ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON



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

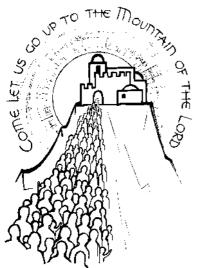


To proclaim God's love and life in Christ: growing in faith + serving others + nurturing a common life

27th November 2022 First Sunday of Advent

9:30am Sung 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. Please do stay to share refreshments at the end of the service.

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

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 272 Come, thou long-expected Jesus (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.

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)

Faithful God, whose promises stand unshaken through all generations: renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our Judge and Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, 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.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

This is what Isaiah, Amoz's son, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house

will be the highest of the mountains.

It will be lifted above the hills;

peoples will stream to it.

Many nations will go and say,

"Come, let's go up to the LORD's mountain,

to the house of Jacob's God

so that he may teach us his ways

and we may walk in God's paths."

Instruction will come from Zion;

the LORD's word from Jerusalem.

God will judge between the nations,

and settle disputes of mighty nations.

Then they will beat their swords into iron plows

and their spears into pruning tools.

Nation will not take up sword against nation;

they will no longer learn how to make war.

Come, house of Jacob,

let's walk by the LORD's light.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(2.1-5; CEB)

PSALM

I was glad when they said to me: 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'

And now our feet are standing: within your gates, O Jerusalem;

Jerusalem which is built as a city: where the pilgrims gather in unity.

There the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD: as he commanded Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

There are set thrones of judgement: the thrones of the house of David.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: may those who love you prosper.

Peace be within your walls: and prosperity in your palaces.

For the sake of my kindred and companions: I will pray that peace be with you.

For the sake of the house of the LORD our God: I will seek for your good.

(122)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

The commandments, *Don't commit adultery, don't murder, don't steal, don't desire what others have*, and any other commandments, are all summed up in one word: *You must love your neighbour as yourself.* Love doesn't do anything wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is what fulfils the Law.

As you do all this, you know what time it is. The hour has already come for you to wake up from your sleep. Now our salvation is nearer than when we first had faith. The night is almost over, and the day is near. So let's get rid of the actions that belong to the darkness and put on the weapons of light. Let's behave appropriately as people who live in the day, not in partying and getting drunk, not in sleeping around and obscene behaviour, not in fighting and obsession. Instead, dress yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ, and don't plan to indulge your selfish desires.

(13.9-14; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 264 Hark! a herald voice is calling (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 Matthew. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said: "But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the heavenly angels and not the Son. Only the Father knows. As it was in the time of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Human One. In those days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark. They didn't know what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. The coming of the Human One will be like that. At that time there will be two men in the field. One will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill. One will be taken and the other left. Therefore, stay alert! You don't know what day the Lord is coming. But you understand that if the head of the house knew at what time the thief would come, he would keep alert and wouldn't allow the thief to break into his house. Therefore, you also should be prepared, because the Human One will come at a time you don't know."

(24.36-44; 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.

Celebrating at the Lord's table

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.

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.

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.

HYMN 276 There's a light upon the mountains (found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

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

The ministry of the parish is sustained by our financial giving, either through the offering plate or by direct bank deposit. Groceries are shared in the community in partnership with Laverton Community Integrated Services and the Hobsons Bay Salvation Army.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer; and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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:

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

> Words: John L Bell © 1995 Wild Goose Resource Group Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland, G2 3DH (Admin. by Willow Publishing Pty. Ltd.) Used by permission. CCLI Licence #285867.

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 (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:

Readings for weekday Eucharists:

Wednesday 30th (Feast of Andrew, apostle and martyr)

Deuteronomy 30.11-14; Psalm 19.1-6; Romans 10.8-19; Matthew 4.18-22 **Thursday 1st**

Isaiah 7.10-15; Psalm 80; Matthew 1.18-23

Readings for next Sunday: 4th December (Second Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7, 18-21; Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12

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:

<u>The world and nation:</u> For people and communities in Indonesia and the Solomon Islands, affected by earthquakes in recent days.

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: The Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn (Bp Mark Short, Asst Bp Carol Wagner, Clergy & People).

Diocese of Melbourne: Abp Philip Freier, Bp Kate Prowd; Church of the Ascension,

Springvale (Inpa Eliezer).

<u>Agencies supported by our parish:</u> Latitude Youth Services, Altona – supporting at-risk young people.

<u>Our parish & community:</u> For our next door neighbours and those we meet in the local community.

Those with particular needs at this time: Stuart, Anthony, Carol, Hannah, James, Toby, Johnny Moore.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Jean Cutting (28), Vic Wilson, priest (29), Frank Woods, bishop (29) and Alan Shaw (3/12)

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

Dear friends.

Happy New Year! As we enter the season of Advent today, we also begin a new year in the church calendar: once again turning our hearts to watching and waiting for the coming of Jesus.

A new year in the church calendar also brings us to a new year in our three-year cycle of Sunday readings. These readings are shared in common with many other churches worldwide, from different denominations. In each of the three years, the Gospel readings are mainly drawn from one of the three "synoptic" Gospels—Matthew, Mark or Luke—with readings from John's Gospel (which has a rather different character and structure) interspersed throughout.

In this year which begins today, our focus is on the Gospel according to Matthew. In Matthew's telling of the life and ministry of Jesus, there is a particular emphasis on continuity with and fulfilment of the Hebrew scriptures: so we quite often find the narrator commenting that Jesus said or did something in fulfilment of a particular verse from the prophets. Matthew's account of Jesus' birth and early years includes the visit of the magi, and the family's flight to safety in Egypt. Matthew also gives us the Sermon on the Mount, drawing together a significant block of Jesus' teaching.

Near the start of Matthew's Gospel, we are reminded that the prophet Isaiah wrote of a child who would be called "Emmanuel", which means "God with us". And then at the very end, Jesus' final words to his disciples are, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." We could say that Matthew's Gospel simply describes what it looks like for God to be *with us*, alongside us in the person of Jesus: in him we find the wisdom, compassion, power and glory of God, utterly committed to his people in covenant love.

God with us. How to capture the wonder of it? There is a famous organ piece of the same title by the French composer Olivier Messiaen, and much of the music is huge, thundering chords: the coming of God shattering the old way of things. Other times, perhaps we may find God with us in a whisper, like the "sound of sheer silence" in which the prophet Elijah encountered the Lord.

As today we sing *O come, o come Emmanuel*, we wait and long for God to be with us anew: in the child who is born at Bethlehem, and in the Christ of all ages who will come when God's justice, peace and love cover the whole creation. May our praying and waiting make us ready to meet him with joy!

With Advent blessings, Chris

NOTES AND NEWS

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

Empty Christmas tree

Donations of non-perishable food and new unwrapped toys may be placed under our empty Christmas Tree for distribution to local charity. Our last collection day will be Sunday 18th December. For queries contact Fred or Alta (St Eanswythe's) or Sandra (St Clement's).

Tearfund's Useful Gifts

"Buying a gift from Tearfund's Useful Gifts catalogue, helps to fight poverty and build a more just and compassionate world (Tearfund 2022)". Interested? For more information please contact Phillis during morning tea who is partnering with Tearfund by running a shop for the next 2 months. Thank you for your interest.

Next moves

It has just been announced that Rev'd Kathryn's next appointment will be as Assistant Priest at St Peter's, Eastern Hill (on the edge of the Melbourne CBD). Kathryn will move to St Peter's after Easter next year, when she completes her two year appointment as Assistant Curate in our parish. Congratulations Kathryn—our prayers and good wishes will be with you when that time comes!



Donate online via our parish's Christmas Bowl page (a tax receipt will be sent directly to you):

$\underline{https://christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au/46652}$

Alternatively, Christmas Bowl giving envelopes are available at the back of the church.

COME LORD JESUS

Praying together in Advent

Wednesday evenings in Advent, for half an hour:

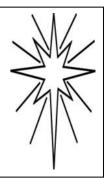
30 November, 7-7:30pm: Trinity Uniting Church, Altona

7 December, 7-7:30pm: Salvation Army Hobsons Bay Corps, Altona

14 December, 7-7:30pm: Mary, Help of Christians Catholic Church,

Altona

21 December, 7-7:30pm: St Eanswythe's Anglican Church, Altona



followed by...

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Tue 20th 6pm Nativity service for all ages, St Eanswythe's

Sat 24th 5pm Nativity service for all ages, St Clement's (Christmas Eve) 10:30pm Christmas Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Sun 25th 8am Christmas Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

(Christmas Day) 9:30am Christmas Eucharist, St Clement's

Keeping in touch...

- \Rightarrow 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

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 Diocese of Melbourne is committed to churches being places where everyone is safe, especially children and vulnerable people. All church workers and volunteers are required to complete training and relevant checks. If you wish to raise any concerns about misconduct, past or present, please contact the independent Professional Standards body, Kooyoora (1800 135 246; www.kooyoora.org.au).

The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

www.anglicanaltlav.org.au

Tel: 9398 1005 parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au PO Box 48. Altona VIC 3018

St Eanswythe's, cnr Bent and Queen Streets, Altona St Clement's, 85-95 Central Ave, Altona Meadows

Vicar:

The Rev'd Chris Lancaster (Wed-Mon) 0423 199 850 chris.lancaster@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Curate:

The Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse (Sun-Fri) 0416 378 748 kathryn.bellhouse@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Priest & Maori Minister:

The Rev'd Danny McRoberts
0448 841 196 dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

Parish Administrator:

Edita Abram (Mon & Thu)

Churchwardens:

Lily Griffin Anita McAnda Scott Pitcher

Child Safe Officer:

The Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse

This week in our parish:

Sunday 27th November First Sunday of Advent

9:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's 11am Annual Parish Meeting, St Eanswythe's 1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's

Monday 28th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Tuesday-Friday

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

Tuesday 29th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 10am Tiddlers playgroup, St Eanswythe's 7:30pm Small group, on Zoom

Wednesday 30th

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's 5pm Evening Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Thursday 1st December

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 10am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's 1:15pm Nursing home service, Estia Altona Meadows

Friday 2nd

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

Sunday 4th December Second Sunday of Advent

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. 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)