



26th November 2023

Christ the King



Sentence

O shout to the Lord in triumph all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his face with songs of joy. (*Psalm 100:1*)

The Collect

God of power and love, who raised your Son Jesus from death to life, resplendent in glory to rule over all creation: free the world to rejoice in his peace, to glory in his justice, and to live in his love. Unite the human race in Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel, chapter 34, beginning at verse 11. For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats: Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, but you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture? When you drink of clear water, must you foul the rest with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have fouled with your feet? Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their

shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 100

R: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. **R...**

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. **R...**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. **R...**

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures for ever, and his faithfulness to all generations. **R...**

Second Reading

A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians, chapter 1, beginning at verse 15.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Just as you serve the least of these, so you have served the Lord your God.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 25, beginning at the thirty-first verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayers of the People

Jesus, prince of peace, your kingdom has come; hear our prayers, as people who long to enthrone you in this world.

Under the reign of Christ, may the hungry be fed; all who are without food and suffer material hunger, and those who gorge themselves on material pleasures, and suffer from a deeper spiritual hunger. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Under the reign of Christ, may the poor find shelter; those who cannot afford to put a roof over their head, those who are disowned by their family, and those whose home is a place of violence, hatred and uncertainty. Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Under the reign of Christ, may the stranger be welcomed with open arms; all who are recent migrants to this land, those who come seeking asylum, those who have been ostracised by churches and other communities for their gender, sexuality, race or background. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Under the reign of Christ, may the lost be found; those who have strayed from the way of peace and eternal life, those who slander your name or blacken it with their hypocrisy; for all who seek peace and solace and meaning in a world torn by physical and spiritual warfare. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Under the reign of Christ, the sick will be healed, and the dying given release from their pain. We remember those who have asked for our prayers: *Jonathan and Limor Rose, Jeanne Jones, Kai Bolton, Bill Edge, Sharon and John Simpson, Anni Grimwade, Madeline Allen, Elaine Haddock, Belinda Shannon, Jim Chatz, Barry and Val Watts, Gwen Bushell, Debbie Chilcott, Beryl and Geoff Kirby, Fiona Mctier, David Valentine, Peg and Ken Raeburn, Bishop John Parkes, Edie Simpson, Bruce Seaman, Thomas De Sousa, Mary Cassar, Vince Fazio, and Adeline Bickley.* Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Under the reign of Christ, the grieving will find comfort and strength, and the dead will find a place around God's table in heaven. We bring to mind those we have lost recently, and those whose year's mind occurs at this time: *Emily Smith, Horrie Tanner, Jessie Foster, Sylvia Bannon, William Ludlow, Rita Castles, Edward Ryan, Raymond Spiers, Stan Pawlicki, Kathleen Kirk, Paul Sutton, Peggy Boyd and Lillian Evans.* Lord, 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.**

Notices

Bible Study – Advent

We will be having an Advent Bible Study on Tuesday November 28th, December 5th, December 12th and December 19th. This will be at 7.30pm at Christ Church Kilmore (while we take a holiday break from Jeremiah). We will be looking at the beginning of Luke's gospel, and the events leading up to the Birth of Jesus. All are welcome.

Parish AGM and Annual Reports

We will be holding our AGM on Wednesday December 13th at 5.30pm, in lieu of Parish Council. Please can all those responsible for annual parish reports, get these to Caroline as soon as possible please. Reports are required from: Christ Church, St Matthew's, St Stephen's, Transfiguration, Gavan Hall, St Matthew's Village, Op Shop, Treasurer, Parish Council, Parish Priest, Publicity, Gardening Group, St Matthew's Friendship Group. Thank you.

Carols in the Carpark, Broadford

The Broadford Ecumenical Committee is organising community carols in the carpark between St Matthew's and Gavan Hall. The carol service will be Friday 22nd December, starting from 6pm. BYO picnic with blanket or folding chairs as necessary, while tea and coffee will be provided from Gavan Hall. All are welcome.

Ordinations

The Rev. Cathy Carden and the Rev. Lesley Lewis will be ordained priests on Saturday December 2nd at Holy Trinity Cathedral Wangaratta. The service is at 10.30am, all are welcome to attend. Please keep the ordinands in your prayers.

Love in Action

Families we serve are feeling the stress of the season to provide for their kids at Christmas. If you would like to sponsor a child for Christmas whereby you are prepared to buy a new and decent gift, please contact Barbara Radford (0412 287 306). Love in Action needs to have these gifts delivered by December 1st.

Alternatively, you can provide a donation to the Love in Action bank account for the volunteers to purchase the gift. Christmas foods are also needed for hampers, including lollies, chocolates, tins of shortbread or biscuits, nuts, chips, Christmas serviettes, etc. Many thanks for your support.

Direct Debit /EFT Offerings – Account details: BENDIGO BANK – Account Name 'Anglican Parish of Kilmore;' BSB 633-000; Account Number 158946921.

Reference: Offertory. An EFTPOS machine is available at Kilmore.

This Week in the Parish:

Monday 27th November: 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading

Wednesday 29th November: 1pm: Caladenia RACF Service
2.30pm: Dianella RACF service

Thursday 30th November: 10am: Mass, St Matthew's Broadford
10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Friday 1st December: 10.30am: Blue Cross RACF service
10am-4pm: Op Shop Trading

Saturday 2nd December: 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Next Sunday: First Sunday of Advent 3rd December: Isaiah 64:1-9; Ps 80:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Mark 13:24-37		
Christ Church, Kilmore	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthew's, Broadford	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephen's, Tallarook	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Transfiguration, Pyalong	---	---

Weekly Scripture Readings

	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Monday 27th November	Ps 68:1-20	Ps 68:21-35
	2 Kings 23:4-15	Ecclesiastes 8:1-13
	Mark 1:29-39	Revelation 11:1-14
Tuesday 28th November	Ps 71	Ps 119:65-88
	2 Kings 23:16-30	Ecclesiastes 8:14-9:6
	Mark 1:40-45	Revelation 11:15-19
Wednesday 29th November	Ps 69:1-16	Ps 69:17-38
	2 Kings 23:31-24:9	Ecclesiastes 9:7-16
	Mark 2:1-17	Revelation 12:1-6
Thursday 30th November	Ps 147	Ps 48
<i>St Andrew</i>	Isaiah 49:1-9	Zechariah 8:20-23
	John 1:35-42	John 12:20-32
Friday 1st December	Ps 74	Ps 75; 76
	2 Kings 25:8-21	Ecclesiastes 10:16-11:8
	Mark 3:7-19	Revelation 13:1-10

Saturday 2nd December	Ps 77	Ps 78:1-15
<i>Frances Perry</i>	2 Kings 25:21-30	Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:14
	Mark 3:19-35	Revelation 13:11-18

Parish Contacts

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Parish Wardens:

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Rebecca Jones, 3 First Street, Broadford, Ph 5784 4057

Julie Wallis, 71 Main Rd, Tallarook, Ph 5792 2854

Glenn McKenzie, 13 Station Street, Pyalong, Mobile 0452420958

Facebook page link: <https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanKilmore/>

or you can type in Anglican Parish of Kilmore Facebook into the search bar and it should come up. It's also on the link Services Online on the website.

Thoughts for the Week

One of the worst things about people ignoring the Reign of Christ, be it the day itself or the broader concept, is that they are unaware of the love that God truly has for them. This love is so great it cannot help but be shared, nay radiated by those who feel it. One of the other worst things about people ignoring this concept, is that society stops listening. People stop listening. People lose awareness of just about anything that isn't within three inches of their being. Self-awareness is the positive side of the coin, but on the other is an inability to read the proverbial room. A people that stops listening is a people that loses all sense of moral boundaries; one literally can't tell right from wrong. You might say, oh there's no such thing as normal anymore. There's just the 'new normal', which is actually just a string of broken promises, birthed by poor judgment and coated in every flavour of excuse. Normal doesn't mean bland or grey or basic; normal means functional. There comes a point

where we all have to function. Our centre of emotional gravity will undoubtedly be shifted by the vicissitudes of life or fate; deaths, breakups, accidents and so on. But when our centre shifts, we need to sit down and listen for a moment. Listen to where we are at, listen to where others are at, and listen to where God is at. The antithesis of this listening is the formation of cyclical narratives (running around in circles), and therefore coming up with those excuses in every flavour. I can't do this, because I'm too this or not enough that. It may seem innocent enough to form these narratives, but they soon start to impact those around us. Focusing too hard on those who have alienated us, such as from the breakdown of a relationship, will actually alienate the people who are our friends and want to help us. If a phrase keeps repeating itself in your mind and does not allow its tune to be changed, you have a problem. And that problem is a lack of listening. Again, this will affect a wider circle; in fact, it has affected society at large already. When society stops listening, the Reign of Christ is hindered; we are no longer subjects of Christ, we are pawns of the Enemy, destined to suffer more than we are to grow. Learn to listen. Learn to read the room. Don't make excuses, make progress; doesn't matter how small. Start by taking the needle off one record, and work towards putting on a new one.