

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*

15 December 2024 **Third 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 Prayer, 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 270 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE COLLECT *(prayer of the day)*

Almighty God,
you sent your Son into a world
where the wheat must be winnowed from the chaff
and evil clings even to what is good:
let the fire of your Spirit purge us of all corruption,
so that, purified, we may wait eagerly for 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 Zephaniah (3.14-20)

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸ as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the

earth. ²⁰ At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (*A Song of Isaiah*)

‘Behold, God is my salvation:
I will trust and will not be afraid;

**‘For the Lord God is my strength and my song:
and has become my salvation.’**

With joy you will draw water:
from the wells of salvation.

**On that day you will say:
‘Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name;**

‘Make known his deeds among the nations:
proclaim that his name is exalted.

**‘Sing God’s praises, who has triumphed gloriously:
let this be known in all the world.**

‘Shout and sing for joy, you that dwell in Zion:
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.’

SECOND READING

A reading from Philippians (4.4-7)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 323 Born in the night, Mary’s child
(*found in the red hymn book Together in Song*)



THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring good news to the poor.

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 (3.7-18)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?' ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' ¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹ In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹² Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³ He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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 302 The angel Gabriel from heaven came
(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:

**He became poor that we may be rich,
loving the world and leaving his throne;
King of all kings, and Lord of all lords,
flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone.**

Hymn 721

Words: John L. Bell (1949-)

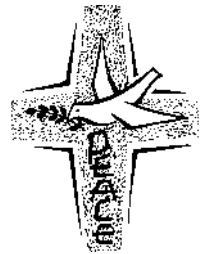
Used by permission. CCLI Licence #285867.

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 276 There's a light upon the mountains
(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

Empty Christmas Tree Toy Appeal 2024: Thank you to everyone for the generous donations of new toys and gift cards made by the Parish to the Salvation Army these past few weeks. Our gifts were welcomed and received appreciatively in time for their planned community distribution next week. Love and blessings, Co-ordinating team.

Mothers Union: Mothers Union has received a Christmas card from our link at St Faiths Lee-on-the-Solent Mothers Union branch with Christmas Blessings from their branch to ours. It is on the notice board at the rear of St Eanswythe's church. Beryl Brown.

Op Shop Closure: The Op Shop will close for the Christmas holiday period from 13 December, reopening on 21 January.

Tearfund Useful Gifts: The Tearfund Gift shop will be open at St Eanswythe's on 15 December at 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

*Almighty God,
you have made us and all things to serve you:
come quickly to save us,
so that wars and violence shall end
and your children may live in peace,
honouring one another with justice and love;
through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord,
who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.*



- ⇒ 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 streamed services

Our Prayers

The World and Nation:

- Peace, calm and Christ's blessing this Advent and Christmas season.
- Safety and wellbeing of all people around places of worship.
- Year 12 students who will receive their end of year results.

The Church:

World Council of Churches:

Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, and the Mainland of China.

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

Anglican Church of Australia:

The Diocese of Adelaide (Abp Geoff Smith, Asst Bps Timothy Harris, Christopher McLeod, Sophie Relf-Christopher, Clergy & People).

Diocese of Melbourne:

Sojourners Church, Werribee
(Andrew Seedhom, Mark Tibben).

Agencies supported by our parish:

Anglican Overseas Aid – for work with partners and communities in the Solomon Islands, Mozambique and Sri Lanka.

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,
Ashlee.

The communion of saints:

Recently Departed:

Peter Elvin (15th),
Gordon Geering (15th),
Charlie Kearsley (16th),
Dot Kearsley (19th),
Grace Ngatai (19th),
Betty Duckmanton (19th),
Noel Landers (20th).



*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 18 December, 9:00am St Clement's

Jeremiah 23.5-8; Ps 72.15-21; Matthew 1.18-24

Thursday 19 December, 10:00am St Eanswythe's

Judges 13.2-7, 24-25; Ps 71.17-22; Luke 1.5-25

Sunday 22 December: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5.2-5a; Ps Song of Mary; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-45



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 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

Tuesday - Friday

10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop
(Re-opens 21 January 2025)

Tuesday 17 December

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Wednesday 18 December

9:00am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
6:00pm Children's Christmas Service,
St Eanswythe's

Thursday 19 December

10:00am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Friday 20 December

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

Sunday 22 December:

Fourth 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

**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 (0422 874 061), Denis Lee (03 9398 2993), Scott Pitcher.