the end, be able to let go of the things they want but do not have, to notice and appreciate the graces that have reached them, even in the dullest places. A cup of coffee is a gift from God. especially when someone else made it for you. That awareness makes it easier to be satisfied with simpler things.
- 3, If an early martyr like +Ignatius of Antioch (c. 110) is to be believed, when one comes to Jesus for 'the bread of life', one discovers that at the heart of all one seeks, is 'love uncorruptible'. Our Lord is Love – abiding and eternally. That love has power to nourish and sustain us in any and all circumstances. Indeed, has power 'to raise [us] up on the last day' (Jn 6.39), as Jesus goes on to say.

May that reality and that promise of fulfilment, sustain each of us in the coming week.

Yours in peace, Katie

# PRAYERS AND READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

## THE COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

Grant, O Lord,  
that we may see in you the fulfilment of all our need,  
and may turn from every false satisfaction  
to feed on the true and living bread  
that you have given us in Jesus Christ;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

A reading from the second book of Samuel

The king gave orders to Joab, Abishai, and Ittai: "For my sake, protect my boy Absalom." All the troops heard what the king ordered regarding Absalom to all the commanders.

So the troops marched into the field to meet the Israelites. The battle was fought in the Ephraim forest. The army of Israel was defeated there by David's soldiers. A great slaughter of twenty thousand men took place that day. The battle spread out over the entire countryside, and the forest devoured more soldiers than the sword that day.

Absalom came upon some of David's men. Absalom was riding on a mule, and the mule went under the tangled branches of a large oak tree. Absalom's head got caught in the tree. He was left hanging in mid-air while the mule under him kept on going.

...

Joab said, "I won't waste time like this with you!" He took three sticks in his hand and drove them into Absalom's chest while he was still alive in the oak.

...

Then the Cushite arrived and said, "My master the king: Listen to this good news! The LORD has vindicated you this day against the power of all who rose up against you."

The king said to the Cushite, "Is my boy Absalom okay?"

The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my master the king and all who rise up against you to hurt you end up like that young man."

The king trembled. He went up to the room over the gate and cried. As he went, he said, "Oh, my son Absalom! Oh, my son! My son Absalom! If only I had died instead of you! Oh, Absalom, my son! My son!"

(18.5-9, 14, 31-33; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord: Lord,  
hear my voice;

**O let your ears consider well: the voice of my supplication.**

If you, Lord, should note what we do wrong: who then,  
O Lord, could stand?

**But there is forgiveness with you: so that you shall be feared.**

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him: and in his word is my hope.

**My soul looks for the Lord: more than watchmen for the morning, more, I say, than watchmen for the morning.**

O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy: and with him is ample redemption.

**He will redeem Israel: from the multitude of their sins.**

(130)

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

Therefore, after you have got rid of lying, *Each of you must tell the truth to your neighbour* because we are parts of each other in the same body. *Be angry without sinning.* Don't let the sun set on your anger. Don't provide an opportunity for the devil. Thieves should no longer steal. Instead, they should go to work, using their hands to do good so that they will have something to share with whoever is in need.

Don't let evil words come out of your mouth. Only say what is helpful for building up, so that it benefits those who hear what you say. Don't make the Holy Spirit of God unhappy—you were sealed by him for the day of redemption. Put aside all bitterness, losing your temper, anger, shouting, and slander, along with every other evil. Be kind, compassionate, and forgiving to each other, in the same way God forgave you in Christ.

Therefore, imitate God, as beloved children. Live your life with love, following the example of Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us. He was a sacrificial offering that smelled sweet to God.

(4.25-5.2; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL

A reading from the Gospel according to John

Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

The Jewish opposition grumbled about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven."

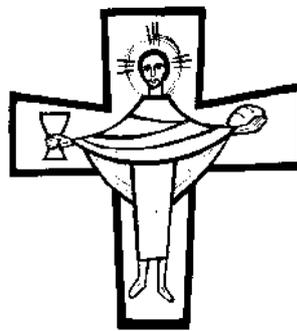
They asked, "Isn't this Jesus, Joseph's son, whose mother and father we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?"

Jesus responded, "Don't grumble among yourselves. No one can come to me unless they are drawn to me by the Father who sent me, and I will raise them up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets, And they will all be taught by God. Everyone who has listened to the Father and learned from him comes to me. No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God. He has seen the Father. I assure you, whoever believes has eternal life.

"I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness and they died. This is the bread that

comes down from heaven so that whoever eats from it will never die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

(6.35-51; CEB)



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

## NOTES AND NEWS

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

### Prayer

Over the next few days we will continue our lockdown pattern, meeting online at 9am for Morning Prayer and at 5:30pm for Evening Prayer.

Services streamed on Facebook can be found at [www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlv](http://www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlv)

Services on Zoom can be joined at [zoom.us/j/9726172254](https://zoom.us/j/9726172254) (passcode 93981005)

### Mission Giving

At last month’s meeting, Parish Council discussed the allocation of our budgeted mission giving amount for the current year. Alongside continuing our support for local, national and overseas needs, there are some agencies which we haven’t supported before, including in our local area. Click/tap on the name of each agency to see further information about them and their work.

<a href="#">Anglican Overseas Aid</a>	\$4,000
<a href="#">Anglican Board of Mission (ministry in Indigenous communities)</a>	\$4,000
<a href="#">Anglicare Victoria (prison chaplaincy)</a>	\$4,000
<a href="#">Latitude Altona</a>	\$3,000
<a href="#">West Welcome Wagon</a>	\$1,000
<a href="#">Asylum Seeker Resource Centre</a>	\$1,000
<a href="#">Compassion Australia</a>	\$1,000
<a href="#">Common Grace</a>	\$1,000
<a href="#">Newport Outlets</a>	\$1,000

It is our parish Op Shop which enables this giving: so a big thank you to all our wonderful workers, contributors and customers who make this possible!

### Conversations

Thank you to those who have responded to the invitation to a conversation about how our parish serves the local community. We will postpone both of these scheduled conversations, until we can gather in person again.

### Blessing of Animals

Our parish Mission Action Team has been meeting through this year, with a focus on our ministry to families with younger children. We have begun planning for a Blessing of Animals service on Sunday 10 October (close to St Francis’ Day), which will very much be an all-age event! If you know some young children who would like to join in (with or without their own pets to bring along), please do let them know—and watch this space for further details. The service will at 4pm, outdoors at St Clement’s.

### Looking ahead: dates for the diary

**12 September** St Eanswythe’s Patronal Festival: 9:30am combined service for the whole parish

**10 October** Blessing of Animals: 4pm at St Clement’s

### Readings for next Sunday: 15th August (Feast of Mary, Mother of Our Lord)

Isaiah 61.10-62.3; Magnificat (Luke 1.46-55); Galatians 4.4-7; Luke 2.1-7

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?*

## For our prayers:

The world and nation: For migrants and asylum seekers in detention in Libya.

### The Church:

*World Council of Churches:* For the Church in the Cameroon, Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea. For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

*Anglican Church of Australia:* The Diocese of Bendigo (Bp Matt Brain, Clergy & People).

*Diocese of Melbourne:* Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; St Paul's Canterbury (Rachel McDougall).

Our parish & community: For those raising babies and young children, for support and connection.

### Agencies supported by our parish:

Anglican Board of Mission—their support of ministry among Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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

### The communion of saints:

*Year's mind:* Clarrie Baines (10), Roy Little (11), Frederick Hawthorne (14).

*To add a name to the public pew sheet prayer list, either those needing prayers now or those to be remembered on the anniversary of their death, please contact one of the clergy.*



## 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 our weekly email including news, changes of service times, and other updates, please send your email address to [parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au](mailto: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](http://anglicanaltlav.org.au/giving)

## The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

[www.anglicanaltlav.org.au](http://www.anglicanaltlav.org.au)

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### Vicar:

The Rev'd Chris Lancaster  
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### Assistant Curate:

The Rev'd Katie Bellhouse  
0416 378 748 [katie.bellhouse@anglicanaltlav.org.au](mailto:katie.bellhouse@anglicanaltlav.org.au)

### Assistant Priest & Maori Minister:

The Rev'd Danny McRoberts  
0448 841 196 [dann.mcroberts@gmail.com](mailto: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 8th August

#### Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

### Monday 9th

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

### Tuesday 10th

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

### Wednesday 11th

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

### Thursday 12th

9am Morning Prayer, streamed on Facebook  
5:30pm Evening Prayer, on Zoom  
*(Pending easing of restrictions:)*

### Friday 13th

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

### Sunday 15th

#### Feast of Mary, Mother of our Lord

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

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(Or by phoning (03) 7018 2005—when prompted, enter 9726172254#;  
then when asked for a participant ID, press #.)