

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*

26th December 2021 First Sunday after Christmas

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

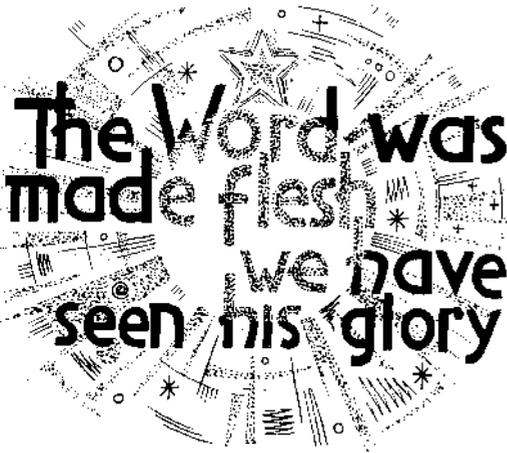
*Wominjeka :: Haere mai
Welcome*

A warm welcome to our worship today, especially if you are with us for the first time or visiting from elsewhere.

This booklet contains the full order of service: please join in the parts printed in bold type.

During these times we are all asked to take responsibility for COVID-safe precautions:

- ◆ If you have any symptoms of illness, you should be remaining at home.
- ◆ Please use hand sanitiser on arriving and leaving, check in by the QR system, and maintain physical distancing where possible.
- ◆ Masks need to worn when indoors.



Our parish lies on the country of the 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).

Gathering in God's name

We meet in God's name, as God's people – children of God in all our rich diversity, with all that we carry from the complexity of our lives.

We turn to God in praise and prayer; this includes recalling all that has separated us from God, and claiming the love and forgiveness that is always held out to us.

The Collect then 'collects' these prayers and turns our attention towards the Bible readings which will follow.

HYMN 319 Child in the manger
(the red hymn book Together in Song is found in the pew in front of you)

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

We come by the grace of the one God,
creator of beauty, lover of justice.

Blessed be God for ever.

We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ,
one with us in sorrow and in joy.

Blessed be God for ever.

We are one in the Spirit who fills the Church,
breath of life, making all things new.

Blessed be God for ever.

Come and worship the holy and glorious Trinity,
as we pray together:

**God of the feast,
your Wisdom calls us,
your Word teaches us
and you feed us with your life.
Give us grace to welcome one another
as you have welcomed us in Christ Jesus,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins
to the God who knows us through and through.

**Holy God,
we have disobeyed your commandments,
we have resisted your call,
we have failed to live by your generous love.
We are sorry for all our sins,
and ask you to forgive us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

God who has called us is faithful, and will not remember our sins.
Your sins are forgiven, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Live by the Spirit's transforming power,
and forgive as you have been forgiven.
Amen.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

**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 COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

God Most High,
whose eternal Word chose a dwelling among us,
that we might live in your presence:
grant us a spirit of wisdom
to know how rich is the glory you have given us,
and how great is the hope to which we are called
in the Word made flesh;
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Opening the Scriptures

The readings come from different parts of the Bible: different perspectives on the great story of God's presence and purpose among us. In the psalm we respond with the ancient words of prayer of God's people.

The sermon adds to our own reflections on the readings, and then we respond by affirming the faith as handed to us from previous generations.

We bring our prayers for the world and the Church, trusting that all things and all people are in God's hands.

At the greeting of peace, we recognise that God's gift of peace constantly renews our human relationships and forms us as the Body of Christ.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of a messenger
who proclaims peace,
who brings good news,
who proclaims salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God rules!"

Listen! Your lookouts lift their voice;
they sing out together!

Right before their eyes they see the LORD returning to Zion.

Break into song together, you ruins of Jerusalem!

The LORD has comforted his people and has redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm in view of all the nations;
all the ends of the earth have seen our God's victory.

(52.7-10; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

O sing to the Lord a new song: for he has done marvellous things;

His right hand and his holy arm: they have got him the victory.

The Lord has made known his salvation: he has revealed his just deliverance in
the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of

Israel: and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth: break into singing and make melody.

**Make melody to the Lord upon the harp: upon the harp and with the
sounds of praise.**

With trumpets and with horns: cry out in triumph before the Lord, the king.

**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it: the good earth and those who live
upon it.**

Let the rivers clap their hands: and let the mountains ring out together before the Lord;

For he comes to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

(98)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

In the past, God spoke through the prophets to our ancestors in many times and many ways. In these final days, though, he spoke to us through a Son. God made his Son the heir of everything and created the world through him. The Son is the light of God's glory and the imprint of God's being. He maintains everything with his powerful message. After he carried out the cleansing of people from their sins, he sat down at the right side of the highest majesty. And the Son became so much greater than the other messengers, such as angels, that he received a more important title than theirs.

(1.1-4; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

He came down that we have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love,
hallelujah for evermore.

He came down that we may have peace...

He came down that we may have joy...

Words: traditional, from Cameroon

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glorify to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word
and the Word was with God
and the Word was God.

The Word was with God in the beginning.
Everything came into being through the Word,
and without the Word
nothing came into being.
What came into being
through the Word was life,
and the life was the light for all people.
The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.

A man named John was sent from God. He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the light. He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light.

The true light that shines on all people
was coming into the world.
The light was in the world,
and the world came into being through the light,
but the world didn't recognise the light.
The light came to his own people,
and his own people didn't welcome him.
But those who did welcome him,
those who believed in his name,
he authorised to become God's children,
born not from blood
nor from human desire or passion,
but born from God.
The Word became flesh
and made his home among us.
We have seen his glory,
glory like that of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.

(1.1-14; CEB)

For the Gospel of the Lord:
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:
**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 all people and for the Church throughout the world.

The response to the prayers is

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with our Parish Prayer

**God of this ancient land,
holy beyond time and place,
you search us out
and name us your beloved children.
Work in us to fulfil your longing
and compassion for every person.
Send your Spirit to renew our life,
and give us courage
to rise and follow where Jesus calls. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there shall be no end.

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

Everyone is invited to turn to those around, and offer a greeting of peace from where you stand.

Offerings of money or groceries can be placed in the basket/box provided.

Celebrating at the Lord's table

Our offerings of money and groceries remind us that we are called to participate with our lives and livelihoods in the coming of God's kingdom of justice, healing and peace.

In the Great Thanksgiving, the priest voices the prayer of the whole assembly, recalling the mighty acts of God, Jesus' saving death and resurrection, and his last meal with his friends. The prayer calls on the Holy Spirit to make Christ present in our sharing of bread and wine, and to remake us as Christ's body in the world. We respond with the Lord's Prayer, as the crucified and risen Jesus prays anew through us.

Our sharing is a gift of grace, a communion with Jesus and with each other. There is a place here for each and every person.

HYMN 320 Never in all human story
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

The priest prays on behalf of all, praising God for God's mighty acts. All respond:

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.

The Last Supper is recalled, including Jesus' command to continue sharing bread and wine: in memory of him, and proclaiming his death and resurrection. All respond:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The prayer calls on God's blessing and looks to the fulfilling of all things within the goodness of God. All join in affirming:

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 and says

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

**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 gifts of God for the people of God.
Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

This is the Lord's table. All who seek God's mercy are welcome.

Everyone is invited to share communion or receive a blessing: please come forward as indicated and stand at one of the places marked in white. Children who have been baptised are welcome to share communion. If you would prefer not to share communion, please indicate when the minister comes to you.

While communion is being shared, we sing:

Holy, holy, holy.
My heart, my heart adores you.
My heart knows how to say to you:
Holy are you, Lord.

(Hymn 723)

Words: Anon (from Argentina)

Going into the world

The Eucharist is food for the journey of faith, whatever awaits us as we go out to the rest of our lives. We have been renewed, transformed, and blessed: now we take that blessing to share with others, in our words and actions, our hearts and lives.

'The Eucharist never ends – it must be lived.'

NOTICES

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We thank you, God,
for all the blessings of this table:
for the life-giving story,
the living bread
and the wine of new creation.

**Send us, we pray, in the strength of this meal,
to tell the Good News to neighbours and strangers
with creative words
and compassionate service,
walking the way of Christ.**

HYMN 303 Hark! the herald angels sing
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
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.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Thank you to everyone who shared in and assisted with our Christmas services over the last week!

All services are now open to everyone, and masks need to be worn whenever we are indoors. All are encouraged to share refreshments outdoors, and only those who have been vaccinated may do so indoors. Thank you for your understanding as we care for each other in these uncertain times.

Looking ahead—services in January

Next Sunday, 2nd January, we begin a trial of a new 5pm service at St Clement's—young and old worshipping together in a slightly more relaxed mode. Do join in as we discover together what this may become!

Throughout January, our Sunday services will be:

7:45am Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

9:30am Eucharist (combined parish service), St Eanswythe's

5pm Eucharist (a more relaxed service for all ages), St Clement's

Readings for next Sunday: 2nd January (Epiphany)

Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

For our prayers:

The world and nation: For all people who long for the gift of peace: in nations, communities, and human hearts.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church in Japan, North Korea, South Korea and Taiwan. For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of North West Australia (Bp Gary Nelson, Clergy & People).

Diocese of Melbourne: Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; St John the Baptist Wantirna South (Stephen Morris).

Agencies supported by our parish:

Newport Outlets – providing community development, support and education.

Our parish & community: For those in quarantine over Christmas.

Those with particular needs at this time: Vivienne, Nalani, Lola.

The communion of saints:

Those who have died recently: Les King.

Year's mind: Peter Higginbottom (26), Bryce McKinnon (27), Ilija Strinic (28), Arthur Thornton (30).

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

If you have a prayer request to be included as we gather regularly for prayer throughout the week, please find the prayer box near the church entrance and fill out a card, or contact one of the clergy.



The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

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St Clement's telephone [when church is attended] - 7012 6800

Vicar:

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

Assistant Curate:

The Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse
0416 378 748 kathryn.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 Officer:

The Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse

This week in our parish:

Sunday 26th December

First Sunday after Christmas

9:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Tuesday 28th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Wednesday 29th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Thursday 30th

NB No Morning Prayer today

Friday 31st

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Sunday 2nd January

EPIPHANY

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
9:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
5pm All-age Eucharist, St Clement's

Keeping in touch...

- ⇒ Please take this pew sheet with you, for your reference and prayers during the week.
- ⇒ If you are or have been away for a Sunday, you can see recent pew sheets on our website at www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets
- ⇒ Visit www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav for photos, links, news and 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

SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45am St Clement's and 10:30am St Eanswythe's (in recess over summer)

Groups meeting regularly in the parish:

Youth Group: Fridays fortnightly in term time, at St Clement's or online. Contact Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse.

Altona Tiddlers Playgroup: Tuesdays in term time, 10am at St Eanswythe's. Contact Jan Lee (9398 2993)

Clementines Playgroup: Fridays in term time, 9:30am at St Clement's. Contact Louise (9395 5472)

Reflective Bible Study: monthly at the Vicarage, first Tuesday evening at 7:30pm.

Mothers' Union: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661)

Caritas: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday evening at 7pm. Contact Joan Meiers (9398 1906)