

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*

5 July 2026 Sixth Sunday After Pentecost (Year A)

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10.30 am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1:00pm Te Hākari Tapu (Māori Service), St Eanswythe's
5.00pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

Wominjeka :: Welcome :: Haere mai



A warm welcome to our worship today,
especially if you are with us for the first time or visiting.

Please join us for refreshments following 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, present and emerging.
We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing.*

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

590 What a friend we have in Jesus

(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE COLLECT *(prayer of the day)*

Almighty God,
your Son Jesus Christ has taught us
that what we do for the least of his brothers and sisters we do also for him:
give us the will to serve others
as he was the servant of all,
who gave up his life and died for us;
yet lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for 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 Genesis (24.34-38, 42-49, 58-67)

³⁴ So he said, 'I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. ³⁶ And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. ³⁷ My master made me swear, saying, "You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; ³⁸ but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son." ⁴² 'I came today to the spring, and said, "O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! ⁴³ I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, 'Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,' ⁴⁴ and who will say to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also'—let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son."

⁴⁵ ‘Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water-jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, “Please let me drink.” ⁴⁶ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, “Drink, and I will also water your camels.” So I drank, and she also watered the camels. ⁴⁷ Then I asked her, “Whose daughter are you?” She said, “The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.” So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸ Then I bowed my head and worshipped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. ⁴⁹ Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.’ ⁵⁸ And they called Rebekah, and said to her, ‘Will you go with this man?’ She said, ‘I will.’ ⁵⁹ So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. ⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, ‘May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.’ ⁶¹ Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. ⁶² Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. ⁶³ Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. ⁶⁴ And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, ⁶⁵ and said to the servant, ‘Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?’ The servant said, ‘It is my master.’ So she took her veil and covered herself. ⁶⁶ And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. ⁶⁷ Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

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

PSALM (45.10-17)

- ¹⁰ Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear: forget your own people and your father’s house.
- ¹¹ **The king desires your beauty: he is your lord, therefore bow down before him.**
- ¹² The richest among the people, O daughter of Tyre: shall entreat your favour with gifts.
- ¹³ **The king’s daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is embroidered cloth-of-gold.**
- ¹⁴ In robes of many colours she is led to you, O king: and, after her, the virgins that are with her.
- ¹⁵ **They are led with gladness and rejoicing: they enter the palace of the king.**
- ¹⁶ In place of your fathers you shall have sons: and make them princes over all the land.
- ¹⁷ **And I will make known your name to every generation: therefore the peoples shall give you praise for ever.**

SECOND READING

A reading from Romans (7.14-25)

¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin. ¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

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

GRADUAL HYMN

563 Let him to whom we now belong
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever. **Alleluia.**

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

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(11.15-19, 25-30)

¹⁵Let anyone with ears listen! ¹⁶‘But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another, ¹⁷“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.” ¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.’ ²⁵At that time Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.



²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

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



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

AS COMMUNION IS RECEIVED, WE SING:

**Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

*Hymn 778
Words: Elise S Eslinger
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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 571 Forth in your name, O Lord, I go
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

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



Notices

Rev'd Johnwerni's Appointment: We celebrate with our Curate, Rev'd Johnwerni, who has been appointed Vicar of St Stephen's, Geelong. Our prayers are with him and his family as he takes up this new ministry starting on 1 September.

Bush Church Aid Boxes: We have received an acknowledgement and thanks from BCA for our parish's support through the BCA boxes, which many parishioners faithfully fill with coins and spare change. A total of \$964.75 was gifted, for which BCA is deeply grateful.

Men's Monthly Lunch: Our parish men meet over lunch on the first Friday of the month at 12.30pm at Harmony Restaurant, 69 Pier St, Altona. Come and join us if you are available.

St Eanswythe's 100th Anniversary Celebration: The centenary committee continues to meet regularly, and invitations have been sent to former clergy, parishioners, dignitaries, our bishops, and local community leaders. A large attendance is expected for the celebration service and lunch on **Sunday 13 September at 10.30am** at St Eanswythe's. Please note this date.

Board Game Evenings: An evening of board and card games for all ages is held at St Clement's on Fridays. All are welcome. Further details are on the notice board.

Online Bible Study: Weekly online Bible study Tuesdays at 7.00pm via Zoom. All are welcome. Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81226786340?pwd=U1Ax4yGsO3oMEoOPsikKavOmrS9Z2K.1> Meeting ID: 812 2678 6340
Passcode: 54321

Planned Giving: As the new Planned Giving Programme begins on 4 October, envelope users will soon run out of their current supply. Blank interim envelopes are available at the back of the church; please write your envelope number on the front. For enquiries, contact Anita McAnda.

Fix & Fellowship: Help keep our churches neat by joining our cleaning and maintenance mornings.

- St Clement's – 1 August, 5 September (Monthly, 1st Saturday, 9:30am).
- St Eanswythe's – 18 July, 15 August (Monthly 3rd Saturday, 9:30am).

Volunteers Needed – Lawn Mowing & Cleaning: We need helpers for lawn mowing and cleaning at our churches. If you can assist — even occasionally — please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

Prayer List: If you know someone who would like to be included in the weekly prayer list, please contact Edita in the parish office (03 9398 1005 or parish@anglicanaltlv.org.au). Names remain on the list for six weeks unless an extension is requested.

Our Prayers

For the Nation and the World:

- That the people of Venezuela will receive the support and assistance needed after the devastating earthquakes.
- We give thanks for God's blessings in every season that sustains and encourages us.
- As we begin the second half of 2026, we bring our needs and burdens to God with trust and openness.

The Church:

World Council of Churches:

The World: Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda.

The Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church of South America.

The Anglican Church of Australia:
Diocese of Bathurst: Bishop Mark Calder and all clergy, lay ministers and their people.

The Diocese of Melbourne:
Jumbunna Episcopate, the Archdeaconry of Box Hill and Deanery of Waverley.

Agencies supported by our parish:

Common Grace – uniting Australian Christians in advocacy and prayer.

Our parish & community:

For God's guidance, love and care of our people.

We pray for our clergy and all who serve and volunteer in our parish.

Those with particular needs:

Heinz Greilach.

The communion of saints:

Anniversaries this week:

Eileen Nevitt (6th),
Kyle Glynn Hudson (6th),
Linda Norman (7th),
Alma Lauer (7th),
Audrey Said (10th),
Ian Wallace (11th).



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 8 July: 9:00am St Clement's

Hosea 10.1-12; Ps 105.1-7; Matthew 10.1-7

Thursday 9 July: 10:00am St Eanswythe's

Hosea 11.1-9; Ps 80.1-2, 14-19; Matthew 10.7-15

Sunday 12 July: Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Genesis 25.19-34; Ps 119.105-112; Romans 8.1-11; Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

Morning Prayer:

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



Groups Meeting Regularly in the Parish

Tiddlers Playgroup:

Tuesdays in term time 10:00am at St Eanswythe's. Contact Jan Lee (9398 2993).

Clementines Playgroup:

Fridays in term time, 9:15am at St Clement's.

Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661) or Lily Griffin (0413 065 705).

Mothers Union:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11:00am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661).

Caritas:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday at 3:00pm. Contact Susan Maddox (0439 167 377).

St Eanswythe's Centenary Working Group:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 4th Thursday at 11:00am. Contact Lily Griffin (0413 065 705).

This Week in our Parish

Sunday 5 July:

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

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 Worship, St Clement's

Tuesday - Friday

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

Tuesday 7 July:

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

10:00am Tiddlers Playgroup,

St Eanswythe's*

7:00pm Online Bible Study, via Zoom

Wednesday 8 July:

9:00am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

10:30am Benatas St George's Aged Care

Service, Altona Meadows

Thursday 9 July:

10:00am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

11:00am Mothers Union, St Eanswythe's

Friday 10 July:

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

9:15am Clementines Playgroup,

St Clement's*

Sunday 12 July:

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

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 Worship, St Clement's

**During school terms*

Parish Contact List

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

Parish Administrator Office Hours [Wednesday & Thursday, 8:30am to 2:30pm]

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

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

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

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

Assist. Curate: Rev'd Johnwerni Maryoe [Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday]

M: 0450 183 388 | E: jmaryoe@anglicanaltlv.org.au

Priest and Māori 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), Lily Griffin (0413 065 705).