

A Service Of Morning Prayer

The Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

Sunday 5 July 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: Clergy and people in the parishes of St Clement's and

St Luke's, Mosman, together with Naremburn/Cammeray

Local churches: St Peter's, Cremorne; the Rev'd Tim St Quintin 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, Bronwyn Wood 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, Rosemary Walsh

People in Residential and Home Care:

Dawn Holdaway, Ruth Burleigh, Richard Lloyd, Betty Gemmell, Mary Shuttleworth, Elaine Porter, Helen Huby, 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: Hail, gladdening Light, of his pure glory poured (John Stainer)

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: Salisbury Responses David Hall (b. 1963)

- O Lord, open thou our lips; And our mouth shall shew 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 40

O Lord, do not withhold your mercy; Let your steadfast love preserve me.

I waited patiently for the Lord, who inclined to me and heard my cry. The Lord drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,

Set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. The Lord put a new song into my mouth, A song of praise to our God.

Many will see and be in awe, and put their trust in the Lord. Blessed are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods!

O Lord my God, you have multiplied your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be numbered.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

Then I said, 'Lo, I come; in the roll of the book it is written of me; I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; lo, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

I have not hid your saving help within my heart,
I have spoken of your faithfulness
and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and faithfulness
from the great congregation.

O Lord, do not withhold your mercy; Let your steadfast love ever preserve me.

A Reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 24, beginning at the 34th verse. Callum Close

So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. 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. 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. 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; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.' "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! 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," 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.' "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.' 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. 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. Then I bowed my head and worshiped 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. 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." And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. 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." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, 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. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. 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.

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 11, beginning at the 15th verse.

Let anyone with ears listen!

Jesus said: "But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the 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."

At 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; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All 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. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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

The Sermon - The Rector

Anthem: Ave Verum Corpus (W. A. Mozart)

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 with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon 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, shew thy mercy upon us;

And grant us thy 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;

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us; And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect for Pentecost 5

O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your good gifts upon us than we to seek them; more willing to give than we desire or deserve: in our every need, grant us the first and best of all your gifts, the Spirit who makes us your children.

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

Paula Turner

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.

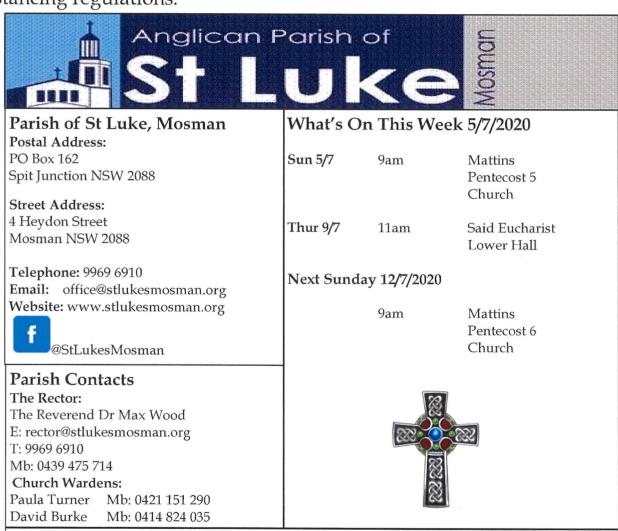
Postlude: Voluntary in G major (John Stanley)

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.

<u>Please pre-register</u> to attend the service through the parish office - e: <u>office@stlukesmosman.org</u> 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.



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.

Pentecost 5

The Rev'd Dr Max Wood

In the two bible readings that we have today, from Genesis and Matthew, the common theme that they promote is – hospitality.

How hospitality can transform us, how hospitality is beautiful, how we can, at times, have difficulty in expressing hospitality, and how when we do express it, hospitality reflects what we know about God and how God would want us to live.

In the reading from Genesis, we heard that Rebekah lived in the town of Nahor where she went to the well to draw some water. There she found a man who was thirsty. She displays no fear to bring water to someone she did not know, and hadn't met before, she offered hospitality and welcome to this stranger.

The consequences of this act of hospitality changes her life.

The stranger, to whom she offers hospitality, is actually the servant of Isaac, son of Abraham and Sarah. The servant, witnessing this act of hospitality by Rebekah, sees this as a sign that she will marry Isaac. Rebekah's hospitality is seen as a representation of her true character, and it sets her on a path to her marriage with Isaac.

In our New Testament reading from Matthew, Jesus accuses the crowd of <u>not</u> offering him hospitality. They fail to offer him acceptance and love. Instead, Jesus seems to suggest that people have made assumptions out of fear, based upon his appearance.

He says in verse 18 and 19:

"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon";

the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!'"

Both John the Baptist, the forerunner, and Jesus, the one to come, share the same fate as the prophets. They are both criticised and rejected, but for different reasons. John the Baptist is criticised for being a crazy ascetic, and Jesus is criticised for being some self-indulgent libertine. But both were criticised, and both where ultimately offered no hospitality.

One beheaded, one crucified. The fate of the prophets. And the metaphorical fate of any leader in the church who has the backbone to stand up against evil and wrong decision making. And as Jesus

points out, the accusations made against him and John the Baptist, actually cancel each other out. He says in verse 16 and 17:

"But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.""

It's like children squabbling in the market place, unsure whether to play weddings or funerals. The crucial thing for Jesus, is to turn to God for the assurance to make decision out of compassion. The yoke of God is the yoke of courage, compassion and hospitality. All of which will transcend fear and evil.

In our first reading, Rebekah's action of hospitality, is both simple and transformative, but it is also at times, difficult and a bit frightening to make.

Yet a truly loving life of authentic faith, demands this type of kind hospitality, and the willingness to be courageously open to others.