ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON



St Eanswythe's Altona St Clement's Altona Meadows O Te Wairua Tapu Ki Poipiripi

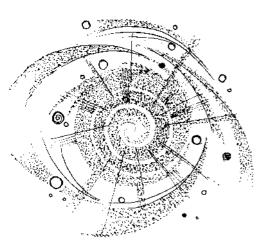


To proclaim God's love and life in Christ: growing in faith \$\psi\$ serving others \$\psi\$ nurturing a common life

28th November 2021 First Sunday of Advent

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's 8:45am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's 10:30am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

> Wominjeka :: Haere mai Welcome



A warm welcome to our worship today, especially if you are with us for the first time or visiting from elsewhere.

This booklet contains the full order of service: please join in the parts printed in bold type.

During these times we are all asked to take responsibility for COVID-safe precautions:

- ♦ If you have any symptoms of illness, you should be remaining at home.
- ♦Please use hand sanitiser on arriving and leaving, check in by the QR system, and maintain physical distancing where possible.
- ◆ Masks need to be worn at services where proof of vaccination is not required.

Our parish lies on the country of the Kulin nation. We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over countless generations, and we pay our respects to their elders, past and present. We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing (including to Pay The Rent to local First Nations people).

ADVENT

The season of Advent (the four Sundays before Christmas) is a time of preparation and prayer. It is a wilderness time, perhaps best represented by the figure of John the Baptist who announced the coming of the Holy One, and who called upon God's people to repent. As Christmas draws closer, our attention is also drawn to Mary, who followed God's call to a vital role in the Word becoming flesh.

There are two horizons to the waiting and longing which are characteristic of Advent (which simply means 'coming'). Most obviously, we look towards Christmas and the coming of the Christ Child at Bethlehem. But we also look towards Jesus' future coming in glory, the time when all things will be gathered into God's kingdom of love, justice and peace.

The liturgical colour of Advent is purple, reflecting the note of expectancy. We are invited to a deeper awareness of our dependence on God for the healing and redemption of all nations and the whole creation. The fundamental Advent prayer is expressed in the Aramaic word *Maranatha*— 'Our Lord, come'.

The tradition of lighting candles on an Advent wreath, week by week, originated in northern Europe in the nineteenth century and has been widely adopted by Christian churches around the world. In the northern hemisphere, Advent falls at the darkest time of year and so the symbolism of light in darkness has a particular resonance. In Australia, the season of Advent leads us towards the longest, brightest days of the year, a different but equally powerful image.

Lord Jesus, come!

As the days grow longer and the sun's heat increases, increase our faith, and bring us to worship you by your cradle, at your cross, in your resurrection, and at your glorious coming again with judgement and with mercy. Amen.

(Prayer from Anglican Church of Australia Liturgical Commission)

Gathering in God's name

We meet in God's name, as God's people – children of God in all our rich diversity, with all that we carry from the complexity of our lives.

We turn to God in praise and prayer; this includes recalling all that has separated us from God, and claiming the love and forgiveness that is always held out to us.

The Collect then 'collects' these prayers and turns our attention towards the Bible readings which will follow.

HYMN 264 Hark a herald voice is calling

(at 8:45 and 10:30: the red hymn book Together in Song is found in the pew in front of you)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE AND PREPARATION

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Heavenly Father, you have created a universe of light: forgive us when we return to darkness.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world: cleanse and heal our blinded sight. Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, you give us light in our hearts: renew us in faith and love. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

A candle is lit on the Advent wreath.

The priest says

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son
Jesus Christ came among us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Opening the Scriptures

The readings come from different parts of the Bible: different perspectives on the great story of God's presence and purpose among us. In the psalm we respond with the ancient words of prayer of God's people.

The sermon adds to our own reflections on the readings, and then we respond by affirming the faith as handed to us from previous generations.

We bring our prayers for the world and the Church, trusting that all things and all people are in God's hands.

At the greeting of peace, we recognise that God's gift of peace constantly renews our human relationships and forms us as the Body of Christ.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The time is coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill my gracious promise with the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time, I will raise up a righteous branch from David's line, who will do what is just and right in the land. In those days, Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is what he will be called: The LORD Is Our Righteousness.

(33.14-16; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope: in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who wait for you be put to shame: but let those that break faith be confounded and gain nothing.

Show me your ways, O Lord: and teach me your paths.

Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me: for you are the God of my salvation.

In you have I hoped all the day long: because of your goodness, O Lord.

Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness: for they are from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: but according to your mercy think on me.

Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he direct sinners in the way. The meek he will guide in the path of justice: and teach the humble his ways.

All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true: for those who keep his covenant and his commandments.

(25.1-10)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you, given all the joy we have because of you before our God? Night and day, we pray more than ever to see all of you in person and to complete whatever you still need for your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus guide us on our way back to you. May the Lord cause you to increase and enrich your love for each other and for everyone in the same way as we also love you. May the love cause your hearts to be strengthened, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his people. Amen.

(3.9-13; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 269 Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes (at 8:45 and 10:30, found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said: "There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. On the earth, there will be dismay among nations in their confusion over the roaring of the sea and surging waves. The planets and other heavenly bodies will be shaken, causing people to faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world. Then they will see the Human One coming on a cloud with power and great splendour. Now when these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your redemption is near."

Jesus told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that God's kingdom is near. I assure you that this generation won't pass away until everything has happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

"Take care that your hearts aren't dulled by drinking parties, drunkenness, and the anxieties of day-to-day life. Don't let that day fall upon you unexpectedly, like a trap. It will come upon everyone who lives on the face of the whole earth. Stay alert at all times, praying that you are strong enough to escape everything that is about to happen and to stand before the Human One."

Every day Jesus was teaching in the temple, but he spent each night on the Mount of Olives. All the people rose early in the morning to hear him in the temple area.

(21.25-38; CEB)

For the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON



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 all people and for the Church throughout the world.

The response to the prayers is

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with our Parish Prayer

God of this ancient land, holy beyond time and place, you search us out and name us your beloved children. Work in us to fulfil your longing and compassion for every person. Send your Spirit to renew our life, and give us courage to rise and follow where Jesus calls. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

Everyone is invited to turn to those around, and offer a greeting of peace from where you stand.

Offerings of money or groceries can be placed in the basket/box provided.



Celebrating at the Lord's table

Our offerings of money and groceries remind us that we are called to participate with our lives and livelihoods in the coming of God's kingdom of justice, healing and peace.

In the Great Thanksgiving, the priest voices the prayer of the whole assembly, recalling the mighty acts of God, Jesus' saving death and resurrection, and his last meal with his friends. The prayer calls on the Holy Spirit to make Christ present in our sharing of bread and wine, and to remake us as Christ's body in the world. We respond with the Lord's Prayer, as the crucified and risen Jesus prays anew through us.

Our sharing is a gift of grace, a communion with Jesus and with each other. There is a place here for each and every person.

HYMN 315 Mine eyes have seen the coming of the glory of the Lord (at 8:45 and 10:30, found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 priest prays on behalf of all, praising God for God's mighty acts. All respond:

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 Last Supper is recalled, including Jesus' command to continue sharing bread and wine: in memory of him, and proclaiming his death and resurrection. All respond:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The prayer calls on God's blessing and looks to the fulfilling of all things within the goodness of God. All join in affirming:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the words that Jesus taught us:

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

The priest breaks the bread and says

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer 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.

This is the Lord's table. All who seek God's mercy are welcome.

Everyone is invited to share communion or receive a blessing: please come forward as indicated and stand at one of the places marked in white. Children who have been baptised are welcome to share communion. If you would prefer not to share communion, please indicate when the minister comes to you.

While communion is being shared, we sing:

God is forgiveness.

Dare to forgive and God will be with you.
God is forgiveness.

Trust and do not fear.

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Going into the world

The Eucharist is food for the journey of faith, whatever awaits us as we go out to the rest of our lives. We have been renewed, transformed, and blessed: now we take that blessing to share with others, in our words and actions, our hearts and lives.

'The Eucharist never ends – it must be lived.'

NOTICES

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God for whom we wait, we thank you that you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. As we joyfully await your Son, keep us ever watchful that we may be ready to stand before him on the day of his coming.

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.

BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

HYMN 265 O come, O come Emmanuel (at 8:45 and 10:30, found in the red hymn book Together in Song; the final verse of this hymn is sung unaccompanied)

DISMISSAL.

As we await our coming Saviour, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ, Amen.

Material for this service is taken from A Prayer Book for Australia (1995) and Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000) and is reproduced by permission.

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WEEK

Praying together and at home

READINGS

Take some time to prepare for worship together by exploring the readings beforehand. Some things to notice might be:

Is anything here particularly relevant to my situation at this time? Is there anything here that doesn't immediately make sense to me? What comes just before and just after this section of the Bible? Does this remind me of something elsewhere in the Bible?

Readings for midweek Eucharists: 1st & 2nd December

Genesis 3.8-21; Psalm 91; Luke 12.22-31

Readings for next Sunday: 5th December (Second Sunday of Advent)

Malachi 3.1-14; Song of Zechariah; Philippians 1.1-11; Luke 3.1-6

DAILY PRAYER

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are shared at Eanswythe's through the week: see the back page for times this week.

For our prayers:

<u>The world and nation:</u> For peace, security and stability in the Solomon Islands, Ethiopia and Sudan.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church in Brunei, Malaysia, and Singapore. For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: Diocese of Sydney (Abp Kanishka Raffel, Regional Bps Chris Edwards, Michael Stead, Peter Hayward, Peter Lin, Malcolm Richards, Gary Koo). Diocese of Melbourne: Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; St Stephen's Richmond (Matthew Healy). For Kathryn and all who have been ordained priest this weekend.

<u>Agencies supported by our parish:</u> Compassion Australia—supporting children

living in poverty.

<u>Our parish & community:</u> For those living in nursing homes and residential care.

*Preparing for baptism: Spencer Hospet.

Those with particular needs at this time: Vivienne, Cathy, Nalani, Sash.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Jean Cutting (28), Vic Wilson, priest (29), Frank Woods, bishop (29), Alan Shaw (3).

To add a name to the public pew sheet prayer list, for those needing prayers now or to be remembered on the anniversary of their death, please contact one of the clergy.

If you have a prayer request to be included as we gather regularly for prayer throughout the week, please find the prayer box near the church entrance and fill out a card, or contact one of the clergy.

SHARING THE PATH OF FAITH

reflections from the clergy and our parish community

Dear friends,

In the church's calendar today marks the beginning of a new year, as we once again enter the season of Advent. (Do you remember last year, when this was also our first Sunday back together after eight months online?)

Among other things, I think we could say that Advent is a time both for *patience* and for *impatience*!

First, a time for patience. Christmas decorations have already appeared in many places, and as we move into December it soon seems that Christmas is all around us. Many of us are certainly ready for some festivities after all that this year has held! But the tradition of the church urges us to patience, so that we might use these weeks as a time of waiting on God. What is God seeking to give us in that waiting, this Advent? What is God preparing in us and for us, if only we will allow it the time to take shape? What longings can we discern in our hearts, longings which will find their answer from God in the coming of Jesus?

And second, a time of impatience. Advent calls us in a sense to a deep restlessness, a refusal to be content with all that is broken in our world. Advent is the season where we lay before God the suffering in our world and in our lives—the tragedy of it, the futility of it, the pain of it—and we cry out, "Come, Lord Jesus! Don't delay any longer, because without you it is too much for us to bear." In other words, Advent allows and invites us to confront the gap between the way things are now, and God's great and good purposes for us and for all creation; and then to call on Jesus with urgency and hope. *Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!*

So I do encourage you to take the time this Advent to be patient and impatient; to wait on God and to call on God. As in previous years, we have our ecumenical Advent prayers in Altona, each Wednesday evening—that is one opportunity. Or you can sign up to receive an Advent reflection each day, from our mission giving partner Common Grace—see www.commongrace.org.au/advent a new day Or you could come along and pray with others at Morning or Evening Prayer, or at one of our weekday Eucharists.

I look forward to sharing this Advent journey together, as we turn our hearts and minds to the good news of the coming of Jesus. May we be ready to meet him when he comes.

With my prayers for all that this season and this year will bring, Chris

NOTES AND NEWS

for your information and prayers, from around and beyond the parish

Congratulations Kathryn!

It is a particular joy to have our Assistant Curate, the Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse, presiding at the Eucharist at 8:45 and 10:30am today, following her ordination as a priest yesterday. We assure Kathryn of our prayerful support as she continues her ministry in this parish.

Service arrangements in Advent

During Advent, the Sunday morning services at each centre will alternate between vaccinated only and open to all, as we seek to be intentional in welcoming all who may wish to share in our worship.

At services where vaccination is required, those over 12 will be asked to show this proof when arriving. Masks are not required (although still recommended eg when less than 1.5m from others), and we can freely share refreshments.

At services that are open to all, no proof of vaccination is required, and we need to wear masks indoors; also refreshments need to be shared outdoors rather than indoors.

Further details are on the back of the pew sheet, on our parish website, and in the email sent during this week. If you have been vaccinated, you are welcome to come to any service - just bring a mask with you in case it's required.

Prayer Partners

Please don't forget: Prayer Partners' Picnic, midday on Saturday 4th December. We will be meeting on the Millers Road side of Cherry Lake. BYO lunch, chair and anything else you would take to a picnic.

If you cannot join us there, please contact me on 0410 040 661 to arrange getting your card to your partner.

Sandra Hansen

Empty Christmas tree

Gifts of non perishable food and unwrapped new toys may be placed under the tree at both Churches through Advent for distribution before Christmas. Further details from Fred & Alta McAnda (St E) and Sandra Hansen (St C). Thank you.

Ping Pong-α-thon

Did you know: there are 40.3 million slaves in the world, more than at any other time in history. Grace from St Clement's is inviting our support for a ping pongathon, raising funds to support the work of several amazing organisations committed to protecting and caring for young people impacted by modern day slavery. You can sponsor Grace at https://pingpongathon.com/gracecroft, or register to come along and play yourself on Sunday 12 December.

COME LORD JESUS

Praying together in Advent

Wednesday evenings in Advent, for half an hour:

- 1 December, 7-7:30pm (o): St Eanswythe's Anglican Church, Altona
- 8 December, 7-7:30pm (v): Trinity Uniting Church, Altona
- 15 December, 7-7:30pm (v): Mary, Help of Christians Catholic Church,
- 22 December, 7-7:30pm (o): Salvation Army Hobsons Bay Corps, Altona

(o)=open to all (masks required); (v)=proof of vaccination required



Keeping in touch...

- ⇒ Please take this pew sheet with you, for your reference and prayers during the week.
- ⇒ If you are or have been away for a Sunday, you can see recent pew sheets on our website at www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets
- ⇒ Visit **www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav** for photos, links, news and updates.
- ⇒ If you don't already receive our weekly email including news, changes of service times, and other updates, please send your email address to parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Giving...

⇒ Deposits can be made to the parish Bendigo Bank account at any time (BSB 633 000, account number 157 594 722, account name "St Eanswythe's Altona with St Clement's Laverton Anglican Churches"). For pledge giving please include your name or envelope/reference number. For further details see anglicanaltlav.org.au/giving

Please send all material for the pew sheet to parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

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Churchwardens:

Lily Griffin Anita McAnda Scott Pitcher

Child Safe Officer:

The Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse

This week in our parish:

Sunday 28th November First Sunday of Advent

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's (0) 8:45am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's (0) 10:30am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's (V)

Tues-Fri: Op Shop open 10:30am-2:30pm

Tuesday 30th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 10am Tiddlers playgroup, St Eanswythe's

Wednesday 1st December

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's (O) 5pm Evening Prayer, St Eanswythe's 7pm Point Cook Small Group 7pm Advent ecumenical prayers, St Eanswythe's (O)

Thursday 2nd

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 10am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's (V)

Friday 3rd

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 9:30am Clementines playgroup, St Clement's 5pm Youth group, St Clement's

Saturday 4th

12pm MU Prayer Partner picnic, Cherry Lake

Sunday 5th December Second Sunday of Advent

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's (V) 8:45am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's (V) 10:30am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's (O)

(0)=open to all, masks required (V)=proof of vaccination required

SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45am St Clement's and 10:30am St Eanswythe's Groups meeting regularly in the parish:

Youth Group: Fridays fortnightly in term time, at St Clement's or online. Contact Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse. Altona Tiddlers Playgroup: Tuesdays in term time, 10am at St Eanswythe's. Contact Jan Lee (9398 2993) Clementines Playgroup: Fridays in term time, 9:30am at St Clement's. Contact Louise (9395 5472) Reflective Bible Study: monthly at the Vicarage, first Tuesday evening at 7:30pm.

Mothers' Union: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661) Caritas: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday evening at 7pm. Contact Joan Meiers (9398 1906)