



A Service Of Morning Prayer

The Second Sunday of Pentecost

Sunday 14 June 2020

9am

Please pray for...



Our Diocese, Northern Region and our local church community

The Archbishop: The Most Revd Dr Glenn Davies

The Regional Bishop: The Rt Revd Chris Edwards

Northern Region: Parish of Roseville; Roseville College

Local churches: Mosman Uniting Church, clergy and people

Missions 2020

Anglicare Sydney: Mobile Community Pantry Program;

Bill Farrand, Anglicare Community Services Manager

Bush Church Aid: BCA Indigenous Ministry Officer,

The Revd Neville Naden and Mrs Kathryn Naden

Anglican Board of Mission:

Sustainable Livelihoods Program, Kenya;

The Revd John Deane, ABM Executive Director

Those we are holding in prayer

The Immediate Sick:

Alex Dimitric, Lisette Crowle, Mary Douglas, Pam Brooks,

Liam Gorman, Henry Long, Brian Miles, John Amor,

Ian Stevenson, Yvonne McDonald

Those Requiring On-Going Prayer:

John Dimitric, Irina Dimitric, Justin Reid, Heather, Bernie Walsh,

Keren Snell, Benji Morris, Christine Hurford, Shannour,

Chloe Turner, Denise Thomas, Eileen Menzies

The Recently Departed:

Anne Tulloch

People in Residential and Home Care:

Dawn Holdaway, Ruth Burleigh, Richard Lloyd, Betty Gemmell,

Mary Shuttleworth, Elaine Porter, Helen Hubby, Bev and Dorothy

Bashford, Pat Wood, Jean Barton, Rosalie and Denis Pearson,

Robin and Kevin Wilks

Morning Prayer (First Order)

Please remain seated throughout the service.

Introit: What does the Lord require of you? *Jim Strathdee*

INTRODUCTION

We make our prayers in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

Revelation 4.11

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

John 4.24

To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by following his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.

Daniel 9.9-10

The Kingdom of God is at hand: repent, and believe in the gospel.

Mark 1.15

The minister continues

Dear friends, the Scriptures urge us to acknowledge our sins, and not to conceal them from God our heavenly Father, but to confess them with a penitent and obedient heart, so that we may be forgiven through his infinite goodness and mercy.

We ought always to admit our sins before God, and especially when we come together to give thanks for the good things we have received at his hands, to offer the praise that is his due, to hear his holy word, and to ask what is necessary for the body as well as the soul.

Therefore, let us draw near to the throne of our gracious God, as we pray:

All say the general Confession

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our
own hearts,
we have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone what we ought to have done,
and we have done what we ought not to have done.
Yet, good Lord, have mercy on us;
restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Grant, most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live godly, righteous and sober lives
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

The priest pronounces the Absolution

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has no pleasure in the death of sinners, but would rather they should turn from their wickedness and live.

He has given authority to his ministers to declare to his people who repent the forgiveness of sins.

God pardons all who truly repent and believe his holy gospel.

And so we ask him to grant us true repentance, and his holy Spirit, that what we do now may please him, and that the rest of our lives may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Responses: David Hall (b. 1963)

Open our lips, O Lord;
and we shall declare you praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. **Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Psalm 95 (Venite)

To be said by alternate verses

O come, let us sing out to the Lord:
let us shout in triumph to the rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before his face with thanksgiving:
and cry out to him joyfully in psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God:
and a great king above all gods.

**In his hand are the depths of the earth:
and the peaks of the mountains are his also.**

The sea is his and he made it:
his hands moulded dry land.

**Come, let us worship and bow down:
and kneel before the Lord our maker.**

For he is the Lord our God:

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Today if only you would hear his voice:

'Do not harden your hearts as Israel did in the wilderness;

'When your forebears tested me:

put me to proof though they had seen my works.

'Forty years long I loathed that generation and said:

**"It is a people who err in their hearts,
for they have not known my ways';**

'Of whom I swore in my wrath:

"They shall never enter my rest."

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

The Psalm

Psalm 116.1-5, 12-20

**A Reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 18, beginning
at the first verse**

Callum Close

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh

yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have leasure?” The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh”; for she was afraid. He said, “Oh yes, you did laugh.”

After the reading, the reader says ‘Here ends the first reading’.

The Song of the Church (Te Deum)

To be said by alternate verses

We praise you, O God:

we acclaim you as the Lord;

All creation worships you:

the Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven:

the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you:

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you:

Throughout the world, the holy Church acclaims you:

Father, of majesty unbounded:

your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,

and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Lord Christ, are the King of glory:

the eternal Son of the Father.

When you took our flesh to set us free:

you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death:

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory:

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,

bought with the price of your own blood:

and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

**A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 9,
beginning at the 35th verse.**

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you

leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

After the reading, the reader says ‘Here ends the second reading’.

The Sermon – Natalie McDonald, Lay Minister

Anthem: Holy, holy, holy Lord *Bernadette Farrell*

The Song of Zechariah (Benedictus)

To be said by alternate verses

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.

**Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on 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.

Lord, show us your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.
Keep our nation under your care,
and guide us in justice and truth.
Clothe your ministers with righteousness
and make your chosen people joyful.
Lord, save your people,
and bless your inheritance.
Give peace in our time, O Lord,
for you are our help and strength.
Create in us clean hearts, O God,
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

The Collect for Peace

O God, the author and lover of peace, in knowledge of whom
stands our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom;

defend your servants in all assaults of our enemies, that, surely trusting in your defence, we may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Morning Collect

Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, we thank you for bringing us safely to this day: keep us by your might power, and grant that we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but lead and govern us in all things, that we may always do what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers are offered for those in authority, for the Church and for all people. The following, or other appropriate prayers may be used.

A Prayer for all in Authority

Ann Jobson

Lord God almighty, ruler of the nations of the earth,
give wisdom to the Prime Minister of Australia (N)
[and the *Premier of this State* (N)],
to the members of Parliament (*especially N*)
and to all who hold office in this land.
Grant that their decisions may be based on wise counsel,
so that peace and welfare,
truth and justice may prevail among us,
and make us a blessing to other nations;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Church

Almighty and eternal God, you alone work great marvels:
send down your Spirit of saving grace on all Christian people.
Bless our bishops, clergy and congregations:
pour upon them the continual dew of your blessing
that they may truly please you.
Grant this, for the honour of Jesus Christ
our advocate and mediator. **Amen.**

A Prayer for all People

God of providence, God of love, we pray for all people: make
your way known to them, your saving power among all nations.

We pray for the welfare of your Church throughout the world:
guide and govern it by your Spirit, so that all who call
themselves Christians may be led in the way of truth and hold
the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in
righteousness of life.

We commend to your fatherly goodness all who are afflicted
or distressed in body, mind or circumstances (*especially*).
Relieve them according to their needs, giving them patience in
their sufferings, and deliverance from their afflictions. This we
ask for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

A concluding prayer from the Liturgy of St John Chrysostom

Lord, you have given us grace to agree in these our prayers,
and you have promised that when two or three gather in your
name you will grant their requests. Fulfil now, Lord, our
desires and prayers as may be best for us. Grant us, in this life,
knowledge of your truth and in the age to come, life
eternal. **Amen.**

A general thanksgiving

Almighty God and merciful Father,
we give you hearty thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to
all people.

We bless you for our creation and preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all, for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such a sense of all your mercies,
that our hearts may be truly thankful
and that we may praise you not only with our lips,
but in our lives,
serving you in holiness and righteousness all our days,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.

Please note: there will be no morning tea until further notice.

NOTICES

THURSDAY HOLY EUCHARIST

A Said Eucharist (in one kind) with a maximum of 10 persons will
again be held in the Lower Hall next Thursday, 11 June at 11am.
It will be compliant with all relevant safety and prevention

protocols currently applicable in NSW and as advised by the Diocese. There will be no singing.

Please pre-register to attend the service through the parish office by email or phone. E: office@stlukesmosman.org or Tel: 9969 6910. Registration will be on a "first-come-first-served" basis. Each attendee will be allocated a registration number. If people arrive who are not on the list, they will be politely asked to leave, as we will not breach social distancing regulations.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

The St Luke's Mosman EDUCATION Association Inc. and The St Luke's Mosman MUSIC Association Inc.

As we approach the end of the financial year, please reflect on the ministry undertaken by the Education and Music Associations. They are both public funds and depend on donations from parishioners and members of the public.

The Education Association provides materials for students and a contribution towards the expenses of those who teach SRE in our schools.

One of the objects of the Music Association is the promotion of concerts and the arts in the Mosman community. Donations will assist greatly in the planning of future concerts.

Donations in excess of \$2 are tax deductible and may be left at the parish office during the week. A receipt will be issued by the relevant association in due course. (Cash or cheque donations only, please.) Please direct any queries to either:

** Don Menzies (Education) Tel: 9953 8028 - or -

** Phillip Seale (Music) Mb: 0405 198 420.



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What's On This Week 14/6/2020

Sun 14/6	Mattins Pentecost 2 <i>Church</i>
Tues 16/6 7pm	Parish Council Meeting <i>Zoom</i>
Wed 17/6 2pm	Funeral: Anne Tulloch <i>Church</i>
Thur 18/6 11am	Said Eucharist <i>Lower Hall</i>

Parish Contacts

The Rector:

The Reverend Dr Max Wood
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Church Wardens:

Paula Turner Mb: 0421 151 290
Phillip Seale Mb: 0405 198 420
David Burke Mb: 0414 824 035

Next Sunday 21/6/2020

9am Mattins
Pentecost 3
Church



St Luke's is a place of rich and diverse liturgy, where life and faith connect. We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of gender, age, race, sexual orientation or religion.

Sermon 14 June 2020 Pentecost 2

Natalie McDonald, Lay Minister

Readings:

Matthew 9:35 – 10:8 (9-23)

"May the words of my mouth and the mediation of all our hearts be now and always acceptable in your sight, O Lord our strength and redeemer."

Introduction

Positions vacant: Wanted, master communicators to spread a message, heal the sick, and cast out demons. Must be self-starter, work well in a team, some travel required.

This is the job that our disciples signed up for in our gospel this morning, many of them not realising **exactly** what they were in for. This is the job that **we** are called to sign up for as well.

Impossible shoes to fill

Jesus makes this job look easy. He goes to cities, preaches in synagogues, and cures ailments. No distance is too great, no audience too sceptical, no disease too severe. But, when he commissions his disciples to carry out his ministry, things get

much more difficult. For anyone setting off on this task, there is a sobering assessment of what lies ahead for those who follow in Jesus' footsteps.

Jesus had a certain charisma. The Bible tells us that his first followers dropped **everything**, and followed him. But what kind of life could they expect? Where would their next meal come from? Would kind people offer them a meal and a place to sleep? What a life – yes, it would be hard, but very rewarding. **They** would get to hear the Master's voice, hear him preach, watch his miracles, and learn from him. No **one else in history** has ever had that privilege.

So, despite the challenges, despite the questionable likelihood of success, despite our difficulty in accomplishing what **he** could do **way more** easily than we, Christ confidently sends **us** out, as he did his disciples. **We** have to take a major leap of faith, in our own discipleship.

Now, if we were to stop at verse 8 of our gospel, the disciples' commission seems feasible; what they are to do, is what Jesus has shown is possible. However, as the passage continues, now we hear the fine print. Salary none, confrontation and mediation skills preferred, possible bodily harm, and success not assured. Hmmm, what are we signing up for?

We don't have to hear much, before we begin to wonder if **anyone** apart from Jesus is up to the job. Cure the sick? Maybe. Cleanse the lepers? Hmmm. Cast out

demons? Raise the dead? Few of us will feel up to those assignments. When we compare Jesus' accomplishments, with what the disciples' are being asked to do, if we want to follow Jesus, it seems inevitable that we'll fall short.

It was OK for them but what about us?

Those early followers, as firsthand witnesses of what was possible with Christ, could very well have gone off with confidence, determination, and nerves of steel. We, however, may feel more like sheep without a shepherd.

Many of us lack the confidence to talk about our faith, even with those sitting next to us in the pew, (assuming we have someone sitting next to us in a pew right now) let alone complete strangers in the next town. The disciples might have been willing to shake the dust of a town off their feet, but most of us are hesitant to approach **anyone**, for fear of seeming too pushy, or fearful of rejection. The original followers of Jesus may have had success curing disease and performing miracles, but many of us would consider **our** prospects very slim.

Not impossible after all

But before we reject this positions vacant ad, thinking that there is **no way** that we could **possibly** do this job, let's look at the makeup of the twelve. They weren't high performers, they weren't model employees, they weren't impossible overachievers. The "first" apostle Peter will deny the Lord three times, and the last apostle Judas

will betray him to death. And yet our gospel today tells us that this motley crew were to be entrusted with Jesus' work of proclamation (10:7) and healing (10:8).

And, just as the disciples were sent out in ancient Israel, the followers of Jesus today are challenged to take **little more** than faith into this world, and get Christ's work done. It's work that requires a lot of faith, and many of us might wonder if we have enough to accomplish it.

As we hear of how the good news was spread effectively all those years ago, we wonder how **we** can broadcast that message, in a world so **overwhelmed** with information, distraction, and, fake news.

What would we be prepared to give up?

The disciples were sent out, and told to take **nothing**, and to receive **no** payment. This takes resolve. What hardships would **we** be willing to undergo for **our** beliefs?

Throughout history, amazing, even seemingly impossible things have been done, and continue to be done by ordinary members of the church. **All of us** are capable of acts of kindness, generosity and compassion. Jesus' words have encouraged and motivated **far more** than the twelve listed in these verses. Due in part, to the efforts made by faithful Christians, diseases thought to be incurable, have been eradicated,

unjust laws have been overturned, and people who thought some doors would **never** open, have been seen them swing wide.

When these things occur, the faithful ascribe success to a higher power, and who can say they're wrong? It is Christ who enables us to do what we couldn't do on our own.

Conclusion

This is a job for **all** of us. We each bring our own skills and gifts to this job, **all of us** are qualified for this job, we **all** have the capabilities to do it - whether we can think we can do it or not. **Jesus** seems to think we can do it, even if it won't be easy.

Wanted, master communicators to spread a message, heal the sick, and cast out demons. Must be self starter, some travel required. Confrontation and mediation skills preferred, possible bodily harm, success not assured.

Salary none... rewards great.

Leave your resume at the door.

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen