

# 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*

## **5th May 2024** **Sixth 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 Holy Eucharist, 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      152 Joyful, joyful, we adore you  
*(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)*

THE COLLECT *(prayer of the day)*

Loving God,  
your Son has chosen us  
and called us to be his friends:  
give us grace to keep his commandments,  
to love one another,  
and to bear fruit which will abide;  
through him who is the true vine,  
the source of all our life,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 *(10.44-48)*

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

PSALM (98)

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.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of John (5.1-12)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life .

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN 640 Kneels at the feet of his friends  
*(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)*

## THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. **Alleluia.**

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

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (15.9-17)

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

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.



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 229 Jesus loves me, this I know

*(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:*

**Bread of heav'n on you we feed,  
for your flesh is food indeed:  
every may our souls be fed  
with this true and living bread,  
day by day with strength supplied  
through the life of him who died.**

**Vine of heav'n, your blood supplies  
this blest cup of sacrifice:  
Lord, your wounds our healing give;  
to your cross we look and live:  
you our life, O let us be  
fed by you eternally.**

*Hymn 513*

*Words: Josiah Conder (1789-1855) alt*

## **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 371 God is gone up on high  
*(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.**



### *Message from Rev'd Dave Thompson*

Good morning all!

Leunig tells this story: A youth gets sick of the internet and decides: "I want a yabby net!" The parent responds: "well, you can't have one. It will corrupt you. You would end up staring into some strange dark pond all day: a pond full of reeds and mud....and mysterious life forms. Then you would stare at the reflection on the water and see the sky, the clouds and the birds...all quite differently. You would throw a stone causing the reflection to ripple and flow. And gazing at it you would fall into a trance of wonderment and delight and never fit into normal life again. So sorry....no yabby net!

Prayer can be an act of utter rebellion between what is and what could be....as it can be an act of utter discovery.....

Teresa of Avila prayed: Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things will pass away. God never changes; patience obtains all things, whoever has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices. Amen. Francis believed that our living in faith becomes the prayer. Being Christian is to pray; it is to be....this act of prayer is to stare at and wonder about life, living and God and we come to the realisation that God is in all and over all. *Grace & Blessings: Dave*

## Notices

**Mothers' Union 46th Birthday:** Mothers' Union will be celebrating their 46th Birthday next Thursday 9 May. Following the meeting we will adjourn to the Altona Bowling Club for lunch. Please come and join us. Sing or listen to the song "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God", or another hymn which focuses on God's Kingdom. Offer it as your prayer to God. You could add your own words to make it particularly personal to you. Many thanks. ~Beryl xx

**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.

**Reflective Bible Study:** The reflective Bible study group meets once a month and is open to all. Held in St Eanswythe's meeting room (enter through the door from the car park behind the Op Shop), and on the following Tuesdays at 7.30pm:

21 May (3rd Tuesday)

25 June (4th Tuesday)

23 July (4th Tuesday)

13 August (2nd Tuesday)

10 September (2nd Tuesday)

15 October (3rd Tuesday)

12 November (2nd Tuesday)

10 December (2nd Tuesday)



**Working Bee:** There will be a working bee on 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.

**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.

## Groups Meeting Regularly in the Parish

**Sunday School:**

Sundays at 10:30am at St Eanswythe's (except December school holidays).

**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: We pray for the people who have died, are missing and displaced following the heavy flooding across Kenya's capital, Nairobi.

### The Church:

*World Council of Churches:*  
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 Adelaide (Abp Geoff Smith, Asst Bps Denise Ferguson, Timothy Harris, Christopher McLeod; Clergy & People);

*Diocese of Melbourne:*  
St Philip's Mount Waverley (Ruth Newmarch, Breannon Wilkinson).

Agencies supported by our parish:  
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre—  
providing material support, advocacy

and employment for refugees and asylum seekers.

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:  
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:*  
For the people who have died at this time.



*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 5 May:**

#### **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 Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

### **Tuesday - Friday**

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

### **Tuesday 7 May**

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

### **Wednesday 8 May**

9:00am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

### **Thursday 9 May**

10:00am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's  
11:00am Mothers' Union 46th Birthday,  
St Eanswythe's

### **Friday 10 May**

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

### **Sunday 12 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 Evening Prayer, St Clement's

*\*During school term*

## *Planned Giving Program 2024/2025*

You should have received your invitation to Stewardship Sunday and relative information by now – if you have been missed pick up a letter today or phone Pat Baines on 9315 7838.

**Stewardship Sunday will be held on 12th May.** All our services will be held at their normal times. This is an important day for the parish and all parishioners are invited to play their part in the new program. When we “plan our giving” the parish council is in a much better position to make responsible financial decisions such as the affordability of stipends, outreach programs and maintenance projects to name a few.

Giving can be made in several ways – by making a pledge (which can be adjusted at any time) or using weekly envelopes. It is also possible to use a set of envelopes without committing to a set sum, or to give using the open plate. Whichever method is chosen, parishioners can be assured that all matters relating to their giving remain confidential and can be varied at any time. Any questions regarding planned giving can be discussed with Pat Baines. The program lasts for 1 year and Pat and Anita have to have the new envelopes ready for distribution by the last Sunday in May (26th). We hope you will be able to attend on the 12th May but if you know you will be unavailable it would be most helpful if you contact Pat before then. at [p.baines@bigpond.com](mailto:p.baines@bigpond.com).

## *Eucharist Readings for this Week*

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

**Readings for Wednesday 8 May: Julian of Norwich, holy woman and mystic (d.1417)**

Acts 17.15 (16-21) 22-18.1; Ps 148.7-15; John 16.12-15

**Readings for Thursday 9 May: Ascension Day**

Acts 1.1-11; Ps 93; Ephesians 1.15-23; Mark 16.15-20

**Readings for Sunday 12 May: Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1.15-17, 21-26; Ps 1; 1 John 5.9-13; John 17.6-19

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



## *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