



18th February 2024

Hymns: 335 591 344 625



Sentence

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news. (*Mark 1:15*)

The Collect

God of the new and eternal covenant, as the forty days of the great flood swept away the world's corruption and watered new beginnings of righteousness and life: grant to us, who are washed clean and born again in the saving flood of baptism, the wellspring of your grace, that your gift of new life may flourish once again; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 9, beginning at verse 8.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: 'I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you – the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you – every living creature on earth. I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.' And God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.' So God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.'

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25

R: Show me your ways, O Lord: and teach me your paths.

In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope: in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed, nor let my enemies triumph over me. Let none who wait for you be put to shame: but let those that break faith be confounded and gain nothing. **R...**

Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me: for you are the God of my salvation. In you have I hoped all the day long: because of your goodness, O Lord. Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness: for they are from of old. **R...**

Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he direct sinners in the way. The meek he will guide in the path of justice: and teach the humble his ways. All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true: for those who keep his covenant and his commandments. **R...**

Second Reading

A reading from the First Letter of Peter, chapter 3, beginning at verse 18.

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits – to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolises baptism that now saves you also – not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience towards God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand – with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, chapter 1, beginning at the ninth verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.' At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come,' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayers of the People

Heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus into the wilderness to know the depths of sin, so that mankind would come to know the breadth of salvation. Hear the prayers we offer for those lost in life's wilderness.

We pray for those who wake this day in fear and uncertainty. For the poor, the unemployed, the unemployed, and those who live without hope. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for families riven by anger, violence, depression and addiction. For the safety and care of children in loveless or separated families. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who lust after money and status, putting wealth above the welfare of others; that they may come to see the error of their ways. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for victims of discrimination in our community. Those who are avoided or regarded with contempt for who they are. And for a greater spirit of compassion to abide here. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the elderly, especially those in care facilities, or who are housebound. For those who are fearful, confused, or neglected by others. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for wise and just leadership in the world and in the Church. Raise up and support those who love you and your people, and who seek to exercise justice and mercy in the world. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need of healing in body, mind or spirit; particularly those known to us: *Doug Whitbourn, Gail Piechowiak, Father John Young, Mary Dodge, Lyn Overend, Jeanne Jones, 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.**

We pray for the faithful departed; those whose long life is rewarded with peace, and those taken from us too soon. May they all know the bounty of your Kingdom. We remember those whose year's mind occurs at this time: *Mary Dow, Ivor Hitchman, Beryl Brown, Win Derman, Fred Grimwade, Jean Rasmussen, Cynthia Sherwood, Bertram Congram, Phyliss Downing, and Florence Britton.* 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

Parish Council

There will be a Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 21st February, at 7.30pm, at Christ Church Kilmore. If there is anything you would like to have raised at this meeting, please see Parish Councillors or Fr. David.

Lenten Study

This year, we will have a Lenten study group focusing on the book: 'Where the Hell is God?' by Fr. Richard Leonard SJ. All reading material will be provided to you. This study will begin on Tuesday 13th February, and continue weekly all the way up to Easter. Two sessions will be offered on Tuesdays: 10am at St Matthew's Broadford, and 7.30pm at Christ Church Kilmore.

Anglican Polity Day

There will be a workshop on Anglican Polity on Saturday 24th February, at Cathedral College Wangaratta. Guest speaker will be the Archbishop of Melbourne. This is open to all clergy, office bearers and interested lay people. If you would like to attend, please call the Registry Office..

World Day of Prayer

This year, World Day of Prayer is Friday 1st March. It will be hosted by St Matthew's Broadford, with a service at 10am, and then by Christ Church Kilmore, with a service at 11.30am. We will be praying for the people of Palestine. All are most welcome to attend. Respective morning teas to follow each service.

Painting Workshop

Due to popular demand, another painting workshop with Fr. David is being planned. Depending on people's keenness and availability, this may be in March or April after Easter. If you would be interested in attending, please indicate to Fr. David when you'd be available, so that we can cater to as many people as we can.

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 19th February: 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading

Tuesday 20th February: 10am Lenten Study, St Matthew's Broadford
7.30pm Lenten Study, Christ Church Kilmore

Wednesday 21st February: Parish Council, 7.30pm, Christ Church Kilmore

Thursday 22nd February: 10am Mass, St Matthew's Broadford
10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Friday 23rd February: 10.30am Blue Cross RACF Service
10am-4pm Op Shop Trading

Saturday 24th February: 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Next Sunday: Second Sunday in Lent: Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Ps 22:24-32; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38		
Christ Church, Kilmore	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthew's, Broadford	11.00am	Morning Prayer
St Stephen's, Tallarook	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration, Pyalong	---	---

Weekly Scripture Readings

	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Monday 19th February	Ps 110; 111	Ps 112; 113
	Jeremiah 25:1-17	Genesis 39
	Hebrews 3:1-15	Luke 11:14-28
Tuesday 20th February	Ps 114; 115	Ps 116; 117
<i>William Grant Broughton</i>	Jeremiah 25:27-38	Genesis 40
	Hebrews 3:16-4:10	Luke 11:29-44
Wednesday 21st February	Ps 121; 122; 123	Ps 119:129-152
	Jeremiah 26:1-19	Genesis 41:1-36
	Hebrews 4:11-5:6	Luke 11:45-12:7
Thursday 22nd February	Ps 118:1-18	Ps 118:19-29; 120
	Jeremiah 26:20-27:11	Genesis 41:37-57
	Hebrews 5:7-6:8	Luke 12:8-21

Friday 23rd February	Ps 124; 125; 126	Ps 127; 128; 129
<i>Polycarp of Smyrna</i>	Jeremiah 27:12-28:4	Genesis 42:1-17
	Hebrews 6:9-18	Luke 12:22-34
Saturday 24th February	Ps 80	Ps 33
<i>Matthias, Apostle and martyr</i>	Isaiah 66:1-4	1 Samuel 1:21-28
	Matthew 7:15-27	1 Corinthians 4:1-13

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest – Fr David Kerr: 9 Union Street, Kilmore,

Mobile: 0439 288 070

Email: dkerr1307@gmail.com

Parish Wardens:

Caroline Burge, 20 Chrystobel Way, Kilmore, Mobile 0409 822 180

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

More than once have I been in the midst of a conversation of such things like Norse or Greek mythology, only to find myself, despite a childhood of reading on the subjects, substantially out of the loop. That is, everyone at the table seems to know stories, mythologies, even quasi-hagiographies that have been taken from various cultural backgrounds and popularised by modern media; while not only have I no idea what they're talking about, but the others act as though these tales are universally common knowledge. I've sometimes blurted out, in response, an invitation for others to consider reading about Jesus, or even just the

Christian scriptures in general. The consensus seems to be that Jesus 'isn't interesting'. It perplexes me just how many people disparage the Bible without ever actually reading it, let alone how many people don't consider Jesus (or Christianity for that matter) to be 'interesting'. No, he doesn't shapeshift, lift mountains or shoot lasers from his eyes. No, the Christian God does not come down from Mount Olympus like Zeus and seduce every person with a pulse to produce monstrous offspring. No, we don't have a planet floating on the back of a turtle like Terry Pratchett. There is a time and place for fancy and phantasm. But the gospel is grounded in real life, with its roots in real history. It is a mantra of hope that has crested the tides of time, for the last 2 to 3 thousand years. It is not something to fantasise about, like some abstract concept. It is the story that outlasts all stories, because whilst having roots in certain cultures of the world, Christianity transcends culture. Rather, it speaks to the human condition; not making light of the primordial human fears of death and meaninglessness, but grappling with them seriously, and reassuring us that they are not the final word. Far from being an alleged 'opiate of the masses', the gospel narrative is journey that is not only read, but lived with, beside and into. Jesus lives parallel to our lives. In short, if you find Jesus 'not that interesting', then perhaps your life is rather empty and uninteresting, such that only the most candy-coloured fantasies can assuage whatever hopelessness plagues you. The more you read of Jesus, the more you let him read you, and the more he can actually help make your life more sustainable.