

**ST MATTHEW'S ANGLICAN PARISH
CHELTENHAM**

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / OS 19

SUNDAY 10TH AUGUST 2025



**CELEBRANT & PREACHER:
FR GERALD LOOS**

**DEACON OF THE MASS
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: Be Thou My Vision *TIS 547*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day and by night;
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, I thy dear child;
Thou in me dwelling, with thee reconciled.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;
Raise thou me Heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always.
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heavens Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.



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 – Praise the Lord his people: he fills you with the finest of wheat.

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

Silence may be kept.

**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,

Kindle in our hearts, Father, the same faith that impelled Abraham to set out from his home and to live as a pilgrim in a foreign land. As we, like him, look for the city that none but you can design and build, keep us watchful for your Son's coming, that we may be found faithful stewards of all that you have entrusted to us. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Isaiah

(Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 – found on page 548 in the pew bibles)

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 33

To be said alternately

The Lord looks down from heaven
and surveys all the children of Adam:

**he considers from his dwelling-place
all the inhabitants of the earth;**

He who fashioned the hearts of them all:
and comprehends all that they do.

A king is not saved by a mighty army:
nor is a warrior delivered by much strength;

A horse is a vain hope as a deliverer:
nor can he rescue any by his great power.

But the eye of the Lord is on those that fear him:
on those that trust in his unfailing love,

To deliver them from death:
and to feed them in the time of dearth.
We have waited eagerly for the Lord:
for he is our help and our shield.
Surely our hearts shall rejoice in him:
for we have trusted in his holy name.
Let your merciful kindness be upon us, O Lord:
even as our hope is in you.

SECOND READING

A reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews
(Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 - found on page 977 in the pew
bibles)

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

♪ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

♪ Cantor - Watch and be ready: for you do not know on
what day your Lord is coming.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

(Luke 12:32-40 - found on page 847 in the pew bibles)

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.

God of all justice, we pray for your world, your creation, your people; for your beaten and broken people; for those stripped of dignity and left to die. You want us to love our neighbours: when we abandon those who need our aid, move us to pity and teach us to care.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all truth, we pray for your church, your ministers, your people; for those who have been wounded by the church; for those the church ignores or excludes. You want us to love our

neighbours: when we close our eyes to those who are hurt,
move us to pity and teach us to care.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all love, we pray for this community, our families, our
friends; for those who suffer violence, neglect or abuse; for
those who are unable to care for themselves. You want us to
love our neighbours: when we walk away from our
responsibilities, move us to pity and teach us to care.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all compassion, we pray for all who suffer, those in
trouble or grief; for those who are alone, without family or
friends; for those whose bodies hurt, for the sick and those
close to death. You want us to love our neighbours: when our
hearts are untouched by the pain of others, move us to pity
and teach us to care.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all hope, we remember those who have died in your
love; those who have died uncared for and alone; those whom
we have loved who rest in your presence. You want us to love
you with heart and soul and mind and strength: when we forget
you, when we forget our neighbours, teach us again your way
of love, that we too may dwell in your presence and come into
our inheritance of eternal life.

God, 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: O for a closer walk with God

TIS 576

O for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

Where is the blessedness I knew
when first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
of Jesus and his word?

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed,
how sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void
the world can never fill.

Return, O holy dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
and drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,
whate'er that idol be,
help me to tear it from thy throne
and worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

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 - Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion: which can never be moved. As the mountains surround Jerusalem: so the Lord surrounds his people from now on and forever.

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 your 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.

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure:
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone:
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all of us away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
remain our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

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

Church News

Morning tea after Mass in the Parish Hall

Parish Council - Sunday 17th August @ 11:00am

‘Feast / Special days

17 August – Mary mother of the Lord

24 August – Daffodil day

21 September – St Matthew

5 October – St Francis of Assisi

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

St Matthew’s will be having a sausage sizzle at Bunnings as a parish fund raiser on Sunday 7 September from 8am onwards. Please support

Service Roster 17 August 2025 - Mother of our Lord

Volunteer roster:	Readings:
Welcomer: Jan Chalice: Graham Reader: Tao/Chung Family Intercessor: Tao/Chung Family	Genesis 15.1-6 Psalm 50 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12: 32-40

Prayer Diary:

Monday	11 th	Lesley & Tony Boyd Lynette Brooks Loreen, Bryce, Cheryl & Ben
Tuesday	12 th	Elaine Bryant Fr Geoff & Jane Cheong Clara, Colman & Elizabeth Chung -Tao

Wednesday	13 th	Guy Churchman Fr. Ian & Joy Clarke Barrie Cledsmith
Thursday	14 th	Sandra Cooper Harold Daly Erik, Rachel, Owen, Thomas & Cora Dober
Friday	15 th	Michael Donnellan Barbara Duncan Steve Duggan
Saturday	16 th	CHN St. Matthew's Cheltenham



Jesus speaks to His disciples with tenderness in today's gospel passage, calling them a "little flock." This is not just a reminder of our vulnerability, but a reassurance of divine care. Like a shepherd watches over his sheep, God delights in giving us what we need—not just daily bread, but the kingdom itself. We

are reminded here that God is not stingy or reluctant. He is generous, eager to give us fullness of life.

In a world filled with anxiety, Jesus' words come as a gentle command: "Do not be afraid." Fear often drives us to hoard, to secure our own futures, to cling tightly to wealth, possessions, or even status. But Jesus challenges us to do the opposite—to live with open hands, to sell what we have and give to the poor. Not because God wants us to suffer, but because the act of giving sets us free. It reminds us that our true treasure lies in heaven.

He then shifts from comfort to urgency. "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit." Like servants waiting for the master's return, we are called to be vigilant and ready, not in a spirit of fear, but in expectation. The Master, we're told, will return and serve the servants—an image of

radical humility and grace. The reversal is striking: the one with power stoops to serve.

The passage ends with the theme of surprise: the Son of Man will come at an unexpected hour. This is not a threat, but a call to attentiveness. In the ordinary moments of life—meals, conversations, acts of kindness—the Lord may be passing by. Will we notice?

- What are the fears that keep me from trusting in God’s generous love?
- Where is my treasure—what do I cling to for security?
- How can I live more “ready,” not with anxiety, but with joyful expectation?

This Gospel reminds us that the kingdom of God is not earned through fear or striving. It is a gift—freely given to those who trust in the Father’s goodness and stay awake to His presence in everyday life.

Blessings

Fr Gerald

PASTORAL CARE INITIATIVE – REACHING OUT TO THE LOST SHEEP

As part of our parish’s pastoral care ministry, we are seeking to reconnect with members of our community who may have drifted away from the Church or no longer attend regularly. Fr Gerald is planning to personally visit or contact those who have fallen away, to offer care, prayer, and a welcoming invitation back into the life of our parish.

If you know of anyone—family members, friends, or neighbours who has stopped attending church or feels disconnected, please pass their names and contact details confidentially to Fr Gerald.

Together, let us be the hands and heart of Christ, reaching out with love and compassion to all.

“Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.” – Luke 15:6

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ST MATTHEW'S

First Sunday of the Month:

8:00am A quiet, said service of Holy Communion

Every Sunday:

9:30am A sung service of Holy Communion
with a Children's Program

Wednesdays (not in January):

9:45am Prayer for Healing, Wholeness and Peace

10:00am A quiet, said service of Holy Communion

Monday, Thursday and Friday mornings:

9:00-9:30 am Morning Prayer via Zoom.

The link can be found in the Parish e-newsletter.

Meeting ID: 796 1738 1243

Passcode: 8hzrij

If you would like to donate to St Matthew's, thank you!

Our bank details are:

St Matthew's Anglican Church

BSB 06 3119 Acc. No. 1044 5437



Contact Details:

Vicar – Fr Gerald Loos SSC

Mobile 0409 149 486

Wednesday – Healing Mass and Home Communion

Thursday – Office Day in Parish Office

Friday – Pastoral Visits

Please note that Fr Gerald will be taking his regular day off on Monday.

Should there be an emergency or if you require urgent pastoral care, he can be contacted on his mobile.

vicar@stmatthewscheltenham.org.au

www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au