**St Matthew’s Anglican Parish Cheltenham**

**4th Sunday after Pentecost /OS 14**

**Sunday 6th July 2025**



**Vicar: Fr Gerald Loos**

**Hon Associate: Rev’d Jill Renison**

**Organist: Mr Keith Fullard**

*This church stands on the land of the Boon Wurrung people.
We respectfully acknowledge their elders,*

*past and present, and we pray*

*for the ongoing work of reconciliation.*

##### OPENING HYMN: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say TIS 585*

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,**

**'Come unto me and rest;**

**Lay down, thou weary one, lay down**

**Thy head upon my breast:'**

**I came to Jesus as I was,**

**Weary, and worn, and sad;**

**I found in him a resting place,**

**And he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,**

**'Behold, I freely give**

**The living water, thirsty one;**

**Stoop down, and drink, and live:**

**I came to Jesus, and I drank**

**Of that life-giving stream;**

**My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,**

**And now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,**

**'I am this dark world’s Light;**

**Look unto me, thy morn shall rise,**

**And all thy day be bright:'**

**I looked to Jesus, and I found**

**In him my Star, my Sun;**

**And in that light of life I’ll walk**

**Till traveling days are done.**

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen** The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Cantor – The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few: ask therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into the harvest.

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Invitation to Confession*

We are servants of God and for one another. But what kind of servants are we? *(Pause)*

Let us ask forgiveness for our sins of sloth and carelessness in our service of God and of one another.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,**

**and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours**

**as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**♫ Lord, have mercy (x3)**

**Christ, have mercy (x3)**

**Lord, have mercy (x3)**

*The Gloria*

♫ **Glory to God in the highest,**

**and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,**

**almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ,**

**with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*The Collect*

Let us pray,

God of the covenant, in our baptism you called us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom: give us courage,

as you gave it to the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life; in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING**

A reading from the book of Isaiah

 (Isaiah 66:10-14)

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** 66:1-8

**~~~~**

**~~R~~: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**

O shout with joy to God, all the earth:

sing to the honour of his name,

and give him glory as his praise.

Say to God ‘How fearful are your works:

because of your great might

your enemies shall cower before you.’ **~~R~~**

All the earth shall worship you:

and sing to you and sing praises to your name.

Come then and see what God has done:

how terrible are his dealings with the children of Adam. **~~R~~**

He turned the sea into dry land,

they crossed the river on foot:

then were we joyful because of him.

By his power he rules for ever,

his eyes keep watch on the nations:

and rebels shall never rise against him. **~~R~~**

Come then and hear all you that fear God:

and I will tell what he has done for me.

Praise be to God:

who has not turned back my prayer,

or his steadfast love from me. **~~R~~**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from Paul’s letter to the Galatians

 (Galatians 6:7-18)

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.q**

**THE GOSPEL READING** *Please stand for the Gospel*

♫ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

♫ Cantor – May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts: and the fullness of his message live within us.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according toLuke

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

 (Luke 10:1-12, 17-24)

For the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**The Sermon**

 *Silence may be kept*.

**The Nicene Creed**

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church

**We believe in one God,**

 **the Father, the almighty,**

 **maker of heaven and earth,**

 **of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

 **the only Son of God,**

 **eternally begotten of the Father,**

 **God from God, Light from Light,**

 **true God from true God,**

 **begotten, not made,**

 **of one being with the Father;**

 **through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge**

**the living and the dead**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son**

**is worshipped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy**

**catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the**

**forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father.

You call us to be stewards of your creation, to bring your good news to all who are oppressed.

We pray for the hungry and homeless, the victims of war, oppression and greed; for all who work for the resolution of conflict and for a more just society.

Loving God, give us courage to answer your call.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

You call us to be your apostles, to proclaim your good news in all the world.

We pray for those who have never heard your name or do not know your grace.

Loving God, give us courage to answer your call.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

You call us to bring your love to a wounded world.

We pray for our families and friends and those with whom we work and learn; for service clubs, relief agencies and all who work to build true community.

Loving God, give us courage to answer your call.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

You call us to bring relief to the suffering and comfort to the sad.

We pray for those who are in pain, sorrow, confusion or despair; for emergency service chaplains, hospital chaplains and pastoral care workers, for doctors and nurses; for those who sit with the sick and watch with the dying, especially praying for our Pastoral team at St. Matthews’.

Loving God, give us courage to answer your call.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

In every generation you have called saints and sinners and sent them out to proclaim your reign.

We remember and give thanks for your faithful people of every age, for all who have responded to your voice, all whose lives have proclaimed your love.

May we, like them, find courage to answer your call, and in their company come to the joy of everlasting life.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ.

**His spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

HYMN: **Hallelujah! sing to Jesus TIS 517**

**Hallelujah! sing to Jesus,**

**his the sceptre, his the throne;**

**hallelujah! his the triumph,**

**his the victory alone;**

**hark, the songs of peaceful Zion**

**thunder like a mighty flood:**

**'Jesus out of every nation**

**has redeemed us by his blood.'**

**Hallelujah! not as orphans,**

**are we left in sorrow now;**

**hallelujah! he is near us,**

**faith believes, nor questions how;**

**though the cloud from sight received him**

**when the forty days were o'er,**

**shall our hearts forget his promise,**

**'I am with you evermore'?**

**Hallelujah! bread of heaven,**

**and on earth our food, our stay;**

**hallelujah! here the sinful**

**flee to you from day to day;**

**intercessor, friend of sinners,**

**earth's redeemer, plead for me**

**where the songs of all the sinless**

**sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Hallelujah! King eternal,**

**you the Lord of lords we own;**

**hallelujah! born of Mary,**

**earth your footstool, heav'n your throne:**

**you within the veil have entered,**

**robed in flesh, our great high priest;**

**you on earth both priest and victim**

**in the eucharistic feast.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory

and for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, my sisters and brothers, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Lord, let this offering to the glory of your name purify us and bring us closer to eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

♫The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts**.**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,

mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life,

he offered the one true sacrifice for sin

and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,

and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name**

**of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful God, we thank you

for these gifts of your creation,

this bread and wine,

and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,

we who eat and drink them

may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;

and when he had given you thanks

he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,

and again giving you thanks

he gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Drink from this, all of you.

  This is my blood of the new covenant

shed for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,

in remembrance of me.

'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:

proclaiming his offering of himself

made once for all upon the cross,

his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,

and looking for his coming again,

we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,

his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

 Renew us by your Holy Spirit,

unite us in the body of your Son,

and bring us with all your people

into the joy of your eternal kingdom;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

with whom, and in whom,

in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

we worship you, Father,

in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

♫As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,**

**for we all share in the one bread.**

♫ **Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,**

**grant us your peace.**

Behold the Lamb of God

who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The sacrament is given with the following words*

The body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD’S PEOPLE

♫ Cantor – O taste and see that the Lord is good: happy are they that take refuge in him!

Let us pray.

Father, in this eucharist we have shared the joy of salvation. May this food renew us in Christ, who came to call not the just but sinners to salvation in his kingdom where he is Lord for ever and ever

**Father, we offer ourselves to you**

**as a living sacrifice**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Send us out in the power of you Spirit**

**to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen**

*Please remain seated for some announcements.*

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*If you are able, please stand for God’s blessing*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,

and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

HYMN: **571 Forth in your name, O Lord, I go**

Forth in your name, O Lord, I go,

my daily labour to pursue,

you, Lord, alone resolved to know,

in all I think, or speak, or do.

Each task your wisdom has assigned

still let me cheerfully fulfil,

in all my works your presence find,

and prove your good and perfect will.

You may I set at my right hand,

whose eyes my inmost substance view,

and labour on at your command,

and offer all my works to you.

Give me to bear your easy yoke,

and every moment watch and pray,

and still to things eternal look,

and hasten to your glorious day;

for you delightfully employ

all that your bounteous grace has given,

and run my course with even joy,

and closely walk with you to heaven

*All hymns and text used with permission from the Australian Prayer Book of Australia, New English Hymnal, Together in Song. CCLI Licence #5371063*