

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*

16th July 2023 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

8:30am St Clement's :: 10:30am St Eanswythe's :: 1:00pm Te Wairua Tapu

*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.

Please do stay to share refreshments at the end of the service.

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

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.

INTROIT HYMN 136 There's a wideness in God's mercy
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Let us pray.
Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ Jesus said: ‘This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiven
Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;

**we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

**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)

Bountiful God,
we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word:
by your Holy Spirit,
help us to receive it with joy, and to live according to it,
that we may grow in faith and hope and love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Opening the Scriptures

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Genesis (25.19-34)

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the LORD. And the LORD said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.' When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

PSALM: (119.105-112)

Your word is a lantern to my feet: and a light to my path.

I have vowed and sworn an oath: to keep your righteous judgements.

I have been afflicted beyond measure: Lord, give me life according to your word.

Accept, O Lord, the freewill offerings of my mouth: and teach me your judgements.

I take my life in my hands continually: yet I do not forget your law.

The wicked have laid a snare for me: but I have not strayed from your precepts.

Your commands are my inheritance for ever: they are the joy of my heart.

I have set my heart to fulfil your statutes: always, even to the end.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8.1-11)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things

of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you .

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

GRADUAL HYMN 597 Master, speak, thy servant heareth
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE GOSPEL:

Alleluia. **Alleluia**

The kingdom of God is near: repent and believe the good news!

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (13.1-9, 18-23)

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!' 'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

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

SERMON

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of Sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for all people and for the Church throughout the world.

The prayers may include this or another response:

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

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN 439 What shall we offer our good Lord
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer;
and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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:

...to proclaim the glory of your name, for ever praising you and saying:
**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:

...we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory:
**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, and concludes:

...all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Looking for the coming of his kingdom,
as our Saviour taught us, so we 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.**

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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread and says

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

We are one body, alleluia,
for though many, we share one bread.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Come, let us celebrate the
feast. Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.

Alleluia!

Jesus bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus redeemer of the world, grant us your peace

*Everyone is invited to share communion or receive a blessing. Children who have been
baptised are welcome to share communion. If you would prefer not to share communion but
to receive a personal blessing, please indicate when the minister comes to you.*

While communion is being shared, we sing: (hymn 741)

Holy, holy, holy.

My heart, my heart adores you.

My heart knows how to say to you:

Holy are you, Lord.

Words: Anon (from Argentina)

Going into the world

*The Eucharist offers us a way to be 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.'

Post-Communion Prayer

Giver of life and love,
we thank you that in this heavenly banquet
you invigorate and renew us.
Living in the unity of the Spirit,
may we boldly use your gifts
to continue your work in the world.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you
love.
Give us grace to go thankfully
and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Notices

Planned Giving

The recent 2023/24 program is now finalised and \$2,498 as been pledged - \$1 more than last year. We also have additional open plate offerings. Thank you to all those who responded. We have commitments ranging from \$5 to \$100 + per week and the average is \$35.69. Circumstances change for people from time to time, therefore it is important that we conduct an annual program so that Parish Council is kept up to date on our financial resources. I have decided that this program ending May 2024 was my last as co-ordinator – old age has caught up with me. Until then if anyone has any questions about giving or has to make adjustments phone me on 9315 7838 or email p.baines@bigpond.com. Thank you to those who have been a great help delivering invitations etc. in recent years. *Pat. Baines*

Combined Service

We are intending holding a combined worship service on Sunday August the 6th. The time will be 9.30am at St Clement's. We will have morning tea to follow. This means no 8.30am and 5.00pm services at St Clement's, no 10.30am service at St Eanswythe's and no 1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu on the 6th. More details to come.
God Bless, Dave

Reflective Bible Study for 2023: First Tuesday of the month for the remainder of the year at St Eanswythe's meeting room at 7.30 pm. Next one is Tuesday 1 August.

RECESSIONAL HYMN 590 What a friend we have in Jesus

(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

God stir up within you the gift of the Spirit that you may confess Jesus Christ as Lord and proclaim the joy of the everlasting gospel wherever you may be; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

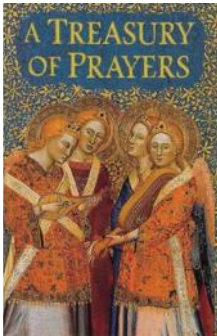
Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK:

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully
to receive the prayers of your people who call upon you,
and grant that they may both perceive
and know what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Message from Rev'd Dave Thompson

Our readings today from Matthew contain a number of parables. These discourses are a critical point in Matthew's story of Jesus. (Yes, I know, I have said this about every chapter in Mathew!) In chapter 12, Jesus has been under assault by his opponents and conflict is increasing. The Pharisees apparently are not good soil for his teachings to land on. They object when Jesus plucks grain and heals a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath (12: 1-14). When he cures a demoniac who was blind and mute (12: 22) they accuse him of deriving his exorcizing power from Beelzebub, the ruler of demons. (12:22ff) The Pharisees have ears but do not hear. Over against this opposition, the parables discourse affirms Jesus' divine identity. He both teaches and embodies the mystery of the kingdom of heaven, (13:11), a mystery "hidden from the foundation of the world" (13:35) but now revealed at this dawning of the final age. And in today's reading of Romans 8:1-11.....Paul says in vs.10 "But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness." What are these seeds of the Gospel that Jesus is speaking about and how does it relate to Paul's understanding of righteousness? Simply put: if the seeds of Christ, His spirit have grown in you; you will enact His wishes. What are these? Many. But for us nowadays maybe a good start is to study the Prayer of St Francis?! He found a way and something that we all can practice. May this spirit grow in us all....especially for our world needs it more than ever. Amen. ~ *Regards, Dave*



"I have left a small hard back book lying around somewhere. It is precious to me.....it actually belonged to my spiritual director....who has moved away from 'church-life'. He gave it to me. Sadly....I have left it lying around somewhere.... Has anyone in the parish has seen it . "
Thank you, Dave.

Parish Contact List

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Church Wardens: Lily Griffin, Scott Pitcher and Soon Ghee Yap

For our Prayers This Week

The world and nation: For not less than 300 missing people traveling from Senegal to Spain in three boats on one of the deadliest sea routes for migrants.

The Church:

World Council of Churches:
Djibouti and Somalia.

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

Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of Central Queensland (Bishop Peter Grice, Clergy & People) .

Diocese of Melbourne: Brimbank Anglican Parish (Vacant incumbency, Agatha Wakyezeza).

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. Holding our incumbency committee in our prayers as they pray and meditate about our future parish needs.

Those with particular needs at this time:
Denise, Stuart, Hannah, Anthony, Carol, James, Toby, Peter, Lewis, Christopher, Maria, Kay, Jeanette.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Minnie McKinnon (16), Don Edgar, priest (16), Doris Truman (18), Stephen Briggs (18), Alfred LeRoy (19), Doug Grant (20).

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 the clergy or parish office.

This Week in our Parish

Sunday 16 July: 7th Sunday after Pentecost

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 18 July

10am Tiddlers Playgroup, St Eanswythe's*

Wednesday 19 July

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

Thursday 20 July

10am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Friday 21 July

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

Sunday 23 July: 8th Sunday after Pentecost

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

** During school term*

Eucharist Readings for this Week

Readings for Wednesday 19 July

Exodus 3.1-6, (7-8), 9-12; Psalm 103.1-7; Matthew 11.25-27

Readings for Thursday 20 July

Exodus 3.13-20; Psalm 105.23-27; Matthew 11.28-30

Readings for Sunday 23 July: Eight Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 28.10-19a; Psalm 139.1-11, 23-24; Romans 8.12-25; Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

