

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*

23rd July 2023 Eighth 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 495 Father, we give you thanks, who planted
(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)

Saving God,
in Jesus Christ you opened for us a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts
and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Opening the Scriptures

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Genesis (28.10-19a)

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.' So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

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

PSALM: (139.1-11, 23-24)

O Lord, you have searched me out and known me: you know when I sit or when I stand, you comprehend my thoughts long before.

You discern my path and the places where I rest: you are acquainted with all my ways.

For there is not a word on my tongue: but you, Lord, know it altogether.

You have encompassed me behind and before: and have laid your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me: so high that I cannot endure it.

Where shall I go from your spirit: or where shall I flee from your presence?

If I ascend into heaven you are there: if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.

If I spread out my wings towards the morning: or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand shall lead me: and your right hand shall hold me.

If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me: and the night will enclose me',

The darkness is no darkness with you, but the night is as clear as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike.

Search me out, O God, and know my heart: put me to the proof and know my thoughts.

Look well lest there be any way of wickedness in me: and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8.12-25)

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

GRADUAL HYMN 417 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit
(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 (13.24-30, 36-43)

He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will

it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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 598 Dear Father, Lord of humankind
(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:

**Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.**

*Words: John L Bell
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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.

Fund Raiser for Mothers Union: Will be held on Monday 23rd July at 11.00am with Guest Speaker Bev Moss. Cost \$15.00 which includes Boxed Lunch. All members of the parish, men and ladies are invited to come and support this once a year event. *Beryl*

RECESSIONAL HYMN 650 Brother, sister, let me serve you
(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 God, you alone can order our unruly wills and affections:
teach us to love what you command,
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the changes and chances of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Message from Rev'd Dave Thompson

Today's Bible readings point subtly towards God's expected activity in deliverance. Jacob is seen as a wandering Bedouin, isolated and lonely and has an unexpected encounter with God. Jacob is reminded of God's promise to his heritage. This promise of future deliverance is something that Paul picks up on in Romans. There is hope because of the promises of God....but it is in God's timing that things will gradually be revealed. Paul urges his readers to step forward into God's future...reminding them that whilst they might be a bit shaky, it will turn out alright! The future is in God's hands and this theme of hope is not to be confused with a shallow optimism....the 'unknown' beckons to Jacob and allows him to move forward into God's promise and we the reader understand how it turns out. These themes of hope, moving forward trusting God for the harvest are seen in the actions of the farmer with weeds growing amongst his wheat! He wisely decides to wait upon the Lord. The farmer urges hesitancy in clearing the weeds...but the farming, the growth continues....hope remains in God's decisive glory when he sorts out what is to be kept and what is to be burned. God will take care of the weeds in Gods own time. Hope although partially revealed to us now will be fully completed in the future.....and thus the future is in safe hands....Gods! We therefore join with the psalmist singing God's praise for his wonderful deliverance, for he is a merciful and gracious God.

Grace & Blessings: 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 the people in Europe were an unprecedented heat wave is fuelling wildfires and posing major health risks.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda.

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

Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of Newcastle (Bp Peter Stuart, Asst Bps Charlie Murry, Sonia Roulston, Clergy & People).

Diocese of Melbourne: St Dunstan's Camberwell (Jobby John).

Agencies supported by our parish:

Anglicare Victoria – for prison chaplaincy

ministry across the state.

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: Lawrence Hudson (23), Robert Norman (23), Robert Muir (23), Olice Malin (24), Ellie Doloughan (24), Kath Milway (27), Rita Camilleri (27).

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 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

Tuesday - Friday

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

Tuesday 25 July

10am Tiddlers Playgroup, St Eanswythe's*

Wednesday 26 July

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

Thursday 27 July

10am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Friday 28 July

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

Sunday 30 July: 9th 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

** During school term*

Eucharist Readings for this Week

Readings for Wednesday 26 July-Anne, mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Exodus 16.1-15; Psalm 78.20-30; Matthew 13.1-9

Readings for Thursday 27 July

Exodus 19.1-20; Psalm Song of the 3YM; Matthew 13.10-17

Readings for Sunday 30 July: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29.15-28; Psalm 105.1-11; Romans 8.26-39; Matthew 13.44-58

