



A Service Of Morning Prayer

The Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

Sunday 28 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: Parishes of Frenchs Forest, Freshwater, Manly; Northern Beaches Hospital Chaplaincy; Aged Services Northern Beaches

Local churches: St John's Uniting, Neutral Bay; 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:

Brian Miles, Yvonne McDonald, Anthony Bowra

Those Requiring On-Going Prayer:

Alex Dimitric, John Dimitric, Irina Dimitric, Justin Reid, Heather, Bernie Walsh, Keren Snell, Christine Hurford, Shannour, Chloe Turner, Denise Thomas, Eileen Menzies, Lisette Crowle, Mary Douglas, Pam Brooks, Liam Gorman, Henry Long, John Amor, Ian Stevenson

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

Music before the service:

- Hymn for the Elevation: Hector Berlioz
- Vorspiel and Fugue: Anton Bruckner
- Adagio from Sonata No. 1: Felix Mendelssohn

Morning Prayer (First Order)

Please remain seated throughout the service.

Introit: Adore Te (Plainsong)

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)

O Lord, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. **Amen.**

Praise ye 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 62: 5-12

*Yet be still, my soul, and wait for God
from whom comes my hope of deliverance.
God only is my rock and my salvation,
my tower of strength, so that I stand unshaken.*

*In God is my deliverance and my honour,
the rock of my strength and my place of refuge.
Put your trust in God always, you people;
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.*

*For we mortals are only a puff of wind;
the great among us are but illusion:
weighed in the balance they rise upward,
all of them lighter than air.*

*Put no trust in extortion,
set no vain hope on plunder:
if riches increase
do not set your heart upon them.*

*Once God has spoken, and twice I have heard God say:
'Power belongs to God alone.'
Steadfast love, O Lord, is yours,
and you reward us all according to our deeds.*

**A Reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 22, beginning at the
1st verse.**

David Nyholm

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you

have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

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 10, beginning at the
40th verse.**

David Nyholm

Jesus said: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

After the reading, the reader says 'Here ends the second reading'.

The Sermon – Natalie McDonald, Lay Minister

Anthem: Ubi Caritas et amor

(Translation: In the heart where love abides, there God is)

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.

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

And grant us your salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen;

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.
Give peace in our time, O Lord;
And evermore defend us.
O God, make clean our hearts within us;
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

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 mighty 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.

A Prayer for all in Authority

Susan Gerber

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.

Postlude: Voluntary in D minor (John Stanley)

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 continue to be held in the Lower Hall on Thursdays at 11am. It is 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 - e: office@stlukesmosman.org

or t: 9969 6910. 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.

We have almost reached the end of the financial year. If you have been considering supporting the ministry of either the Education or Music Association, now is the time to act. Both associations are public funds and depend on donations from parishioners and members of the public. The Education Association provides materials for students and contributes 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 by the close of business this Tuesday, 30 June 2020. A receipt will be issued by the relevant association in due course. (Cash or cheque only, please.) Please direct queries to either: Don Menzies (Ed) Tel: 9953 8028 or Phillip Seale (Mus) Mb: 0405 198 420.

Anglicans Together - Webinar

Is "virtual" the real deal?

Members of Anglicans Together are invited to meet "online" with the Rev'd Brian Douglas, who will present his thoughts about Holy Communion "online" within the context of the Anglican Church of Australia. The Rev'd Dr Douglas' PhD was on "Anglican Eucharistic Theology." **The webinar will take place this Wednesday 1st July at 2pm.**

Register online at:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_F1\(iu9shxSMm55dmVC KsIUg\)](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_F1(iu9shxSMm55dmVC KsIUg))



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What's On This Week 28/6/2020

Sun 28/6

Mattins
Pentecost 4
Church

Thur 2/7 11am

Said Eucharist
Lower Hall

Next Sunday 5/6/2020

9am

Mattins
Pentecost 5
Church

Parish Contacts

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Paula Turner Mb: 0421 151 290
David Burke Mb: 0414 824 035



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 28 June 2020 – Pentecost IV

Natalie McDonald, Lay Minister

Reading: Matthew 10:40-42

Introduction

Remember the halcyon days BCE – Before Coronavirus Era - when everyone who wanted to, could come into a church, you didn't have to worry about where you sat, or whether you shook hands or did the elbow bump. You could sing to your heart's content, and you could linger over a sumptuous morning tea.

We know we live in strange times when a “welcome” to a church consists of pre-registering, a confronting quick temperature check and hand sanitizer at the entrance, and social distancing that means that you **literally** don't have anyone sitting next to you in the pew.

These are strange, unsettling times.

Barriers have gone up, we are distant. We Zoom rather than meet in person. I remember when meeting word bingo used to consist of management catch phrases like “we'll take that one offline” or “let's put a pin in it” or even “at this point in time”. Now meeting word bingo consists of phrases like “We can't hear you, your mute is on” and “You need to turn your camera on so we can see you”. We know that these measures are important for **all** of us to get through this pandemic. We know that things will be different, and that right now it's necessary.

What does a welcome look like now?

Our gospel this morning talks about welcoming, and the rewards we will receive by welcoming others. But what does a CE – Coronavirus Era – welcome look like?

Because of social distancing measures, many of the things that bring us closer we are unable to do, so how can we be welcoming, in times of social distancing?

Feminist Theologian Emilie M. Townes says that **all** God asks of us, is basic acts of kindness that we perform in genuine welcome of one another. We must look around us to see who is in need, and then **do something** about it.

She continues that the Christian faith is one that advocates a compassionate welcome, that encourages us to trust, to be open, to share, to eschew manipulating others, and to live a life that is **beyond** personal gain. But we **also** need to be realistic about the things that distort and prevent us from being compassionate.

Our desire to achieve caring relationships is **absolutely** within our grasp, yet all too often, if left to our own devices, we fall short of creating and nurturing the genuine relationships, in which we can develop into the people God calls us to be. We need God's embrace in our lives to live in this paradox, and fulfil our faith living in compassionate welcome with one another, and extending genuine hospitality.

Compassionate welcome means approaching each other through God. This is how we recognize that genuine human relationships emerge from putting the grace-filled

hospitality of God's love at the centre of **our** lives. God's hospitality teaches us that the relationships we **like** – the close, loving, enduring relationships are to be valued **just as much** as the ones we **don't like** – the distant, occasional, and abrasive ones. This dynamic is the welcome Jesus speaks of in our gospel this morning. If we do this, we will find the rich rewards of discipleship, found in God.

Although Jesus speaks of reward in our gospel we shouldn't expect that something will be returned to us. Love isn't always met with love. Being Jesus' followers will be difficult at times and they may suffer persecution.

A CE welcome

So what does a CE (coronavirus era) welcome look like?

A CE welcome involves a concern for others, patience as we learn the new technology, and patience for others as they learn. We need to recognise one another's gifts **and** vulnerabilities, and it encourages us to open up our minds, our worldviews, and our perspectives, as well as our hearts and souls.

During lockdown many of us had "lockdown resolutions" - I'm going to read more, I'm going to learn how to make sourdough bread, I'm going to learn a new language, I'm going to spend more time with the kids.

We took time to reflect on our lives and careers.

I, by the way, 3 months in, have got **nowhere near** completing **any** of my lockdown resolutions. These lockdown resolutions - just like new year's resolutions - often assume some kind of transformation.

The media talking heads and influencers tell us that when we **do** emerge from this lockdown that we, the economy, and the world, will be a different place. We, all of us, will be transformed in some way from this experience. We just don't know what that looks like yet.

But, as we extend a new compassionate post-CE welcome to others, we may well find that we experience new insights, and hear new stories of faith that change what we think. This can stimulate our own spiritual imaginations, so that we can become transformed people. As we hear in our gospel this morning "...Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me..."

How can we be welcoming in times of social distancing? Basic acts of kindness.

Look around to see who is in need, and **do something** about it. If we do this, we will find the rich rewards of God's discipleship.