



ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MALVERN

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

4 January, 2026
9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

*Before the service, speak with God; during the service, let God speak to you;
after the service, speak to one another.*

SETTING:

Parish Eucharist Michael Dudman (1938–94)

The service begins on p. 119 of A Prayer Book for Australia;

Opening Hymn: 26 (vv. 1–3)

SENTENCE

God has destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ,
to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

Ephesians 1:15–16

Following the opening prayer, we move to p. 120 of APBA for the Kyrie (said or sung).

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God,
you have filled us with the light of the Word,
who became flesh and lived among us:
let the light of faith shine in all that we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7–14

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
'Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.'

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labour, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.'

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:12–20

Response: The Word became flesh and lived among us.

- 12 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!
- 13 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;
he has blessed your children within you. R.
- 14 He has established peace on your borders;
he satisfies you with the finest of wheat.
- 15 He sends out his command to the earth;
and his word runs swiftly. R.
- 16 He gives snow like wool; he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 17 He scatters his hail like breadcrumbs;
who can stand against his cold?
- 18 He sends forth his word, and melts them;
he blows with his wind and the waters flow. R.
- 19 He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his judgements to Israel.
- 20 He has not done so with any other nation;
to them he has not revealed his judgements. R.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3–14

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,
just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy
and blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ,
according to the good pleasure of his will,
to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will,
according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ,
as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him,
things in heaven and things on earth.

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance,
having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes
all things according to his counsel and will, so that we,
who were the first to set our hope on Christ,
might live for the praise of his glory.

In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth,
the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him,
were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit;
this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people,
to the praise of his glory.

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

Gradual Hymn: 35

GOSPEL

John 1:10–18

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia, 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.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was in the world,
and yet the world did not know him.

He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who received him, who believed in his name,
he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood
or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said,
"He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me."')
From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

The law indeed was given through Moses;
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
No one has ever seen God.
It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart,
who has made him known.

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

The Sermon.

After the sermon, silence is kept before the liturgy continues with the Creed on p. 123 of APBA.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Anglican Church

The Church of the Province of Central Africa; The Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn; Holy Trinity, Balaclava & Elwood; St John's, Diamond Creek; and Anglican Board of Mission.

For all in need

We pray for: Alison; Ann; Coral; David; George; Josie; Katherine; Murray; Neil (and Cynthia and family); Roger (and +Kate and family); Will (and family); and those we name before you in the silence of our hearts.

For the Faithful Departed

We remember those whose anniversary of death which occurs at this time: Colin Cave; Gwenneth Cunningham; Gregory Edmund; Campion Gibson; John Gregory; Stanley Owen; Nola Watson; and Joyce Whitaker.

The Peace (p. 127) is shared, followed by

Offertory Hymn: 21

The Great Thanksgiving (p. 148) begins.

After communion, silence is kept, before we offer a final prayer (p. 148)

Notices are then given followed, at 10 a.m. by

Final Hymn: 52

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue in G major (BWV 557)
(from 'Eight Short Preludes and Fugues')

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

<p>Roster for today: Second Sunday after Christmas 4 January 2026</p>	<p>Roster for Next Week: The Baptism of Our Lord 11 January 2026</p>
	<p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist</p>
	<p>Sides-person David Sheppard Acolyte Christopher Miles Eucharistic Assistants Miriam Cherry tbc Intercessor Jenny Robertson Readers Betty Renjen David Sheppard</p>
<p>9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Holy Baptism</p>
<p>Sides-persons Simon Dickie Miriam Cherry</p> <p>Acolytes Pam Felgate Ravi Renjen</p> <p>Eucharistic Assistants Betty Renjen Leigh Mackay</p> <p>Intercessor Leonie Bird</p> <p>Readers Ray Lester Miriam Cherry</p> <p>Morning Tea TBA</p>	<p>Sides-persons Geraldine Powell David Powell</p> <p>Acolytes Meg Winter Alison Carty</p> <p>Eucharistic Assistants Ewan Morgan Robyn Whitehouse</p> <p>Intercessor Muriel Porter</p> <p>Readers Gracemary Huntley Jenny McPherson</p> <p>Morning Tea</p>
<p>Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</p>
<p>Sides-person Andrea King</p>	<p>Sides-person TBC</p>
<p>Reader Andrea King</p>	<p>Reader Pam Felgate</p>

Of your charity, **please continue to pray** for those in long term need or sickness:
His Majesty the King; Angus; Ann; Geoff; Ivan; Jane; Jenny; Joan; Liza; Mary; Roma; Sarah; and Simon.

The Week Ahead

Tuesday	The Epiphany of Our Lord 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Friday	William Laud, archbishop of Canterbury, martyr (d. 1645)

A reminder that the Daily Offices (Morning and Evening Prayer) are prayed in St Martin's Chapel each Monday – Saturday at 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. respectively, and can be joined via Zoom at:

Morning Prayer	9:00 a.m., Monday, Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Wednesday – Saturday
Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283 https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWR1dmIXWDQ4Zz09	
Evening Prayer	5:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday
Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283 https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWR1dmIXWDQ4Zz09	
Reflections on the Lections	in recess until early February

Scripture Readings next week:

Isaiah 42:1–9
Acts 10:34–43

The Baptism of Our Lord

Psalm 29
Matthew 3:13–17

Notices

On **Tuesday** (6th January), we mark the Feast of the Epiphany with a eucharist at 9:30 a.m. This Feast marks the visit of the Wise Men to see the Christ child in Bethlehem and, in the designation given in the *Book of Common Prayer*, it is known as “The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles” – meaning that our Lord is revealed as the Saviour of all. Epiphany marks the 12th day of Christmas, and the end of the Christmas season. Do join us for this important feast of the Church.

6th January is also the birthday of Ann Sprague and, because this year it is a significant birthday, there will be a special morning tea (with cake!) this morning. Come to the hall after the service and celebrate a long and full life with this distinguished former Church Warden and pillar of the nursing profession in this state.

We will be holding a series of fundraiser concerts in 2026. The first will be on **Saturday 9th May at 2pm** in our Hall. **Featured artists: Shu-Cheen Yu and her Lotus Wind Choir.**

Put the date in your diary now and encourage others to attend! Further information and bookings will be available early next year. Possible date for our second concert, Saturday 25 July with a Christmas theme.

PARISH DIRECTORY

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VICAR

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The Reverend Fr Matthew Dowsey 0412 852 697

CHURCH OFFICE

Adrian Chong

Monday-Friday

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WARDENS

Malcolm Tadgell

Robyn Whitehouse

Vicar's Warden to be appointed

0400 799 030
0409 707 117

CHILD SAFE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

to be appointed

*We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples
of the East Kulin nations*

*as the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we meet:
land which was taken, not ceded.*

*We pay our respects to their Elders past and present,
acknowledge their continuing spiritual and living connection to Country,
and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.*