



St George's Anglican Church, Malvern

**Third Sunday after Pentecost
13 June 2021**



*'Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed David in the presence of his brothers'
(c.f. 1 Samuel 16: 13)*

Please note: Access to the Church requires signing in via the QR code, or through being signed in via the 'Kiosk'.

Masks are mandatory at all times.

FROM THE VICAR

“The Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart,” God says to Samuel as he prepares to anoint the one who is to be the next king of Israel. St Paul also tells both the Corinthians, and all other Christians, that a crucial part of *being* Christian is to ‘walk by faith and not by sight’.

But even a moment’s honest reflection makes clear, this is much easier to say than actually to do. We can all be caught up in someone’s glamorous appearance, or repelled by a less attractive (or clean, or polite, or...) way of presenting or behaving. Despite the proverbial cliché, we often do tend to ‘judge books by their covers’, on how things look or appear. Even if we try very hard, and have tried to do so for many years, it is all too easy to lapse back into deciding someone’s worth, or the value and veracity of something by how they appear.

It takes considerable time, patience and wise discernment even to begin to ‘see’ people and things with what we might call ‘God-shaped glasses’. The first of Jesus’ parables we hear this morning makes that clear: seeds have to be sown and then, over time, without us knowing how or why, the seed will begin to shoot forth: ‘first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.’ What this parable suggests is, that to see things as God might see will take time; it will begin slowly and in almost imperceptible ways (rather like ‘the smallest of seeds, the mustard seed’). But we can water and tend this seed: with a growing awareness of the love God feels for each of us, a love that means when God sees us, God sees us as the ‘new creation’ he desires all of us to be in and through Jesus.

Furthermore, Jesus wants to teach all of his disciples to see the world as he sees the world: something, and millions of people, worth dying for. And, Mark’s gospel tells us, he wants to do that when we are gathered with him and ‘in private’ – that is, when we create (or allow ourselves to be drawn into) a space where we spend time with him and with our fellow disciples. That can happen in our worship times together, or in our own private times of prayer, reflection, reading of Scripture and meditation. Learning to see as Jesus sees, as God sees – regarding no one, any longer, from a human point of view – is not easy; but God’s Spirit makes it possible, if we take the ‘smallest seed’ of our faith and charitable vision and offer it to God’s transforming love.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

At 8 am, the people stand as a bell is rung. At 10 am, this hymn is sung:

Opening Hymn

1. Father of heaven, whose love profound
a ransom for our souls has found,
before your throne we sinners bend;
to us your pardoning love extend.
2. Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
our prophet, priest, redeemer, Lord,
before your throne we sinners bend;
to us your saving grace extend.
3. Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
the soul is saved from sin and death,
before your throne we sinners bend;
to us your quickening power extend.
4. Thrice holy — Father, Spirit, Son,
mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
before your throne we sinners bend;
grace, pardon, life to us extend.

Words: Edward Cooper (1770–1833)

Music: 'Rievaulx' by John Bacchus Dykes (1823–76)

President: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The President welcomes the congregation, then a sentence of Scripture is read.

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.**

We say together:

**Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

**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.**

Let us pray.

The people pray silently, and then the President 'collects' the silent prayer:

Almighty God,
without you we are unable to please you:
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the first book of Samuel:

Samuel went to Ramah,
while Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul.
Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death,
but Samuel grieved over Saul.
And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.
The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul?
I have rejected him from being king over Israel.
Fill your horn with oil and set out;
I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite,
for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'
Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.'
And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say,
"I have come to sacrifice to the Lord."
Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do;
and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.'
Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem.
The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said,
'Do you come peaceably?'
He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord;
sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.'
And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.
When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought,
'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.'

But the Lord said to Samuel,
'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature,
because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see;
they look on the outward appearance,
but the Lord looks on the heart.'

Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel.
He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.'
Then Jesse made Shammah pass by.
And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.'
Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel,
and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.'
Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?'
And he said,
'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.'
And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him;
for we will not sit down until he comes here.'
He sent and brought him in.
Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.
The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.'
Then Samuel took the horn of oil,
and anointed him in the presence of his brothers;
and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David
from that day forward.
Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

1 Samuel 15:34–16:13

For the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 20

Response: The Lord will save his anointed.

1. May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble:
the God of Jacob lift you up to safety.
2. May he send you his help from his sanctuary:
and be your strong support from Zion. **R.**
3. May he remember all your offerings:
and accept with favour your burnt sacrifices,
4. Grant you your heart's desire:
and fulfill all your purposes. **R.**
5. May we also rejoice in your victory
and triumph in the name of our God:
the Lord perform all your petitions.
6. Now I know that the Lord will save his anointed:
that he will answer him from his holy heaven
with the victorious strength of his right hand. **R.**
7. Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses:
but we will trust in the name of the Lord our God.
8. They are brought down and fallen:
but we are made strong and stand upright.
9. O Lord save the king:
and hear us when we call upon you. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Church in Corinth:

So we are always confident;
even though we know that while we are at home in the body
we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight.
Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be
away from the body and at home with the Lord.
So whether we are at home or away,
we make it our aim to please him.
For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ,
so that each may receive recompense
for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.
Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others;
but we ourselves are well known to God,
and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences.
We are not commending ourselves to you again,
but giving you an opportunity to boast about us,
so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward
appearance and not in the heart.
For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God;
if we are in our right mind, it is for you.
For the love of Christ urges us on,
because we are convinced that one has died for all;
therefore all have died.
And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for
themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.
From now on, therefore,
we regard no one from a human point of view;
even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,
we know him no longer in that way.
So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

II Corinthians 5: 6–17

For the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower,
all who come to him will live forever.

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus continued speaking to the crowds and said,

‘The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed
on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day,
and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.
The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head,
then the full grain in the head.

But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle,
because the harvest has come.’

He also said,

‘With what can we compare the kingdom of God,
or what parable will we use for it?

It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground,
is the smallest of all the seeds on earth;

yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs,
and puts forth large branches,
so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.’

With many such parables he spoke the word to them,
as they were able to hear it;

he did not speak to them except in parables,

but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Mark 4: 26–34

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

A homily is given, then silence is kept.

The Nicene Creed

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**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 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],
who with the Father and the Son
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 the world and for the Church.

Prayers are offered for the world, the Church, for our local community, those sick or “in any other adversity”, and we remember the faithful departed.

INTERCESSIONS FOR THIS WEEK

For the Anglican Church

The Church of Nigeria; Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander people of Australia; Trinity Grammar School; Surfcoast Parish; St Paul's Boronia; All Saints' Kooyong; St Matthew's Panton Hill.

For all in need

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

For the Faithful Departed

Those who have died recently: Isabel Hope Wallace; together with those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: Sydney Haselden, Caroline Sanderson, Alexander Green, Eric Douglas Brangwin Green, Ula Sanderson, Eric Vanden Driesen, Vera Theobald, Joan Jackson, Lillian Lobb, Michael Duffield, Iain Courcoux, Judith McMullen, Harry Hewett, Kristina Smith.

The President gathers and concludes the intercessions, saying:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,
welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Silence is kept.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

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.

The President pronounces Absolution, and the people respond

Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

During the following hymn, the gifts of the people are brought to the altar.

Offertory Hymn

1. Father, we give you thanks, who planted
Your holy name within our hearts.
Knowledge and faith and life immortal
Jesus your Son to us imparts.
2. Lord, you have made all for your pleasure,
And given us food for all our days,
Giving in Christ the bread eternal;
Yours is the power, be yours the praise.
3. Watch o'er your church, O Lord, in mercy,
Save it from evil, guard it still,
And in your love unite, perfect it,
Cleansed and conforming to your will.
4. As grain, once scattered on the hillsides,
Was in the broken bread made one,
So may your world wide church be gathered
Into your kingdom by your Son.

Words: from the *Didache* (c. 110)
tr. Francis Bland Tucker (1895–1984) *alt.*
Music: 'Spiritus Vitæ' by Mary Jane Hammond (1878–1964)

The President offers prayers over the gifts, to which the people respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

The President then begins the Great Thanksgiving Prayer

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 President continues with a prayer appropriate to the season, concluding with:

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious 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 President continues the prayer until:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died,
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The President continues the prayer, which concludes:

...we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

A brief silence is kept.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to 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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

As the President breaks the bread, the following is said:

As this broken bread was once many grains
which have been gathered together and made one bread:
**so may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth
into your kingdom.**

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ
in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

During Communion, the following motet is sung:

Translation:

*Hail, true body born of the Virgin Mary,
Who truly suffered, sacrificed on the Cross for man,
Whose pierced side overflowed with water and blood,
Be for us a foretaste in the test of death.*

Music: W.A. Mozart (1756–1791)

After Communion, silence is kept.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The President offers a closing prayer, ending with:

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.**

THE BLESSING

The President pronounces a blessing, to which all respond

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn

1. Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands
that holy things have taken,
let ears that now have heard your songs
to clamour never waken.
2. Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang
keep free from all deceiving,
the eyes which saw your love be bright,
your blessed hope perceiving.
3. The feet that tread your holy courts
from your light do not banish,
the bodies by your body fed
with your new life replenish.

Words: attrib. Ephraim the Syrian (c.306–73)

tr. Charles William Humphreys (1840–1921)

and Percy Dearmer (1867–1936) alt.

*Music: 'Ach Gott und Herr' from *As Hymnodus Sacer* (1625),*

arr. Christoph Peter (1626–69) and J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Postlude:

*Variations from *Lobe den Herren (Praise the Lord)* Josef Ahrens (1904–1997)*

THE WEEK AHEAD

Weekdays Monday-Saturday	9:00am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Day	<u>Morning Prayer</u>	<u>Evening Prayer</u>
Monday, 14 June	Psalm 108; 109:20–30 1 Samuel 14:52–15:16 Acts 9:32–43	Psalm 119: 105–128 Sirach 7:18–36 2 Corinthians 11:7–15
Tuesday, 15 June <i>Evelyn Underhill</i>	Psalm 104:1–25 1 Samuel 15:17–35 Acts 10:1–16	Psalm 104:26–37 Sirach 10:12–28 2 Corinthians 11:16–29
Wednesday, 16 June	Psalm 105:1–22 1 Samuel 16 Acts 10:17–33	Psalm 105:23–45 Sirach 11:25–28 2 Corinthians 11:30–12:5
Thursday, 17 June	Psalms 106:1–24 1 Samuel 17:1–23 Acts 10:34–48	Psalm 106: 25–50 Sirach 14:20–15:8 2 Corinthians 12:6–13
Friday, 18 June	Psalm 107:1–22 1 Samuel 17:24–40 Acts 11:1–18	Psalm 107:23–43 Sirach 15:9–20 2 Corinthians 12:14–21
Saturday, 19 June	Psalms 110, 111 1 Samuel 14:36–48 Acts 9:19b–31	Psalms 112, 113 Sirach 6:14–31 2 Corinthians 10:13–11:6
Next Sunday, 20 June Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	8:00 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist, with hymns Holy Eucharist & meditation

Bible Readings next week

1 Samuel 17: 1a, 4–11, 19–23, 32–49
2 Corinthians 6: 1–13

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 9: 9–20
Mark 4: 35–41

Special Notice

Today, sadly, is the last Sunday on which Fr Bill Michie is with us. Fr Bill has been a most loyal and supportive assistant priest, and a faithful parishioner, of St George's for some decades. Both eucharists today (and especially the 8 am, where Fr Bill presides) are an opportunity to provide special 'thanksgiving' to God for his faithful ministry.

As Fr Bill and Stephen move to a 'geographically impossible' (at least, impossible on a regular basis) distance from the parish, we say 'thank you' for all you have contributed and been with and for us, and we pray that the blessings God has bestowed on all here by your presence and ministries may also fall upon you, as we bid you both a warm farewell.

NOTICES

Looking Ahead

Please place the following dates in your diary:

1. Servers' supplementary course: Next Sunday, June 20

Following the 10:00 am eucharist, this will be an opportunity for those already on the Servers' roster, and others who may be interested in joining this ministry (especially needed at 10 am) to 'refresh' their knowledge (or adapt to the new vicar's idiosyncracies!) of this important role in the life of the parish.

2. Readers' refresher course: Sunday June 27

Again, following the 10:00 am eucharist, those on the readers' roster, or interested in joining it, will meet for a refresher in reading in public – not least, managing the PA system, in the expectation that we are able to meet physically in Church again.

For both of these events, please bring along some lunch so that we can share and talk together.

Please also let Nisha or the Vicar know if you are unable to attend.

3. Première of *Missa Gracia* by Calvin Bowman Sunday August 15

Commissioned jointly to celebrate the 150th anniversary of St George's, and in honour of the late Ann Stewart, Calvin Bowman's congregational setting of the eucharist will first be heard at 10:00 am on Sunday, August 15 (the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

Please enter this important date in your diaries now, and plan to be here.

Access to the church

A reminder that while the church is open again, it is still necessary that you use the QR code to 'check in' whenever you visit any church property.

Brass Cleaning Group

In his sermon at the 150th Anniversary eucharist, Bishop Andrew Curnow commented that of a number of things he learnt while at St George's, he rated 'brass cleaning' as very high among those. Recently several members of the band of volunteers which maintains this important (and episcopally endorsed!) ministry have decided they can no longer continue. This means there is a serious shortage of helpers, with the result that the work is falling on too few, and a consequent reduced period of time between duties. As it is essential for our church that all the brass and silver items be kept in the best possible condition, thus giving glory to God, new volunteers for this important work are urgently requested.

Members of the group are rostered in teams; the duty is done once a month generally on a Friday morning, is not onerous and takes about an hour. Please contact me if you are willing to help. Thank you, John Mallinson - 0414 682 036.

The Australian Network of Spiritual Directors (ANSD)

ANSD regularly hires the South Room in our Centre building to hold a discussion group with an invited speaker. We have been invited to list these meetings for any of parishioners who would like to attend. Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 10.00 am (tea/coffee/ biscuits) for a 10.30 am start. Bring own lunch for continued discussion. The exact end of the meeting depends on the speaker's needs, but always finishes soon after lunch and always before 3.00pm. Members pay \$20 per session and non-members \$25. Anyone wishing to have further information on coming speakers' topics or to attend, should advise Charles Tegner who will let ANSD know of extra numbers. (Charles will also let you know of any changes in planning, e.g., face to face in the South room or Zoom only). contact ctegner@bigpond.net.au or Tel 0418-530658.

The next meetings are:-

- Thursday June 17th Sr Cathy Solano, subject "Interculturality" proposed face to face.
- Thursday July 15th Cath Connelly and Alison Powell, subject "The Celtic Wheel" proposed via Zoom and face to face. 10am-3pm.

The Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP)

BASP is very grateful for the gifts from under the office foyer staircase cupboard and shopping vouchers handed in personally. Unfortunately, the main collections on Sunday, 30 May could not take place since the Church was closed under the lockdown. Anyone wishing to make a donation in due course, can leave items in the cupboard with the office marked "For BASP" and they will then be delivered.

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

WARDENS

Jenny Weller-Newton

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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.