

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*

7th August 2022 **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**



8:30am 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.

In line with current health advice we recommend wearing a mask inside.

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).

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 107 Sing praise and thanksgiving
(at 10:30am only, found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

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.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Let us pray.
Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ Jesus said: ‘This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.
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.**

GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

THE COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

Kindle in our hearts, Father, the same faith that impelled Abraham to set out from his home and to live as a pilgrim in a foreign land.
As we, like him, look for the city that none but you can design and build, keep us watchful for your Son's coming, that we may be found faithful stewards of all that you have entrusted to us.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis.

After these events, the Lord's word came to Abram in a vision, "Don't be afraid, Abram. I am your protector. Your reward will be very great."

But Abram said, "Lord God, what can you possibly give me, since I still have no children? The head of my household is Eliezer, a man from Damascus." He continued, "Since you haven't given me any children, the head of my household will be my heir."

The Lord's word came immediately to him, "This man will not be your heir. Your heir will definitely be your very own biological child." Then he brought Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars if you think you can count them." He continued, "This is how many children you will have." Abram trusted the Lord, and the Lord recognized Abram's high moral character.

(15.1-6; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM

The Lord looks down from heaven, and surveys all the children of Adam: he considers from his dwelling-place all the inhabitants of the earth;

He who fashioned the hearts of them all: and comprehends all that they do.

A king is not saved by a mighty army: nor is a warrior delivered by much strength;

A horse is a vain hope as a deliverer: nor can he rescue any by his great power.

But the eye of the Lord is on those that fear him: on those that trust in his unfailing love,

To deliver them from death: and to feed them in the time of dearth.

We have waited eagerly for the Lord: for he is our help and our shield.

Surely our hearts shall rejoice in him: for we have trusted in his holy name.

Let your merciful kindness be upon us, O Lord: even as our hope is in you.

(33.13-21)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Hebrews.

Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don't see. The elders in the past were approved because they showed faith.

By faith we understand that the universe has been created by a word from God so that the visible came into existence from the invisible.

[...]

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He went out without knowing where he was going.

By faith he lived in the land he had been promised as a stranger. He lived in tents along with Isaac and Jacob, who were coheirs of the same promise. He was looking forward to a city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

By faith even Sarah received the ability to have a child, though she herself was barren and past the age for having children, because she believed that the one who promised was faithful. So descendants were born from one man (and he was as good as dead). They were as many as the number of the stars in the sky and as countless as the grains of sand on the seashore. All these people died in faith without receiving the promises, but they saw the promises from a distance and welcomed them. They confessed that they were strangers and immigrants on earth. People who say this kind of thing make it clear that they are looking for a homeland. If they had been thinking about the country that they had left, they would have had the opportunity to return to it. But at this point in time, they are longing for a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God isn't ashamed to be called their God—he has prepared a city for them.

(11.1-3, 8-16; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 272 Come thou long expected Jesus
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

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.

“Don’t be afraid, little flock, because your Father delights in giving you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to those in need. Make for yourselves wallets that don’t wear out—a treasure in heaven that never runs out. No thief comes near there, and no moth destroys. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be too.

“Be dressed for service and keep your lamps lit. Be like people waiting for their master to come home from a wedding celebration, who can immediately open the door for him when he arrives and knocks on the door. Happy are those servants whom the master finds waiting up when he arrives. I assure you that, when he arrives, he will dress himself to serve, seat them at the table as honoured guests, and wait on them. Happy are those whom he finds alert, even if he comes at midnight or just before dawn. But know this, if the homeowner had known what time the thief was coming, he wouldn’t have allowed his home to be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Human One is coming at a time when you don’t expect him.”

(12.32-40; 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 prayers may include this or another response:

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

We are the body of Christ:
His Spirit is with us!

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 497 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

Prayer over the gifts

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

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 to receive a personal blessing. Children who have been baptised are welcome to share communion. All the communion bread will have wine added to it, but if you also wish to drink from the common cup then please remain and it will be brought to you. If you would prefer not to share communion but to receive a personal blessing, please indicate when the priest comes to you.

While communion is being shared, we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy,
My heart, my heart adores you;
My heart knows how to say to you,
Holy are you, Lord!**

Anonymous Argentinian Chant

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

Living God,
in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.
May the power of your love,
which we have known in word and sacrament,
continue your saving work among us,
give us courage for our pilgrimage,
and bring us to the joys you promise.
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 315 Mine eyes have seen the glory
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; 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.

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 weekday Eucharists:

Ruth 2.1-23; Psalm 23; Luke 1.45-55

Readings for next Sunday: 14th August (Tenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Isaiah 5.1-7; Psalm 80.1-2, 80-8-19; Hebrews 11.29-12.2; Luke 49-59

DAILY PRAYER

Morning and Evening Prayer is shared at St Eanswythe's during the week: see the back page for times this week. Anyone is welcome to these short services.

For our prayers:

The world and nation: the people of Iraq, living for months without effective government, due to political deadlock: for the Lord to raise up leaders with servant-hearts.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea. For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of North West Australia (Bishopric vacant, Clergy & People).

Diocese of Melbourne: Abp Philip Freier, Bp Kate Prowd, St John's Camberwell (John Baldock, Helen Creed).

Agencies supported by our parish: Anglican Board of Mission, who provide and support

the ministry of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples in church and society.

Our parish & community: strength and encouragement for all whose work is costly to them.

Those with particular needs at this time:

Stuart, Anthony, Carol, Hannah, Jimmy & Lila.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Clarrie Baines (10), Roy Little (11).

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 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

From the Locum Vicar's desk:

Today, I bid the lovely Parish of Altona/Altona Meadows a very fond farewell. It has been a profound privilege and a deep joy for me to have been amongst you for this very short interlude. Thank you for your acceptance of Ian and I and for the pilgrimage we have shared during this short period of time. Thank you to the Rev'd. Kathryn Bellhouse who has more than shared the essential ministry with me during this time in the Parish. It has been such a joy to be caring for God's people together. Thank you to each and everyone of the St. Clements and St. Eanswythe's parishioners for your faithfulness to God, His church and for the support you offer to one another. We are all lights shining in our communities and wherever we go.

Some Parishioners have expressed interest in the current Lambeth Conference. It is worth reflecting on some of the interesting facts from the Conference Opening Eucharist in Canterbury Cathedral last Sunday, e.g., "A little over 600 bishops representing an estimated 165 countries processed into the Cathedral starting at 9:15 a.m., taking about 20 minutes to all make it through the Cathedral's Great West Door. A fanfare heralded the arrival of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, who has convened the July 26-Aug. 8 Lambeth Conference of Anglican Bishops. Standing just inside the door, Archbishop Welby offered a brief opening prayer that echoed remarks he has made several times so far at the Conference, seeking unity among Bishops in their shared faith despite individual differences."

The Bishop of Lesotho, The Right Revd Dr Vicentia Kgabe, delivering the sermon, spoke of how the Anglican Communion is "called to practice hospitality and to serve" in a world experiencing "serious pain and strife."

She said: "So how do we as the church – the Anglican church, demonstrate hospitality in a world that is going through and experiencing some serious pain and strife?"

The sermon concluded with: "This Lambeth Conference, this church of ours has the power and is capable of healing the world and healing the church, and as we do this 1 Peter reminds us: "to maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins."

As I conclude, my prayer is that during our time together and beyond

May God's name be hallowed and not ours!

May God's will be done and not ours!

May God's kingdom come and not ours! Amen".

I, your Locum Vicar until today, add my "amen" to this - God be praised, exalted and proclaimed in all we do!

Amen!

NOTES AND NEWS

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

Thanks Gail

Today we say fare-well to Rev'd Gail and her husband Ian.

Rev'd Gail has been our locum vicar over the past seven weeks, and Ian has been worshipping with us on Sunday mornings. Their presence has been a delight to us and Gail's ministry over this time appreciated. In particular, parishioners would like to thank Gail for the warmth of her company and conversation, for her preaching, and the evident depth of her devotion to God. It has been a great gift and encouragement to many of us.

We don't say goodbye—because God's children have a habit of bumping into each other!

We say, Fare well!

*

Chris returns

Happily, Rev'd Chris returns from long service leave this week, along with Anna and Gemma. One may safely say that they have been greatly missed, and we look forward to their ministry among us once more. Rev'd Chris will be in the office and available from Wednesday 10th, and will be leading us in worship next Sunday.

So let's practice our '**And also with you!**'—ready to offer a very hearty welcome back!

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COVID restrictions

In line with current health advice, the church diocese is once again encouraging us to wear masks inside. Our Parish Council COVID-safe group commends this advice to you, especially when attending gatherings of more than 20 people. The diocese also continues to commend current health advice of maintaining good hygiene, using sanitizer where appropriate, and staying home if you are unwell. Please let other parish folk know if you need supplies or support.

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 Story of Ruth

In the Gospel according to Matthew, Ruth is one of five women mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus, alongside Tamar, Rahab, Bathsheba and Mary—all outsiders of sorts who by their faith and courage came to take a pivotal part in the history of God's people.

So, who was Ruth? Where does she come into the story? What can we learn from her about our God?

Over the next four weeks in our Tuesday evening small group we will be exploring her story.

We will reflect particularly on what it means to find belonging among God's people, and to be faithful; to be faithful to another person, to oneself, and in and through all of those relationships, to God.

At present we meet at 7.15pm until 8.30pm on Zoom.

If you are interested, contact Kathryn for details and she'll get you into the small group loop.

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 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

The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

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0416 378 748 kathryn.bellhouse@anglicanaltlav.org.au

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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 7th August

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's
5pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

Tuesday-Friday

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

Tuesday 9th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
10am Tiddlers Playgroup, St Eanswythe's
7.15pm Small Group, for details contact
Kathryn

Wednesday 10th

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

Wednesday 10th

11am St George's Nursing Home Service
5pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 4th

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

Friday 5th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
9:30am Clementines Playgroup

Sunday 14th August

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's
5pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

SUNDAY SCHOOL 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)

Small group: Tuesday evenings, online or in person. Contact Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse.

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)