



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

22 May 2022

*The service continues on p. 119 of **A Prayer Book for Australia** (“The Green Book”)*

In this Easter season, we use the seasonal material (on pp. 154–5)

Hymns at 10:00 a.m.: 351; 366; 140; 120

Setting at 10:00 a.m.: St Mary's Mass Anthony Caesar (1924–2018)

Collect

Great and loving God, your will for us in your Son Jesus
is the peace which the world cannot give,
your abiding gift, the Advocate he promised.
Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear,
and keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word.
Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First reading (Acts 16: 9–15)

During the night Paul had a vision:
there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying,
‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’
When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia,
being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace,
the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi,
which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony.

We remained in this city for some days.

On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river,
where we supposed there was a place of prayer;

and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us;
she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth.

The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.

When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying,

‘If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.’

And she prevailed upon us.

Psalm 67 – 8:00 a.m.

**Response: Let the peoples praise you, O God,
let all the peoples praise you.**

May God be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations. **R**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth. **R**

The earth has brought forth her increase;
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

May God give us his blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him. **R**

10:00 a.m.

Colin Mawby

Let the peo - ples praise you, O God: let all the peo - ples praise you.

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **R.**

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **R.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **R.**

SECOND READING (Revelation 21:10–14, 22–22:5)

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; on the east three gates, on the north three gates,

on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb....

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations.

But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia!

'All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them,
and we will come to them.'

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 said to his disciples, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.'

John 14: 23–29

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Anglican Church

We pray for the Province of South East Asia; The Diocese of Bathurst; Archdeaconry of Geelong; Mullum Mullum Ringwood; Hume Anglican Parish; 150 Anniversary Evensong, Trinity College; St Dunstan's Camberwell.

For all in need

May all who are in trouble, in need or sickness find peace and refreshment in you especially: Ann, Cecily, John, Coral, Keith, Erica, Peter, Helen, Claire, John, Margaret, Joan, Thea, John, Ray, Usuf, Kaye, Judy and others we mention before God in the silence of our hearts.

For the Faithful Departed

Those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: Elizabeth Armstrong, Rowan Blogg, Elwood (Ted) Chandler, Margaret Courtney, Jean Frances Crameri, Betty Cuming, Harry Furlonger, Jean (Jane) Gilchrist Garden, Percival Philp (Peter) Jackson, Janet Lloyd, William Mallinson, Hilda (Peg) Payne, Elsie May Smith, Sabina Beatrice Victoria Westcott.

During Communion, the choir will sing the following anthem (at 10:00 a.m.)

Many waters cannot quench love,
Neither can the floods drown it.
Love is strong as death.
Greater love hath no man than this,
That a man lay down his life for his friends.
Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,
That we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.
Ye are washed, ye are sanctified,
Ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;
That ye should show forth the praises of him
Who hath call'd you out of darkness into his marvellous light.
I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,
That you present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy,
Acceptable unto to God, which is your reasonable service.

*Words: Canticles 8, John 15; I Peter 2; I Corinthians 6; Romans 12
Music: John Ireland (1869–1962)*

Postlude: *Villanella*
John Ireland

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION)

Acts 16:16–34
Revelation 22:12–22

Psalm 97
John 17:20–26

REFLECTION ON THE LECTIONS

It has been interesting that, in the year of Luke our gospel readings, over these last few Sundays, have come from the gospel of John. What is especially interesting about that is the readings have come from Jesus' 'Farewell Discourse': that is, the words Jesus says (in John's gospel) to the disciples on the night he was betrayed, arrested and taken to the sham trial before the High Priests, Annas and Caiaphas. In other words, in this season of Easter, when we celebrate the Resurrection, the gospel readings have taken us back to the night of Maundy Thursday, with the looming death of Jesus.

What might be going on here? One possible explanation is given in today's gospel: "I have said these things to you while I am still with you," Jesus says. "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you." For Jesus' disciples in Malvern today, perhaps we, too, need to be 'reminded' of the things Jesus said, to hear them again, and to be led to reflect and understand them more deeply through the action of God the Holy Spirit – the Advocate or Comforter (as John's word, *Paraklete* is usually translated!). Reflecting on that further, it means that this and every week in this Easter season, the gospel – and all the readings – are read in the light of the Paschal Candle, as we literally did at the Easter Vigil. That is, that the full glory and wisdom of the readings we hear can only be understood in the light of the Risen Christ.

Furthermore, in other readings (certainly today, and last week) we hear of the action of that *Paraklete*, the Advocate, the Holy Spirit. Last week and today, we hear of the Holy Spirit driving Peter and Paul to completely new and different places and people of ministry. The same Spirit is also at work (in both instances) preparing Cornelius and Lydia to hear and respond to the message the apostles bring. It is also 'in the spirit' that an angel brings John to see the vision of the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven. He hears that the city is alight with the glory of God and the Lamb; and, as we heard last week, that is because God chooses to make God's home 'among mortals'.

The literal translation of *Paraklete* is 'the one who comes alongside' – and 'Advocate' works because we know that (for instance) a legal 'advocate' stands alongside someone in court. But 'Comforter' gets something of the word too – because the standing alongside is to offer help and assistance. However we translate it, the word John uses in the gospel points to the same thing we see in Revelation: God the Creator of all, firstly in Jesus and then in the Holy Spirit, comes to be with people, to dwell with us. And, as the readings in Acts make clear, the work of the Holy Spirit keeps expanding our understanding, our views of what sorts of people God chooses to dwell with and stand alongside. In short, with all people.

This is a vision that the people of Israel also had. Hence the psalm reminds us that 'the nations', not just Israel, 'will be glad and sing for joy, and that *all the people will praise God.*' Or, as Revelation puts it. 'the nations will walk by [the heavenly city's] light'.

As we 'revisit' Jesus' words from the night before he died, but living in the time after his resurrection, we are reminded of God's remarkable plan for the reconciliation of the whole creation. We are also reminded of our own calling, as those who follow the risen Lord: to rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit, to allow the Spirit to lead us continually out of our more narrow and fixed way of viewing the world and other people, and into the wonderful breadth and depth of God's eternal, expansive coming to be alongside and dwell with the creation created, saved and loved to all eternity.

NOTICES

Morning Tea after both services this morning is offered in the Vicarage.

Parish Council met last Tuesday evening. A copy of the minutes of that meeting will be on the noticeboard.

The Vicar will be away at the Marmangatha Regional Clergy Conference from tomorrow, Monday, May 23 until Wednesday, May 25. Please pray for all the clergy of our region, and those who will be presenting, at this annual meeting. During Gregory's absence, please contact Fr Matthew or one of the Wardens. Gregory will be back in time for the Feast of the Ascension (Thursday May, 26), when there will be a **eucharist at 6:00 p.m.**, as well as the usual 10:15 a.m. service.

Readers/Servers/Eucharistic Assistants Refresher Course

A reminder that there will be a refresher course for all those involved in these important ministries after the 10:00 a.m. eucharist (and morning tea) **next Sunday, May 29.**

Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP)

There will be a collection of items for BASP on **Sunday, May 29** at both services. Please collect a flyer from the back of the church to determine what to bring.

The End of an Era! - Final Knitting Group Gathering

The Knitting Group coordinated by Lynette Swan was to have a Morning Tea celebration on Tuesday, May 24 – 10:30 a.m. in the North Room. However, please note that this has now been cancelled due to a covid case. It will be rescheduled for a later date.

Advance Notice

Sunday, June 5 will see a Festal Evensong (BCP) for Pentecost at 6:30 p.m., followed by refreshments in the Hall. Make a note of this important day in the Church's calendar.

Taster Session

Are you called to be a spiritual director? A pastoral supervisor? A spiritual leader? Would you like to participate in spiritual formation that develops a compassionate, contemplative, listening heart?

We invite you to join our Taster Session for a facilitated reflection and more information about Heart of Life's courses. Led by the formation team at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation.

Tuesday, June 14 2022, 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (AEST), via Zoom.

Bookings via www.trybooking.com/BZAWV or email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne

THE WEEK AHEAD

Weekdays Monday – Saturday	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
<u>Day</u>	<u>Morning Prayer</u> in Chapel and by	<u>Evening Prayer</u> Zoom (details below)
Monday, 23 May	Psalms 54, 55:1–12 Numbers 20:1–21 1 Corinthians 10:1–11	Psalms 55:13–15 (16–17) 18–28 Exodus 35:20–36.7 John 13:36–14.7
Tuesday, 24 May <i>John and Charles Wesley</i>	Psalms 56; 57 Numbers 20:22–21.9 1 Corinthians 10:12–22	Psalms 60; 61 Exodus 40:17–38 John 14:8–13
Wednesday, 25 May <i>Bede of Jarrow</i>	Psalms 62; 63 Numbers 21:10–35 John 15:1–11	Psalms 99 Isaiah 63:7–14 Colossians 2:20–3.4
Reflections on the Lections	Via Zoom: see details below	
Thursday, 26 May Ascension Day	Psalms 97 Daniel 7:9–14 John 14:12–29	Psalms 110 2 Kings 2:1–15 Revelation 5:1–10
Holy Eucharist at 10:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.	Acts 1:1–11; Ps. 110;	Ephesians 1:15–23; Luke 24:44–53
Friday, 27 May	Psalms 68:1–20 Numbers 22:1–20 1 Corinthians 10:23–11.1	Psalms 68:21–35 Deuteronomy 29:1–21 John 15:12–25
Saturday, 28 May	Psalms 71 Numbers 22:21–40 1 Corinthians 11:2–16	Psalms 119:65–88 Deuteronomy 29:29–30.20 John 15:26–16.11
Next Sunday, 29 May Seventh Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension)	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist & Holy Baptism Holy Eucharist & Meditation

Morning Prayer

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRI dmIXWDQ4Zz09>

9:00 a.m., Monday – Saturday

Evening Prayer

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRI dmIXWDQ4Zz09>

5:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday

Reflections on the Lections

Meeting ID: 926 3986 2120; Passcode: 551393

<https://zoom.us/j/92639862120?pwd=dkpiSX dMa0VvZnVUYm5hUWFzWGcydz09>

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, 25 May

PARISH DIRECTORY

296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, VIC 3144



VICAR

The Reverend Dr Gregory Seach

Phone: 9822 4662 (h); 0408 505 646 (m)

Email: vicar@stgeorgesmalvern.org

Day off: Friday

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The Reverend Matthew Dowsey

ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Elizabeth-Anne Nixon

Email: music@stgeorgesmalvern.org

CHURCH OFFICE

Nisha O'Brien

Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Phone: 9822 3030

Email: office@stgeorgesmalvern.org

WARDENS

Jenny Weller-Newton 9570 7731

Judy Mallinson 0414 752 957

Ravi Renjen 0412 399 897

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.