

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*

8 December 2024 **Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)**

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu (Māori Service), St Eanswythe's
5:00pm Evening Service, 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.

Please join us for refreshments at the end of the service.

*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.

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

THE COLLECT *(prayer of the day)*

God of our salvation,
you straighten the winding ways of our hearts
and smooth the paths made rough by sin:
keep our hearts watchful in holiness,
and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us.
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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.**

FIRST READING

A reading from Malachi (3.1-4)

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (*Song of Zechariah*)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:
who has come to his people and set them free.

**The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour:
born of the house of his servant David.**

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old:
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,

**To show mercy to our forebears:
and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**Free to worship him without fear:
holy and righteous before him, all the days of our life.**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High:
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

**To give his people knowledge of salvation:
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God:
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death:
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

SECOND READING

A reading from Philippians (*1.1-11*)

¹ Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight his paths; all people shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke (3.1-6)
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." ⁵ Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' '

For the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON



Celebrating at the Lord's Table

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.

OFFERTORY HYMN 526 Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)



Everyone is invited to share communion or receive a blessing. Children who have been baptised are welcome to share communion. If you would prefer not to share communion but to receive a personal blessing, please indicate when the minister comes to you.

While communion is being shared, we sing:

**Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.**

*Hymn 706
Words: Taizé Community & Jacques Berthier (1923-94)
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Going into the World

The Eucharist offers us a way to be 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.'

RECESSIONAL HYMN 265 O Come, O come, Emmanuel
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)



**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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).

Notices

Altona Carols in the Park 2024: Everyone is welcome this Sunday 8 December at Logan Reserve, Pier St, Altona, 3018 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. This year's free event features Westgate Band, carols choir, and local schools. In case of wet weather, the event will be moved to Mary Help of Christians, 97 Railway St, Altona.

From Jill Stewart: Thank you everyone for your get well wishes and prayers.

Op Shop Closure: The Op Shop will close for the Christmas holiday period from 13 December, reopening on 21 January. During this time, a deep clean will be undertaken in preparation for 2025. Thank you for your patronage in 2024. No donations please while the shop is closed.

Vicar's Leave: Rev'd Kerry will be on leave from 9 to 15 December. If there is an urgent need for a priest, Rev'd Dave Thompson is available to be contacted on 0431 041 555.

Children's Christmas Toys: We are seeking donations of new, unwrapped toys to supplement Christmas Food Hampers provided by our local Salvation Army at their annual Christmas community celebrations supporting families in need. This event takes place in mid-December, and, as such, our toy donations need to be ready for their processing no later than the 8th December. Donations may be made on Sunday's or left with Zoya at the Op Shop Contacts: Fred, Alta and Sandra.

Tearfund Useful Gifts: The Tearfund Gift shop will once again be operating this advent. Gift catalogue will be at each Church. If you have a big order please contact Phillis on 0417 869 595 to avoid disappointment. Thank you for your support.

St Clements: 8 Dec at 5:00pm

St Eanswythe's: 8 Dec at 10:30am | 15 Dec 10:30am

Christmas Bowl: Envelopes are available to make a donation to share the peace this Christmas to those who need it most.

Looking Ahead to Christmas

*Merciful God,
who sent your messenger John the Baptist
to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:
give us grace to heed his warning and forsake our sins,
that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.*



Our Prayers

The World and Nation:

- The vital work of charitable organisations offering support to many this Christmas.
- Safety around water as people enjoy summer swimming.
- The Parish of St Paul's Anglican Church, St Leonards, Bellarine following the devastating fire that destroyed their church and hall.

The Church:

World Council of Churches:
Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

For Christians facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia:
The Diocese of Willochra (Sth Aust.)
(Bp Jeremy James, Clergy & People).

Diocese of Melbourne:
The Anglican Parish of Upwey/Belgrave Heights with St George's Monbulk
(Jerome and Vivianne Dias).

Agencies supported by our parish:

Newport Outlets—a local cooperative offering adult education and social support programs.

Our parish & community: For God's guidance, love and care of our people.

We pray for our Vicar Rev'd Kerry and his family.

Those with particular needs at this time:

Denise, Stuart, Carol, Lewis,
Christopher, Maria, Kay, Michael,
Anna, Toby, John, Margaret, Elisabeth,
Jennie, Brian, Enid, Joshua, Hayden.

The communion of saints:

Recently Departed:
Margaret Hall (9th),
Emma Bingley (10th),
Jessie Grant (11th),
Bobby Meiers (12th).



*To add a name to the pew sheet prayer list
or to remember someone on the anniversary of their death,
please contact the parish office.*

Readings for this Week

Take time to prepare for worship by exploring the readings for this week.

Wednesday 11 December, 9:00am St Clement's

Morning Prayer

Thursday 12 December, 10:00am St Eanswythe's

Morning Prayer

Sunday 15 December: Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3.14-20; Ps A Song of Isaiah; Philipians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

Morning Prayer:

Tuesday and Friday mornings at 9:00am at St Eanswythe's. Everyone is welcome.



Christmas & January Services

Christmas and January Services: Please don't forget to pick up your copy of the services for Christmas and January 2025. It takes into account the various Christmas services and the combined worship that will be taking place at either St Eanswythe's or St Clement's.



This Week in our Parish

Sunday 8 December:

Second Sunday of Advent

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's
5:00pm Evening Service, St Clement's

Tuesday - Friday

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

Tuesday 10 December

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
10:00am Tiddler's Playgroup,
St Eanswythe's*

Wednesday 11 December

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Clement's

Thursday 12 December

10:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Friday 13 December

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
9:30am Clementines Playgroup,
St Clement's*

Sunday 15 December:

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's
5:00pm Evening Prayer, St Clement's

**During school term*

Parish Contact List

St Eanswythe's: Cnr Bent & Queen St, Altona 3018 | PO Box 48, Altona VIC 3018

St Clement's: 85-95 Central Ave, Altona Meadows 3028

www.anglicanaltlav.org.au | T: 03 9398 1005 | E: parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Vicar: The Rev'd Kerry Davis [Tuesday to Sunday, Monday rest day]

M: 0425 163 063 | E: kdavis@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Priest and Maori Minister: The Rev'd Danny McRoberts

M: 0448 841 196 | E: dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Anna Watts (042 874 061), Denis Lee (03 9398 2993), Scott Pitcher.