

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 † serving others † nurturing a common life*

9th January 2022 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
9:30am Combined Parish Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
5pm All-age Eucharist, St Clement's

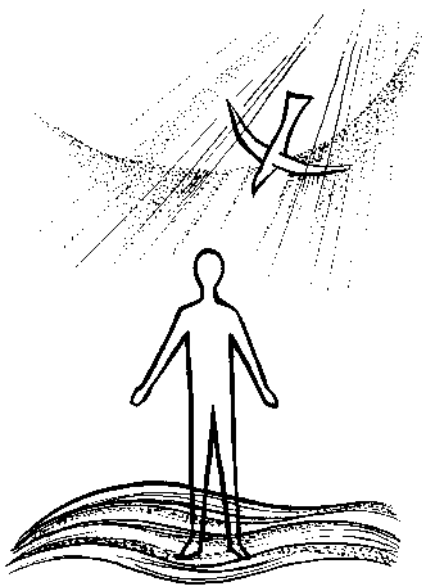
Wominjeka :: Haere mai
Welcome

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 while indoors.



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).

EPIPHANY

AND THE REVEALING OF THE CHRIST

Epiphany literally means “an appearance” or “manifestation”, when someone or something is revealed and seen.

In the church calendar, the feast of the Epiphany marks the revealing of Jesus at the start of his life and ministry, and is celebrated on 6th January, at the end of the 12 days of Christmas. We hear the story, as told in Matthew’s Gospel, of mysterious learned visitors from the east who come to worship Jesus (probably as a toddler rather than a baby). They can be seen as representing the best wisdom of the wider Gentile world, paying homage to the new king who is Emmanuel, God with us. Their story also introduces the Epiphany theme of light: the light of the star in Matthew’s account, and then by extension Jesus as the light of the nations.

The feast of Epiphany originated in the Eastern (Orthodox) Church, where its focus was (and remains) the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist: the moment when the heavens were opened and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God’s beloved Son. When Epiphany began to be celebrated in the West from the 4th century, its emphasis shifted to the visit of the Magi; the Sunday immediately after Epiphany later became a separate feast of Jesus’ baptism.

One further episode traditionally associated with Epiphany is the wedding feast at Cana, where Jesus turned water into wine. John’s Gospel tells that Jesus here “revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.” This year, we hear this Gospel on the second Sunday after Epiphany.

In all of this, Epiphany carries the sense of an appearance, a revelation: of God appearing, being revealed, to Israel and all nations, and to us, in a new way. Jesus is God’s extraordinary act of self-revelation, in his birth, baptism, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension.

We celebrate your glory
made present in our midst.
In the coming of the magi
the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.
In the waters of baptism
Jesus was revealed as the Christ,
the Saviour sent to redeem us.
In the water made wine
the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.
Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

(Prayer from the Church of England)

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 156 Morning has broken
(at 9:30, found in the red hymn book Together in Song—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.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

Loving God,
your Son came to seek the lost,
and was baptised with sinners:
grant that we, who have been baptised in his name,
may reach out in love to those in need
with the mercy of Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you, for ever and 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 Isaiah.

But now, says the LORD—

the one who created you, Jacob,

the one who formed you, Israel:

Don't fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

when through the rivers, they won't sweep over you.

When you walk through the fire, you won't be scorched
and flame won't burn you.

I am the LORD your God,

the holy one of Israel, your saviour.

I have given Egypt as your ransom,

Cush and Seba in your place.

Because you are precious in my eyes,

you are honoured, and I love you.

I give people in your place,

and nations in exchange for your life.

Don't fear,

I am with you.

From the east I'll bring your children;
from the west I'll gather you.
I'll say to the north, "Give them back!"
and to the south, "Don't detain them."
Bring my sons from far away,
and my daughters from the end of the earth,
everyone who is called by my name
and whom I created for my glory,
whom I have formed and made.

(43.1-7; CEB)

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

PSALM

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven: ascribe to the Lord glory and might.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name: O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thunders, the Lord upon the great waters.

The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation: the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees: the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes them skip like a calf: Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord divides the lightning-flash: the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of the desert, the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees, and strips bare the forests: in his temple all cry 'Glory.'

The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood: the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.

The Lord will give strength to his people: the Lord will give to his people the blessing of peace.

(29)

SECOND READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When word reached the apostles in Jerusalem that Samaria had accepted God's word, they commissioned Peter and John to go to Samaria. Peter and John went down to Samaria where they prayed that the new believers would receive the Holy Spirit. (This was because the Holy Spirit had not yet fallen on any of them; they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus.) So Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

(8.14-17; CEB)

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

HYMN 250 Christ, when for us you were baptised
(at 9:30, found in the red hymn book *Together in Song*)

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

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.

The people were filled with expectation, and everyone wondered whether John might be the Christ. John replied to them all, "I baptise you with water, but the one who is more powerful than me is coming. I'm not worthy to loosen the strap of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can't be put out." With many other words John appealed to them, proclaiming good news to the people.

But Herod the ruler had been criticised harshly by John because of Herodias, Herod's brother's wife, and because of all the evil he had done. He added this to the list of his evil deeds: he locked John up in prison.

When everyone was being baptised, Jesus also was baptised. While he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit came down on him in bodily form like a dove. And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."

(3.15-22; 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

God has made us one in Christ.

He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

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 (at 9:30)—*please ensure you are wearing a mask while singing*

1. When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptised by John,
he did not come for pardon,
but as his Father's Son.

He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.

2. He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.

So when the Dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.

3. Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make,
this very day invade us,
and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

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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

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**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:

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
break me, melt me, mould me, fill me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Words: Daniel Iverson

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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 of heaven, dwelling among us,
we thank you for feeding us with this holy food.
By your grace keep us ever faithful
to your Word made flesh
that as his body in the world
we may bring your presence to all people.

**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.**

HYMN 231 At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow
(at 9:30, found in the red hymn book *Together in Song*)

BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water
welling up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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 next Sunday: 16th January (Second Sunday after Epiphany)

Isaiah 62.1-5; Psalm 36.5-10; 1 Corinthians 12.1-11; John 2.1-11

DAILY PRAYER

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

For our prayers:

The world and nation: For health care workers around the world, under intense pressure during the COVID pandemic.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church in Iran, Iraq and Syria. For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: Locums and all retired clergy.

Diocese of Melbourne: Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; Holy Trinity, Bacchus Marsh with Christ Church, Myrniong and St George's Balliang (Richard Litjens).

Agencies supported by our parish:

Latitude Youth Services, Altona – supporting at-risk young people.

Our parish & community: For those isolating at home or in quarantine.

Those with particular needs at this time: Vivienne, Nalani, Lola, Thenjiwe, Susie.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Elsie Sinclair (10), Richard Henshall (11), Ron Duckmanton (12), Robin Bingley (13), Cheryl Smith (13).

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,

Each year in the days after Christmas, many thousands of young people converge on a city somewhere in Europe, hosted by members of local churches. These gatherings are organised by the international monastic community based at the French village of Taizé, where for the rest of the year a steady stream of visitors are welcomed to stay and share in the community's life of prayer.

This year, due to COVID, the European meeting in recent days had to be moved online. During that meeting the prior of the community, Brother Alois, urged those who follow Jesus to become “creators of unity”:

Helping unity to grow, creating bonds between people: this is one of the greatest challenges of our time.

The present day is characterised by contradictory developments. On the one hand, humanity is becoming more and more aware how interconnected and linked it is to the whole of creation. The pandemic has made us realize once again that we are one human family; we undergo certain hardships all together and we can only overcome them together.

On the other hand, the world is becoming increasingly polarized socially, politically and ethically. This leads to new rifts in societies, between countries and even within families. Christians are not immune to these antagonisms. Between Churches, and even within them, differences are hardening and turning into divisions, at the very moment when our witness to peace, in all our diversity, would be vital. [...]

The Church is called to be a place of friendship for all. For this purpose, a radical conversion is necessary today out of faithfulness to the Gospel message. Christ, by his love that went to the point of self-giving, opened a new wellspring from which we can draw the energy to live as brothers and sisters, to promote the dignity of every human being, and to take care of creation. Christ asks us to be, by our brotherly and sisterly communion, the sign that he came to unite all human beings in God's love.

Being “a place of friendship for all” may sound simple, but as Br Alois writes, it requires us to change: *a radical conversion*. That conversion happens every time we step across a difference that might divide us from someone else, and greet them as a friend of Jesus. Where might that be asked of each of us, this week?

With my prayers for each of you, Chris

The Baptism of Jesus

As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Mark 1:10-11

Based on Mark 1:4-11 (NIV)



D V Q K S F O R G I V E J M V
 B X F P W G J B A P T I Z E D
 D H R P D T R O H O K X V S H
 K F H V N E I D R E W G W L J
 X Q A E T H J Y K D A L F S J
 V N P A N W T M R K A V F C Z
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 B P E O Z S F N D N T I I P N
 Z Y S P I R I T D G R W U U T

REPENT
 CLOTHING
 LOCUSTS
 SPIRIT

JORDAN
 SINS
 WATER
 CONFESS

FORGIVE
 JESUS
 RIVER
 HONEY

HEAVEN
 WILD
 BAPTIZED
 JOHN

NOTES AND NEWS

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

All services are now open to everyone, and masks need to be worn whenever we are indoors. All are encouraged to share refreshments outdoors, and only those who have been vaccinated may do so indoors. Thank you for your understanding as we care for each other in these uncertain times.

Services in January

This month we are trialling a new 5pm service at St Clement's—young and old worshipping together in a slightly more relaxed mode. Do join in as we discover together what this may become!

Our services each Sunday in January are:

7:45am Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

9:30am Eucharist (combined parish service), St Eanswythe's

5pm Eucharist (a more relaxed service for all ages), St Clement's

Blessing of school bags

On Sunday 30 January at the 9:30am and 5pm services, children are invited to bring school bags (or something else that can represent the school year about to begin) so that we can pray for them in all that lies ahead in 2022. (This is also a good opportunity to invite a friend, neighbour or family member to come along to church.)

Annual leave

Today Rev'd Kathryn returns from annual leave, and tomorrow Rev'd Chris begins some time off (returning to the parish on 21st January).

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**

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 9th January

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

9:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

5pm All-age Eucharist, St Clement's

Wednesday 12th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Friday 14th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Sunday 16th January

Second Sunday after Epiphany

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

9:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's

5pm All-age Eucharist, St Clement's

SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45am St Clement's and 10:30am St Eanswythe's (in recess during January)

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 Wednesday 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)