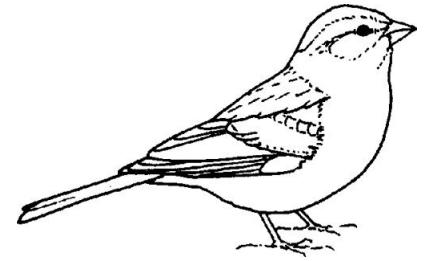




25th June 2023
Fourth Sunday After
Pentecost



Hymns: 620 594 588 477

Sentence

Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for Jesus' sake will find it. (*Matthew 10:39*)

The Collect

Gracious God, we who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death: we pray that, as you raised him from death, so by the power of the Holy Spirit we may live the new life to your glory, knowing ourselves to be dead in sin but alive for you in Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 21, beginning at verse 8.

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the

angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 86, verses 1-10

R: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long. Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. ...**R**

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me. ...**R**

There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. ...**R**

Second Reading

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans, chapter 6, beginning at the first verse.

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have

died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus said: do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I do not bring peace, but a sword.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 10, beginning at the 24th verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

‘A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ‘So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ‘Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ‘Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayers of the People

Heavenly Father, as people in a world dominated by a spirit of self-interest, help us to pray for the needs of others.

We pray for nations of the world where captivity is used as means of control; for the victims of slavery, human trafficking, indentured servitude and any kind of exploitation. We pray for those enticed to sell or expose their body for a living, and we pray for decency of mind and attitude in people who perpetuate a culture of objectification and injustice.

Jesus, pierce our hearts like a sword, and in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for schools, universities and training facilities; for young minds, and those whose duty it is to shape them. We pray for a culture of authenticity and discernment to pervade our younger generations, rather than a culture of coercion and deceit. Give courage to our youth; courage to stand up against influences that draw them away from the gospel truth, and courage to live out their calling as your hands and hearts in this world.

Jesus, pierce our hearts like a sword, and in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for churches and faith communities throughout the world, especially for places where Christians are persecuted for their beliefs. We pray for Anglicans throughout Australia, that they may be well cared for, and their faith be nurtured into action, and a loving defence of the one who died for them. We pray for Geoff our Primate, Philip our Archbishop, Clarence our Bishop and David our Priest; strengthen all in holy orders to work for the glory of God above all other reward.

Jesus, pierce our hearts like a sword, and in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit; for those in hospital, undergoing treatment, awaiting test results, and grappling with their own mortality. We pray for all dealing with mental illness, neurodivergence and disorders of the mind; and we pray for their families and carers. Bless all for whom daily life is a struggle, and bless those who support them; mobilise our communities of faith to be a source of strength and comfort for all in distress.

We pray especially for *Anni Grimwade, Madeline Allen, Elaine Haddock, Belinda Shannon, Jim Chatz, Barry Watts, Ray Daly, Val Watts, Gwen Bushell, Debbie, Chilcott, Beryl and Geoff Kirby, Fiona Mctier, Robert Whalley, Russel Taylor, David Valentine, Margaret Taylor, Peg and Ken Raeburn, Bishop John Parkes, Glenda*

McDonald, Edie Simpson, Bruce Seaman, Thomas De Sousa, Mary Cassar, Joan Grimwade, Vince Fazio, and Adeline Bickley.

Jesus, pierce our hearts like a sword, and in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We remember those we have known and loved who have died; for the ways they have inspired our lives, and for the legacy they have left for the wider community. We pray for those who have died unprepared and afraid, those who have fought serious illness, and those who have taken their own lives; may all who depart this life find welcome in the eternal kingdom. We remember those whose year's mind occurs at this time: *Tom Madigan, Norman Hughes, Sadie Winnell, Stewart Radford, Rita Foster, Herbert Cook, Peggy Muston, Laura Stephens, Christopher Schafer, Joseph Milburn, Belle Minney, Billie Hill, Nancy Diamond.*

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Jesus, pierce our hearts like a sword, and 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.

Morning Prayer

Please note: parish council has decided that during the winter months, when it's St Matthew's or St Stephen's turn to have Morning Prayer on a Sunday, the service will now be at 11am instead of 9am. This is in the interest of comfort for all who wish to attend. Due to the service schedule, however, if there is a Holy Eucharist at 9am, this will remain the same.

Outreach Think Tank

In the interest of making new inroads into the community, it would be good to start establishing a think tank and/or prayer group for generating ideas, discerning gifts and helping Fr. David to network with existing community groups. For example, an art group, meditation, connecting with schools. If you would like to be a part of this think tank, please email rector@anglicankilmore.org.au.

Prayer List

If you know of someone who is in need of prayer for any reason, please let Fr. David know so that they can be put on the parish prayer list.

Pastoral Visiting

If you know of someone who could use a visit from a priest, e.g. illness, loneliness, grief, spiritual counselling, preparation for baptism or confirmation, please let Fr. David know. Call 0439 288 070.

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 26th June: 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading

Wednesday 28th June: 1pm: Caladenia RACF Service

2.30pm: Dianella RACF Service

Thursday 29th June: 10am Mass, St Matthew’s Broadford

10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Friday 30th June: 10.30am: Blue Cross RACF Service

10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Saturday 1st July: 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Next Sunday 2nd July: Fifth Sunday After Pentecost: Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42		
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	----	No service

Daily Scripture Readings

	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Monday	Ps 137; 138	Ps 139
26 th June	1 Samuel 17:55-18:16	Sirach 18:1-14
	Acts 12:1-11	James 1:1-18
Tuesday	Ps 140	Ps 141; 142
27 th June	1 Samuel 18:17-30	Sirach 22:6-18
Cyril of Alexandria	Acts 12:12-25	James 1:19-2:7
Wednesday	Ps 143; 146	Ps 80
28 th June	1 Samuel 19:1-17	Jeremiah 1:4-10
	Acts 13:1-12	John 20:1-10
Thursday	Ps 71	Ps 116
29 th June	Ezekiel 2:1-7	Zechariah 4:1-6, 10-14
	Acts 9:32-43	Revelation 11:1-4, 15-18
Friday	Ps 148; 149	Ps 144; 150
30 th June	1 Samuel 20: 12-34	Sirach 24:18-34
	Acts 13:26-41	James 4
Saturday	Ps 1; 2	Ps 3; 4
1 st July	1 Samuel 20:35-21:7	Sirach 27:25-28:9
	Acts 13:42-52	James 5

Parish Contacts

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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

What expectations are we placing on ourselves? What about other people? Does money affect these expectations? In other words, do we think someone should be able to do a better job just because we pay them? Should an investment (however you choose to interpret the word) automatically succeed because YOU have invested in it? Failure is a part of life. It is a key aspect of experience, including the experience of God. Not everything you invest in, physically, emotionally, financially, will succeed. Some projects are just not well thought through. Some don't have risk mitigation or insurance policies. Some projects lack the ambition and commitment of the personnel involved. Some projects are even dummy projects, investing in the greed, simple-mindedness and self-obsession of others (just look at the multi-million-dollar turkeys that have been released at the cinema this year). Art is no longer art because we no longer invest in the artist; we invest in the mythos surrounding one claiming to be an artist. Celebrities with sordid pasts or criminal charges and allegations, or even pure hearsay surrounding them, gets more air time than the artistic achievements of genuinely gifted individuals who contribute positively to their respective field. And the former of these cases, because they generate more public interest, they get more money, more deals, more opportunities, and we end up with, you guessed it, more multi-million-dollar turkeys. Genuine artists, actors, filmmakers, what have you, don't have the luxury of companies throwing money at them, and yet, they have the same expectations placed upon them. They are expected to have the same production values as projects with millions behind them. And if they don't, true art gets ignored. If you must invest in something, invest in actual talent, not token gestures, virtue signalling or media circuses. Support those who want to support the advancement of human culture, not those who want to keep us in the Dark Ages.