



**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**16 May 2021**

*We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation  
as the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we meet.  
We pay our respects to their Elders past and present,  
acknowledge their continuing spiritual connection to Country,  
and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.*

Thus far in the Easter season, we have been hearing again the glorious good news that Jesus' resurrection fulfils the promises God has made to God's people and begins a new way of living, made possible for the whole creation. And there are still strong sounds of that in this morning's readings.

But this seventh Sunday in Easter – or, to give it the name it has in the *Book of Common Prayer*, 'Sunday after the Ascension' – introduces a new element. In Luke's account in the *Acts of the Apostles*, once Jesus has departed from the disciples, ascended into heaven as it is described, the gathered band realise they now have a job to do, a gospel to proclaim, a mission to undertake. So, Peter summons them all to find a replacement for Judas. If this community is to be and proclaim the fulfilment of all God's promises to Israel, then it, too, has to be a complete community with twelve at the base, and twelve who have all been witnesses to all of Jesus' ministry.

Of course, the other readings continue to make clear the reason all of Jesus' disciples can undertake the mission entrusted to them, and how we can continue that mission in the world today. Jesus sends us into the world, but with the full promise that we are united with him and therefore with the God who loved him as Father, and loves us equally. And that love is a witness or 'testimony' to us that God promises us eternal life – lived in constant communion with him. We are in the world, and the world may be hostile to us; but Jesus has trod this path before us, and therefore gives us hope.

Later this morning, the Parish Council will be meeting to plan how we, at St George's undertake the mission entrusted to us. The readings we've heard before that meeting give some clear focus to what will happen there: we are invited to join in the mission God has already begun, through Jesus and by the power of the Spirit, in the world God loves. Our task, having taken stock of all God's promises, is simply to join in with God's continuing work.

Gregory

## MUSIC FOR TODAY'S 10.00AM SERVICE

Setting: *Christ Church Mass Philip Matthias TiS 757*  
Hymns: 369 385 520 378 (vv 1-4 & 6)

### Sentence

Jesus prayed, 'Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

*John 17.11*

### Collect

Almighty God,  
your blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things:  
mercifully give us faith to trust  
that, as he promised,  
he abides with us on earth until the end of time;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

In those days Peter stood up among the believers  
(together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said,  
'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled,  
which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas,  
who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—  
for he was numbered among us  
and was allotted his share in this ministry.' ....

'So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time  
that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,  
beginning from the baptism of John  
until the day when he was taken up from us—  
one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.'

So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas,  
who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.

Then they prayed and said,

'Lord, you know everyone's heart.

Show us which one of these two you have chosen  
to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go  
to his own place.'

And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias;  
and he was added to the eleven apostles.

*Acts 1: 15-17; 21-26*

For the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

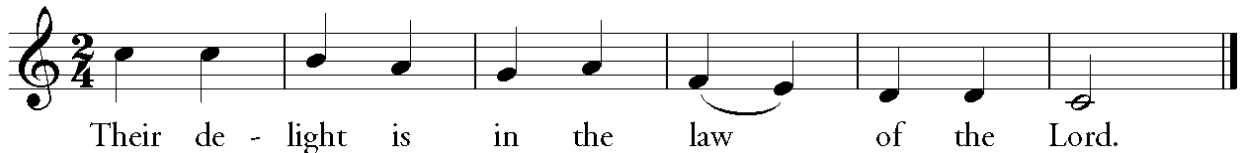
## PSALM I

8.00am

**Response: The Lord cares for the way of the righteous.**

1. Blessed are they  
    who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly:  
    nor followed the way of sinners,  
    nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.
2. But their delight is in the law of the Lord:  
    and on that law will they ponder day and night. **R.**
3. They are like trees planted beside streams of water:  
    that yield their fruit in due season.
4. Their leaves also shall not wither:  
    and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper. **R.**
5. As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:  
    they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.
6. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement:  
    nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
7. For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:  
    but the path of the ungodly shall perish. **R.**

10.00am



1. Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked:  
    nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
2. Their delight is in the law of the Lord:  
    and they meditate on his law day and night.
3. They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,  
    with leaves that do not wither:  
    everything they do shall prosper. **Response**
4. It is not so with the wicked:  
    they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
5. Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes:  
    nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
6. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous:  
    but the way of the wicked is doomed. **Response**

## Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of John:

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.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you  
may know that you have eternal life.

*1 John 5: 9–13*

For the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

Alleluia. Alleluia.

“I will not leave you orphaned: I am coming to you and you will have great joy in  
your hearts.” **Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed:

‘Father, I have made your name known  
to those whom you gave me from the world.

They were yours, and you gave them to me,  
and they have kept your word.

Now they know that everything you have given me is from you;  
for the words that you gave to me I have given to them,  
and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have  
believed that you sent me.

I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world,  
but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.

All mine are yours, and yours are mine;  
and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world,  
and I am coming to you.

Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me,  
so that they may be one, as we are one.

While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me.

I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost,  
so that the scripture might be fulfilled.  
But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world  
so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.  
I have given them your word, and the world has hated them  
because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.  
I am not asking you to take them out of the world,  
but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.  
They do not belong to the world,  
just as I do not belong to the world.  
Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.  
As you have sent me into the world,  
so I have sent them into the world.  
And for their sakes I sanctify myself,  
so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

*John 17: 6–19*

For the gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **INTERCESSIONS FOR THIS WEEK**

### **For the Anglican Church**

The Anglican Church of Korea; The Diocese of North West Australia; Mentone Grammar School;  
Church of the Ascension Springvale; Long Beach Anglican; St John's Sorrento; St John's West Brunswick;  
Anglican Parish of Banyule.

### **For all in need**

Jenny, Sam, Milroy, Coral, David, Tony, Paul, Christine, Lei and her family, Keith, Peter, Leon, Erica, Josh,  
Tim, Vincent

### **For the Faithful Departed**

Those who have died recently: Eric Easton, Wendy Armstrong and Elizabeth Launder; and those whose  
anniversary of death occurs this week: Peter Olney, William Hardy, Betty Glover, Jess Slattery, Roger  
Bailie Nicholson, Lily (Pat) Boughton, Samuel Richard Creswick Wood, Gladys May Reilly, Janet  
Alexander, Colin Cruth, Sheila Burgess, Ethel Cameron, Ian Harry (Toby) Cuming, Nancy Hillier, Elsie  
May Smith, Sabina Beatrice Victoria Westcott.

Motet: *Psallite Domino* Heinrich Isaac (1450–1517)  
Sing ye to the Lord, who mounteth above the heaven of heavens, to the  
east. Alleluia.

Postlude: 'Transports de joie' from *L'ascension* Olivier Messiaen (1908–1992)

## THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>Weekdays Monday-Saturday</b>	<b>9:00am 5:00pm</b>	<b>Morning Prayer Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Monday, 17 May</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Funeral – Wendy Armstrong</b>
<b>Tuesday, 18 May</b>	<b>8:45am 11.00am</b>	<b>Cabrini Ministry Cabrini Eucharist</b>
<b>Thursday, 20 May</b>	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist</b>
<b>Next Sunday, 23 May</b>	<b>8:00am 10:00am 5:00pm</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist with Hymns Eucharist with Meditation</b>

### **Bible Readings next week**

Acts 2: 1–21  
Romans 8: 22–27

### **Feast of PENTECOST**

Psalm 104: 26–36  
John 15: 26–27; 16: 4b–15

Please remember to wear **RED** for Pentecost next week.

## NOTICES

The Vicar and Curate will both be at the Marmingatha Episcopate Retreat (which the Vicar is leading) & Conference from Monday, 17 May to Wednesday, 19 May. Please contact one of the Wardens in case of emergency.

### **Access to the church**

A reminder that the church is now open from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm each day. You are encouraged to join the small group that gathers daily for Morning and Evening Prayer, but the church remains open for personal prayer, reflection, or just some stillness throughout the day. When you enter, please 'sign in' with the Covid 19 QR Code.

### **Covid 19 Normal Regulations**

The restrictions and rules for services often change in these times of Covid19 pandemic, but this week there have been no changes to the guidelines for the last few weeks. If you require any information, please consult earlier Pew Sheets, or Brenda. In future, we will only advise of changes to the current restrictions and rules.

### **Pastoral Care Group**

The first meeting of this group occurred last Monday, and a good beginning was made. Further meetings will follow before pastoral visiting begins, and it is not too late to express an interest in joining this group. We still seek any names of those no longer able to attend church regularly who might welcome pastoral visits.

### **Notices and information for the pewsheets**

Please be advised that all notices and information for the pewsheets must reach Nisha by 9.00am on Wednesday each week, as they are printed later that day.

### **Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project**

Sunday, 30 May is our next day for gifting to The Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP). Because of the covid pandemic, they are very short of all items on the flyer (please collect from the back of the church) that is made available for you to take when you go shopping or sorting through items you might have at home. Gift cards are also always appreciated for Coles and Woolworth stores. Thank you for the "Joy of Giving".

### **Anglican Historical Society**

This significant society in our Diocese continues to meet regularly. Any parishioner interested in the history of the Anglican Church in Melbourne (and beyond) is warmly invited. Details for the next meeting are:

Date: Wednesday, 19 May  
Starting Time: 6.30 p.m.  
Speaker: The Very Reverend Dr Stuart Blackler  
Subject: "A Dynastic Web – the Green Family".  
Venue: Holy Trinity Church Hall, Hotham Street, East Melbourne.

### **Heart of Life**

The Heart of Life Centre invites interested parishioners to:

1. 'Pondering Grief' - Saturday 22 May 2021, 10am-3.30pm.  
This day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition.  
Facilitated by Linda Espie at Heart of Life, Kildara Centre, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern. Cost \$80 (Materials provided, BYO lunch). Book and pay via website: [heartoflife.melbourne](http://heartoflife.melbourne), email: [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or tel. 9890 1101.
2. Spiritual accompaniment is an ancient Christian tradition whereby a trusted companion (a spiritual director) journeys with you to listen deeply to your life experiences and invites you to become more aware of how God is present in your everyday life. Heart of Life is currently offering monthly Spiritual Direction free of charge for people who will be accompanied by students of the Spiritual Direction Formation Program under the supervision of Heart of Life qualified supervisors. If interested, please contact Heart of Life Centre as above.

## **PARISH DIRECTORY**

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Works:

Saturday – Tuesday and Thursday

### **HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST**

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The Reverend Bill Michie

### **ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Elizabeth-Anne Nixon

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### **CHURCH OFFICE**

Nisha O'Brien

Monday-Friday

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*If visiting the office, please observe all protocols relating to Covid 19, including signing in and sanitizing your hands.*

### **WARDENS**

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