

# 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*

## **28th April 2024** **Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B)**

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's  
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's  
1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu (Maori Service), St Eanswythe's  
5:00pm Evening Prayer, St Clement'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.

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

*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.*

INTROIT HYMN      693 Come as you are  
*(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)*

THE COLLECT *(prayer of the day)*

O God,  
form the minds of your faithful people,  
that we may love what you command  
and desire what you promise,  
so that, amid the many changes of this world,  
our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (8.26-40)

Then an angel of the LORD said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation

justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.’ The eunuch asked Philip, ‘About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the LORD snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM (22.26-32)

From you springs my praise in the great congregation: I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;

**The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied: and those who seek the Lord shall praise him—may their hearts rejoice for ever!**

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord: and let all the families of the nations worship before him.

**For the kingdom is the Lord’s: and he shall be ruler over the nations.**

How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage: or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

**But he has saved my life for himself: and my posterity shall serve him.**

This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation: and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of John (4.7-21)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the

day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN 164 The great love of God is revealed in the Son  
*(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)*

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

He bore our sickness and endured our suffering. **Alleluia.**

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

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (15.1-8)  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

For the Gospel of the Lord:

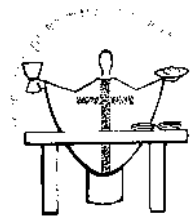
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

SERMON



# 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 153** God is love, let heav'n adore him  
*(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)*

*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:*

**Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten;  
those who seek God shall never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten;  
God alone fills us.**

*Words: Taizé Community  
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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.'***

**RECESSIONAL HYMN 531** Sent forth by God's blessing  
*(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!  
**In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.**



## *Eucharist Readings for this Week*

*Take some time to prepare for worship together by exploring the readings for this week.*

**Readings for Wednesday 1 May: Phillip and James, Apostles and Martyrs**

Isaiah 30.18-21; Ps 19.1-6; 1 Corinthians 15.1-8; John 14.6-14

**Readings for Thursday 2 May: Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, teacher (d.373)**

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

**Readings for Sunday 5 May**

Acts 10.44-48; Ps 98; 1 John 5.1-12; John 15.9-17

**Morning Prayer:** Shared on Tuesday and Friday morning  
at 9:00am at St Eanswythe's. Everyone is welcome.



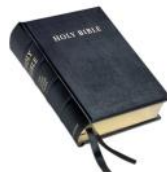
## Notices

**Sunday 19 May 2024:** There will be a combined service at 9:30am at St Eanswythe's to thank Rev'd Dave for his service to our parishes over the last year. The 5:00pm evening holy eucharist will be to thank Rev'd Alan for his service over the last few months. Please join us for these two very special occasions.

**Rosemary Henshall and Judy Greilach:** April is the month for celebrations for two Mothers' Union members namely Rosemary Henshall and Judy Greilach who are celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversaries. Congratulations to Rosemary and Alan and Judy and Heinz. May God continue to bless you with good health and happiness. ~ Beryl

**Reflective Bible Study:** The reflective Bible study group is resuming and will be held on the following Tuesdays at 7:30pm:

21 May (3rd Tuesday)	10 September (2nd Tuesday)
25 June (4th Tuesday)	15 October (3rd Tuesday)
23 July (4th Tuesday)	12 November (2nd Tuesday)
13 August (2nd Tuesday)	10 December (2nd Tuesday)



**Working Bee's:** There will be 2 working bees, Saturday 27 April and Saturday 4 May at 9:00am for the gardens and grounds of the vicarage and church at St Eanswythe's. Please bring your garden and cleaning tools along! Morning tea will be provided. A list of requirements will be provided in the coming weeks.

**Rev'd Kerry Davis:** Vicar Rev'd Kerry Davis with his wife Vaoa will be joining us in May 2024.

**Churchwarden:** Any parishioner interested in becoming a Churchwarden please contact Lily as she will be stepping down from her role at the end of October 2024.

**Treasurer:** Gary, our Treasurer will be stepping down after the Annual Parish Meeting at the end of October this year. We are looking for someone who would be willing to replace him allowing plenty of time for handover.

**Caritas Meetings:** Held 2nd Tuesday of the month at 3:00pm at St Eanswythe's.

**Sunday School:** Held at St Eanswythe's at 10:30am each Sunday (except December school holidays). All children and students (pre-school, primary & high-school) are warmly welcomed to attend.

## Groups Meeting Regularly in the Parish

### Tiddlers Playgroup:

Tuesdays in term time, 10:00am 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)

### Mothers' Union:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11:00am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661)

### Caritas:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday at 3:00pm. Contact Joan Meiers (9398 1906)

## For our Prayers This Week

The world and nation: For the ten people who have died after two Malaysian helicopters collided mid-air during a rehearsal for a Royal Malaysian Navy parade.

### The Church:

*World Council of Churches:*

Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

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

*Anglican Church of Australia:*

The Diocese of Willochra  
(Bp Jeremy James, Clergy & People).

*Diocese of Melbourne:*

St Thomas' Moonee Ponds  
(Vanessa Bennett).

### 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.

We also pray for the safe arrival of our new Vicar Rev'd Kerry and his family.

### Those with particular needs at this time:

Individual prayers will be said.

For the next month: Rev'd Dave will ask at each service for people to nominate issues of concern that the parish can pray for.

Doris has asked to pray for her niece Claire and young friend Kaitlin.

### The communion of saints:

*Year's mind:*

Harry Pugsley (29),  
Clifford Little (29),  
Ivy Duckett (1/5),  
Gordon Andrews (2/5),  
Ray Eudey (2/5).



*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.*

### **Prayer:**

Rev'd Dave T is calling to the parish to be consistent with prayer.

For as Paul cries to the Thessalonians (5:17); "Pray without ceasing"

"Prayer is a surge of the heart, it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy." - St. Therese of Lisieux

"Therefore, when you decide to undertake this work of prayer and feel by grace that you are called by God, lift up your heart to God with a meek stirring of Love." - Cloud of Unknowing

"Give me faith, Lord, and let me help others find it." - Leo Tolstoy

In these times of challenge, doubt and uncertainty and for many in difficulty and great pain and struggle, for believers and unbelievers..hold strong in prayer! As a parishioner stated: "it is still God's world".....and I concur: our hope for everything lies in the Lord. *Dave T*

## *Planned Giving Program 2024/2025*

Many thanks to Anita McAnda who has volunteered to become the next Planned Giving Program Co-ordinator. Anita will work through our current campaign with Pat and take over from then on.

Your invitation to Stewardship Sunday on 12th May is available today, together with information about the parish finances and a message from the Wardens.

Please take yours and any other invitation letters that you can guarantee to deliver within the next few days. There should be letters for all parishioners, and spares are available in case anyone has been missed. Stewardship Sunday is an important event in the parish and all parishioners are invited to play their part in the program. When we plan our giving, those to whom we have given the responsibility of managing our finances are in a much better position to make wise decisions.

All services will be at the usual times on the 12th May. If you have any queries or are unable to be there on that day, please contact Pat Baines on 9315 7838 or 0400 051121 or email [p.baines@bigpond.com](mailto:p.baines@bigpond.com) to make alternate arrangements.

## *This Week in our Parish*

### **Sunday 28 April:**

#### **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's  
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's  
1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's  
5:00pm Evening Prayer, St Clement's

### **Tuesday - Friday**

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

### **Tuesday 30 April**

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's  
10:00am Tiddler's Playgroup,  
St Eanswythe's\*

### **Wednesday 1 May**

9:00am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

### **Thursday 2 May**

10:00am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

### **Friday 3 May**

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's  
9:30am Clementines Playgroup,  
St Clement's\*

### **Sunday 5 May:**

#### **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's  
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's  
1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's  
5:00pm Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

*\*During school term*

## *Parish Contact List*

**St Eanswythe's:** Cnr Bent & Queen St, Altona 3018 | PO Box 48, Altona VIC 3018

**St Clement's:** 85-95 Central Ave, Altona Meadows 3028

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**Locum:** The Rev'd Dave Thompson, M: 0431 041 555

**Asst Priest and Maori Minister:** The Rev'd Danny McRoberts, M: 0448 841 196