

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON

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



Fifth Sunday of Easter

7th May 2023

Holy Eucharist

to proclaim God's love and life in Christ



St Clement's 8:30am :: St Eanswythe's 10:30am :: Te Wairua Tapu 1pm

HYMNS (*found in the red hymn book Together in Song*)

Opening (*at 10:30am only*): 590 - What a friend we have in Jesus

Gradual: 420 - Holy Spirit, go before us

Offertory: 536 - An upper room did our Lord prepare

During Communion, we sing:

***Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy name.***

***Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.***

Words: Taizé Community

Final: 628 - In faith and hope and love

FIRST READING

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'LORD Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'LORD, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

(Acts 7.55-60)

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

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

PSALM

To you, Lord, have I come for shelter: let me never be put to shame.

O deliver me in your righteousness: incline your ear to me and be swift to save me.

Be for me a rock of refuge, a fortress to defend me: for you are my high rock and my stronghold.

Lead me and guide me for your name's sake: bring me out of the net that they have secretly laid for me, for you are my strength.

Into your hands I commit my spirit: you will redeem me, O Lord God of truth.

All my days are in your hand: O deliver me from the power of my enemies and from my persecutors.

Make your face to shine upon your servant: and save me for your mercy's sake.

(31.1-5, 17-18)

SECOND READING

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honourable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge. For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. Honour everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honour the emperor. Slaves, accept the authority of your masters with all deference, not only those who are kind and gentle but also those who are harsh. For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

(1 Peter 2.11-25)

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

THE GOSPEL

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all

this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

(John 14.1-14)

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

For our Prayers This Week

The world and nation: For the people and children of Ukraine and Russia.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of Bathurst (Bp Mark Calder, Clergy & People). *Diocese of Melbourne:* St Philip’s Mount Waverley (Ruth Newmarch, Breannon Wilkinson).

Agencies supported by our parish:

Common Grace – uniting Australian Christians in advocacy and prayer.

Our parish & community: For God’s guidance, love and care of our people.

Those with particular needs at this time:

Denise, Stuart, Hannah, Anthony, Carol, James, Toby, Peter, Lewis, Christopher and Maria.

The communion of saints:

Year’s mind: Alec Bayley (13).

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.



A message from Rev’d Dave Thompson

Do not let your hearts be troubled....

Believe in God also believe in me. John 14:1

The place of faith is with God, the direction about how we go about having faith is our relationship through Jesus. Thomas says: Lord; “we do not know the way?” John 14:5. If you have seen Jesus weeping at the death of Lazarus, crying of Jerusalem, teaching that He came to serve not be served. This is the Lord, this points the way to a loving Father....and in Jesus we have God reconciling the world to himself. This is the way. Amen

Notices and news

THANK YOU

"The Griffin family wishes to thank the wonderful people of this Parish for their prayers, love and support and those who helped celebrate the life of Peggy Griffin. Over 140 family and friends attended the funeral held at St Clement's Anglican Church on Monday 1st May."

~ Cheers Lily and Rob

MOTHERS UNION

Birthday meeting Thursday 11 May at 11am will be a short meeting followed by lunch at the Altona Bowling Club. MU members please come and join us. ~ Beryl

PLANNED GIVING

Stewardship Sunday 21 May 2023: Renewal of our Planned Giving program for 2023-24, an essential element of our commitment to the future ministry and mission of the parish.

This week in our parish

Sunday 7 May

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's
5pm Evening Eucharist, St Clement's

Tuesday - Friday

10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open

Tuesday 9 May

10am Tiddlers Playgroup, St Eanswythe's

Wednesday 10 May

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
11:00am Nursing home service, St George
7:30pm Reflective Bible Study, St Eanswythe's

Thursday 11 May

10am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Friday 12 May

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
9:30am St Clement's Playgroup

Sunday 14 May

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's
5pm Evening Eucharist, St Clement's

Eucharist readings for this week

READINGS

Take some time to prepare for worship together by exploring the readings beforehand.

Readings for Wednesday 10 May

Acts 15.1-6; Psalm 122; John 15.1-8

Readings for Thursday 11 May

Acts 15.7-21; Psalm 96.1-6; John 15.8-11

Readings for Sunday 14 May (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

Acts 17.22-31; Psalm 66.7-19; 1 Peter 3.8-22; John 14.15-21

DAILY PRAYER: Morning Prayer is shared at St Eanswythe's on Friday. Everyone is welcome.

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.