



ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MALVERN

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

19 March, 2023

SETTING AT 10 A.M.
AND HYMNS:

The Hadleigh Setting – Alan Ridout (1934–96)
NEH 63, 379

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

At 10:00 a.m., we begin singing the Lent Prose:

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinned against thee.**

Sins oft committed now we lay before thee:
with true contrition, now no more we veil them:
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinned against thee.**

COLLECT (OF THE DAY AND THE SEASON)

Gracious God, in order that we children of earth, might discern good from evil
you sent your Son to be the light of the world:
as the light of Christ shines upon us, may we learn what pleases you,
and live in truth and goodness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made,
and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
that we, worthily lamenting our sins,
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may obtain of you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16: 1–13

A reading from the first book Samuel:

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.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

**Response (at 8 a.m.): Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
and his mercy endures for ever.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
2. He makes me lie down in green pastures; and leads me beside still waters. **R.**
3. He revives my soul. and guides me along right paths for his name's sake.
4. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **R.**
5. You prepare a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows.
6. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R.**

At 10 a.m.: For the psalm, Hymn 459 (NEH)

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5: 8–14

A reading from the letter to the Church in Ephesus:

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.

Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly;

but everything exposed by the light becomes visible,

for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

‘Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.’

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'

Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned;

he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him.

We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day;
night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world,
I am the light of the world.'

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva
and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him,

'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent).

Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask,

'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.'

Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.'

He kept saying, 'I am the man.'

But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?'

He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes,
and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash."

Then I went and washed and received my sight.'

They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.

Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight.

He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.'

Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe
the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such

signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man,

'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.'

He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.'

His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.

Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' Then they reviled him, saying,

'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.'

The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.

Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.'

They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?'

He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.'

Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.'

He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him.

Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.'

Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind, are we?'

Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin.

But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Anglican Church

The Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda; The Diocese of Riverina; St Paul's Geelong;
Defence Force Chaplains

For all in need

May all who are in trouble, in need or sickness find peace and refreshment in you especially:
Angus; Ann; Charles; Coral; Heather; Ivan; Jenny; Joan; John; John & Margaret; Judy; Keith &
Erica; Leigh; Mancie; Peter; Roger; Ron; Rupert; +John Parkes; +John Stewart.

For the Faithful Departed

We remember those who have died recently: Anna Matthews;
and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: Arthur Emery; Jillian Gosper;
Estelle Gregory; Laura Gregory; Margaret (Peg) Horsburgh; Robert Howard;
Howard Jenkins; Helen Liliias McGee; Violet Mansell; Maria Mercer; Mary Newton;
Marie Perry; John Brooke Scott; Alastair Reginald Stephen; Patricia Wuchatsch.

During Communion, the Anthem is sung by choir:

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
For You are with me,
You will comfort me,
You are with me,
You will comfort me.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

*Text: Psalm 23
Music: Howard Goodall (b. 1958)*

*Postlude: Fuga "alla Handel" in F Major, Op. 49, No. 4
Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)*

Scripture Readings next week

Ezekiel 37:1–14
Romans 8:6–11

5th SUNDAY IN LENT

Psalm 130
John 11:1–45

NOTICES

LENT STUDY GROUPS

Continue on Wednesday afternoons in the North Room; Wednesday evenings by Zoom; and on Thursday after the eucharist.

LENT provides an opportunity not only for 'reading and meditating' (as in our Study Group), 'self-examination, prayer and fasting' (as we heard on Ash Wednesday), but also for 'self-denial and acts of generosity', including alms-giving!

Each week in Lent we will publish the amount received in offerings in the last week, as well as the budgeted costs for running the parish each week of the year. These figures are:

Thanksgiving Pledges – \$650

Offertory Plate – \$723

Church Expenditure for the week – \$10,846

Contact Geraldine Powell: dgpowell@internode.on.net/ 0414 831 968 for details.

Spiritual Cafe Tuesday 28 March

Professor Peter Sherlock is an Australian academic and inaugural Vice-Chancellor, University of Divinity since 2012.

His topic is "Voice, Treaty, Truth: Thinking Theologically towards the Referendum".

Those attending are encouraged to engage with some of the excellent resources available through the Victorian Council of Churches: <https://vcc.org.au/statement-from-the-heart/> or this from ABM: <https://www.abmission.org/resources/the-voice-referendum/>

As usual, the speaker will follow dinner at Giorgio's at 6:30 p.m.

For bookings, please email the office@stgeorgesmalvern.org or call 9822 3030.

The Book Club will meet tomorrow in the North room at 2.00 p.m. We will be discussing *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett. All welcome!

Note to Parishioners:

Just a reminder that when any room in the parish centre is hired out, it is important that parishioners do not request to enter that room until the renter has vacated it, unless there is an emergency. (This applies particularly to Mini Maestros, where the renter has a duty of care regarding the children in the lessons.). Times and days of room hire are available from our Parish Administrator.

Nominations for SYNOD

Nominations for election as a Lay Representative (or Alternate Lay Representative) open today. The nomination form, available at the back of the Church from this morning, must be completed and submitted to the office (electronically or by hand) close **before the 8:00 a.m. eucharist on Sunday, March 19.** If an election is needed (i.e., we receive more than 3 nominations for Representative and more than 1 for Alternate), an election will be held **on Sunday, March 26.** **Please prayerfully consider this important ministry in the life of our diocese.**

THE WEEK AHEAD

Weekdays Monday – Saturday	8:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Day	Morning Prayer in Chapel and by	Evening Prayer Zoom (details below)
Monday, 20 March <i>Cuthbert of Lindisfarne, bishop and missionary (d.687)</i>	Psalms 1 Joel 2:27–32 Ephesians 6:1–4	Psalms 92 Hosea 11 Matthew 2:13–23
Tuesday, 21 March <i>Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury, martyr and liturgist (d.1556)</i>	Psalm 50 Exodus 2 Luke 18:15–30	Psalm 119:41–64 Jeremiah 36:20–32 Hebrews 12:12–24
Wednesday, 22 March <i>Thomas Ken, bishop of Bath and Wells, teacher (d.1711)</i> <i>Lent Study Group at 2:00 p.m.</i> <i>Lent Study Group at 7:30 p.m.</i>	Psalm 51 Exodus 2 Luke 18:31–43 North Room Via Zoom (details below)	Psalms 52; 53 Jeremiah 37 Hebrews 12:25–29
Thursday, 23 March	Psalms 54; 55:1–12 Exodus 4:1–23 Luke 19:1–10	Psalms 55:13–28 Jeremiah 38:1–13 Hebrews 13:1–6
Holy Eucharist at 10:15 a.m. <i>followed by Lent Study Group</i>	Exodus 32:7–14 Psalm 106:20–24 John 5:31–47	
Friday, 24 March <i>Peter Couturier, ecumenist (d.1953)</i> <i>Oscar Romeo, archbishop of San Salvador, martyr (d.1980)</i>	Psalms 56; 57 Exodus 4:27–6:1 Luke 19:11–27	Psalms 122; 131 Proverbs 8:1–21 Matthew 1:18–23
Saturday, 25 March Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary	Psalm 85 1 Samuel 2:1–10 Hebrews 2:5–18	Psalms 89:1–4; 19–38 Genesis 3:8–15 Romans 5:12–21
Next Sunday, 26 March Fourth Sunday in Lent <i>(Laetare, or Refreshment, or ‘Mothering’ Sunday)</i>	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist & Meditation

Morning Prayer

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRRIdmIXWDQ4Zz09>

8:30 a.m., Monday – Saturday

Evening Prayer

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRRIdmIXWDQ4Zz09>

5:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday

Lent Study

Meeting ID: 868 9252 3142; Passcode: 744866

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86892523142?pwd=MlczZlJRempKL0hrQThORXBFeFFBdz09>

7:30 p.m. Wednesday