



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
1 August 2021



Thou gavest them bread from heaven: containing in itself all sweetness.

(c.f. John 6: 31)

Music at today's liturgies:

Hymns: (*NEH*) 234, 494 (*at 10:00 a.m. only*), 280 (omit *), 357

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

Sentence

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Isaiah 55:2

Collect

Living God,
whose Son Jesus fed the hungry
with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us with your true and living bread,
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 second book of Samuel:

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead,
she made lamentation for him.

When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house,
and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD,
and the LORD sent Nathan to David.

He came to him, and said to him,

'There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor.

The rich man had very many flocks and herds;

but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought.

He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children;

it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup,

and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him.

Now there came a traveller to the rich man,
and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd
to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him,
but he took the poor man's lamb,
and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.'
Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man.
He said to Nathan,
'As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die;
he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing,
and because he had no pity.'

Nathan said to David, 'You are the man!
Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel:
I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul;
I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom,
and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah;
and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more.

Why have you despised the word of the LORD,
to do what is evil in his sight?
You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword,
and have taken his wife to be your wife,
and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.
Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house,
for you have despised me,
and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.
Thus says the LORD:
I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house;
and I will take your wives before your eyes,
and give them to your neighbour,
and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun.
For you did it secretly;
but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.'
David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.'

2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13a

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

Psalm 51: 1–12 – 8.00am

Response: Create in me a clean heart, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, O God, in your enduring goodness:
according to the fulness of your compassion
blot out my offences.
2. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness:
and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**
3. For I acknowledge my rebellion:
and my sin is ever before me.
4. Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your eyes:
so you will be just in your sentence
and blameless in your judging. **R.**
5. Surely in wickedness was I brought to birth:
and in sin my mother conceived me.
6. You that desire truth in the inward parts:
O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart. **R.**
7. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
8. Make me hear of joy and gladness:
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
9. Hide your face from my sins:
and blot out all my iniquities. **R.**
10. Create in me a clean heart, O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.
11. Do not cast me out from your presence:
do not take your holy spirit from me.
12. O give me the gladness of your help again:
and support me with a willing spirit. **R.**

Response at 10.00am only

PSALM 51

32

Christopher Willcock
1947-

Response

Psalm 51: 1-4a, 10-12, 15

Em Am Em Fmaj7 Dm Am C

Be mer-ci-ful, O Lord, for we have sinned; be—

F G7 Am Em Am

mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the church in Ephesus:

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord,
beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another in love,
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit,
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
Therefore it is said,

'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.'

(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean
but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth?
He who descended is the same one who ascended
far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets,
some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
to equip the saints for the work of ministry,
for building up the body of Christ,
until all of us come to the unity of the faith
and of the knowledge of the Son of God,
to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

We must no longer be children,
tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine,
by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.
But speaking the truth in love,
we must grow up in every way into him who is the head,
into Christ, from whom the whole body,
joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped,
as each part is working properly,
promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Ephesians 4: 1–16

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

Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

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.

When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were on that side of the lake,
they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him,
'Rabbi, when did you come here?'

Jesus answered them,

'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me,
not because you saw signs,
but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

Do not work for the food that perishes,
but for the food that endures for eternal life,
which the Son of Man will give you.

For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.'

Then they said to him,
'What must we do to perform the works of God?'
Jesus answered them,
'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.'
So they said to him,
'What sign are you going to give us then,
so that we may see it and believe you?
What work are you performing?
Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness;
as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat."
Then Jesus said to them,
'Very truly, I tell you,
it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven,
but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.
For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven
and gives life to the world.'
They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'
Jesus said to them,
'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

John 6: 24–35

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Anglican Church

Church of the Province of South East Asia; Religious Orders serving within the Anglican Church of Australia; Archdeaconry of Kew; St Peter's Bundoora;
St Andrew's Somerville; St Mary's Sunbury.

For all in need

Matthew, Sam, Milroy, Coral, David, Tony, Paul, Christine, Lei and her family, Keith, Peter, Leon, Erica, Josh, Vincent, Clive, John, Darcy, Hilary, Margaret, Dunstan.

For the Faithful Departed

Those whose anniversary of death occurs this week:

Ian Lennox, James Boughton, Margaret Thatcher, Clarice Howitt, Beryl Kennedy, Andrew Stanley Gard-Howard, John Willers, Marjorie Gill, Thelma McDonald, Margaret Goodall, Eric Walter Nevil (Nevil) Jackson, Betty Plant, Leonard Glasson, Daisy Corless.

Anthem:

Bread of the world in mercy broken,
wine of the soul in mercy shed,
by whom the words of life were spoken,
and in whose death our sins are dead.
Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
look on the tears by sinners shed;
and be thy feast to us the token
that by thy grace our souls are fed.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783–1826)
Music: trad. Scottish air, arr. Alan Bullard (b. 1947)

Postlude: *Carillon* Herbert Murrill (1909–1952)**Scripture Readings next week**

2 Samuel 18: 5–9, 14, 31–33
Ephesians 4: 17–5: 2

11TH AFTER PENTECOST

Psalm 130
John 6: 35, 41–51

St Mark's Collection

There will be a collection for St Mark's at both services on 8 August.

THE WEEK AHEAD

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|---|---|--|
| Weekdays Monday – Saturday | 9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. | Morning Prayer Evening Prayer |
| <u>Day</u> | <u>Morning Prayer</u> | <u>Evening Prayer</u> |
| Monday, 2 August | Psalm 77 2 Samuel 14:4–24 John 10:40–11:16 | Psalm 78: 1–15 Baruch 1:1–14 Romans 7:1–12 |
| Tuesday, 3 August | Psalm 78: 16–38 2 Samuel 14:25–15:6 John 11:17–37 | Psalm 78: 39–70 Baruch 1:15–2:18 Romans 7:13–25 |
| Wednesday, 4 August <i>John Baptist Vianney</i> <i>(Curé d’Ars)</i> | Psalm 80 2 Samuel 15:7–23 John 11:38–54 | Psalm 81 Baruch 2:19–3:8 Romans 8:1–8 |
| Thursday, 5 August <i>St Oswald</i> Eucharist at 10:15 a.m. | Psalms 82, 84 2 Samuel 15:14–23 John 11:38–54 | Psalms 85, 87 Baruch 3:9–25; 3:35–4:4 Romans 8:9–17 |
| Friday, 6 August <i>Transfiguration</i> Eucharist at 9: 30 a.m. | Psalm 99 Habbakuk 3:3–19 2 Corinthians 3:12–4:2 | Psalm 89:5–18 1 Kings 19:1–16 John 12:20–33 |
| Saturday, 7 August | Psalm 90 2 Samuel 16:20–17:14 John 12:36b–50 | Psalm 119:89–104 Baruch 4:27–5:9 Romans 8:28–39 |
| Next Sunday, 8 August 11th after Pentecost | 8:00 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm | Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist, with hymns Holy Eucharist & meditation |

REFLECTION ON THE LECTIONS

Amid the constant bombardment of advertising that promotes convenience foods, there are also plenty of warnings about the dangers they post to our health. To pay attention to these is to discover that much of the processed food that we eat has little nutritional value. Worse still it is often riddled with ingredients that are quite detrimental to our health.

I wonder ... is there a parallel with the food we feed to our minds? Do we think twice about whether it's nourishing or just junk? Does what we read and talk about feed our hearts with wisdom and truth and love, or does it go to maintain our anxieties and reinforce our negative attitudes? This is the question raised for us by Jesus' exchange with the crowd after they have been fed.

On what do we feed? What do we truly hunger and thirst for, and what steps do we take to nurture are in most selves? Let us take the opportunity to look again at what today's word of God offers us.

Whilst last week we took the opportunity to remember and celebrate St James, the gospel readings were looking at the feeding story of the 5,000 followed by Jesus walking on the stormy waters on the Sea of Galilee. This week we pick up the story at the point where the people who had seen Jesus feeding the crowd cross the lake to find him.

Time and again in the gospel of John questions are put to Jesus that he never answers directly. Instead, he responds obliquely with teaching that provokes further questioning. In the discourse that follows a familiar pattern can be discerned. In this weeks gospel the people ask three questions: how did you get here? how can we do the works of God? what sign will you give us? Jesus replies to each in turn: work for the food of eternal life; the work of God is to believe in him; my father gives you true bread from heaven. In none of the cases does Jesus allow the question to determine his answer. He is in charge of the dialogue. Essentially each of his replies is telling the people that they are asking the wrong question.

Can you feel a sense of the questioners' frustrations? Their questions were sensible and reasonable but not one of them was answered plainly. Jesus keeps leading his audience deeper and deeper into unknown territory.

From our 21st-century vantage point we can see what is happening, but we should still allow ourselves to be challenged, and confused, by Jesus's tactics. Even now we need to have our frame of reference subverted if we are to discover the truth that will make us free.

May I suggest spending some time alone, reflection on the Wisdom sought by the psalmist in verse 6, of Psalm 51 ...

NOTICES

Looking Ahead

Première of *Missa Gracia* by Calvin Bowman Sunday, August 15

Commissioned 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 a.m. on August 15 (the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

**** Introduction to the new setting – *Missa Gracia* Sundays August 1 & 8**

If you would like to sing our new mass setting a few times before it is officially premiered, there will be two short 'meet the music' sessions after church **today** and again **next Sunday** August 8. Please speak with ea, or email her.

Zoomed 'Reflections on the Lections'

Gregory is keen to hear from any who might be interested in joining a Zoom meeting each Wednesday evening (7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) to reflect on and discuss the readings for the coming week. Please let him know personally or by email. It is anticipated that this will begin **this Wednesday**, August 4.

Parish Retreat

November 5 – 7

This directed retreat, mainly in silence, will take place beside the sea at Queenscliff. A retreat allows time away from the demands of everyday life to spend time in the silent company of others and God. There will be time to walk along the beach, for reading, walking the labyrinth in the grounds or simply sitting and enjoying the stillness. There will be times for Eucharist, prayer each morning and evening, and short sessions to guide your reflection. Delicious meals, with other hospitality, will be provided, and the comfort of a self-contained single room.

Dates / Times: Friday 5th – Sunday 7th November
Place: Santa Casa, 33–35 Flinders Street, Queenscliff
Cost: \$240 inclusive of all meals (dietary needs can be accommodated), individual en-suite room (linen and towels etc provided).
Booking: Speak with Brenda

Publication by Fr Ray Cleary

Fr. Ray Cleary has recently published his new book, *A Time to Speak Out*. A bulk purchase of this book is being made through our Activities Group and the book will cost \$19.95. Anyone seeking a copy (or copies), please email Charles Tegner (ctegner@bigpond.net.au) by 9 August 2021. See also the information sheet on the Church Notice Board, which contains more details about the topics the book explores.

Book Group

The Book Group will meet on 9 August at 2.00pm in the North Room. The book for discussion is *Phosphorescence* by Julia Baird.

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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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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.