



20th August 2023

**Twelfth Sunday After
Pentecost**



Hymns: 215 226 446 469

Sentence

Thus says the Lord, 'Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.' (*Isaiah 56:1*)

The Collect

God of freedom, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 45, beginning at the first verse.

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, 'Send everyone away from me.' So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and

all that you have, will not come to poverty.” And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.’ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 133

R: How liberating is the peace of God.

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. **R...**

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life for evermore. **R...**

Second Reading

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans, chapter 11, beginning at verse 13.

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I glorify my ministry in order to make my own people jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead! If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; and if the root is holy, then the branches also are holy. But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in their place to share the rich root of the olive tree, do not vaunt yourselves over the branches. If you do vaunt yourselves, remember that it is not you that support the root, but the root that supports you. You will say, ‘Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.’ That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand only through faith. So do not become proud, but stand in awe. For if God did not spare the natural branches, perhaps he will not spare you. Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity towards those who have fallen, but God’s kindness towards you, provided you continue in his kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off. And even those of Israel, if they do not persist in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree. So that you may not claim to be wiser than you are, brothers and sisters, I want you to understand this mystery: a hardening has come upon part of Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved; as it is written, ‘Out of Zion will come the

Deliverer; he will banish ungodliness from Jacob.’ ‘And this is my covenant with them, when I take away their sins.’ As regards the gospel they are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors; for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord said to the Canaanite woman: great is your faith; let my peace go with you.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 15, beginning at the 10th verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, ‘Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.’ Then the disciples approached and said to him, ‘Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?’ He answered, ‘Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.’ But Peter said to him, ‘Explain this parable to us.’ Then he said, ‘Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.’ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, ‘Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.’ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.’ He answered, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’ But she came and knelt before him, saying, ‘Lord, help me.’ He answered, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.’ She said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their

masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayers of the People

Heavenly Father, you are Lord of our bondage and our freedom; the one to whom we fetter our souls, and the one who eases our chains. Hear our prayers for the healing and refreshment of the world and the church.

We pray for all who are held captive, physically, emotionally and spiritually. For those in abusive and degrading circumstances, in their domestic life or in their place of work. For those who are pariahs in their social circles and faith communities. For those who feel unworthy of God's grace. Give them the strength to reach out and touch the hem of your cloak so that they may begin to find healing and freedom.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for a church that is liberated from pedantry, pomp and self-interest; for a church that does not change its image and attitude between the altar and the streets. We pray for a reflective and penitent church, one that looks to resolve its failings and gather as one behind the gospel truth. Bless all who minister in your name, in all places and in all orders, for you continue to make us a priesthood of all believers; we were made in your image, and may we continue to uphold and care for that image.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those in poverty; those who struggle to feed their family, those without employment or a sense of purpose; those who struggle with depression and intrusive thoughts; those who reach out their hands in desperation for aid, those who suffer in silence, and those who refuse to take responsibility for their independence. Like the Gentile woman who begged for Christ to heal her daughter, help us to empower the lost and struggling to seek after you; give us the courage to not only pray for them, but to walk alongside them in their journey.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the sick and suffering, in body, mind or spirit. For those who grapple with chronic ill health, mental illness, and moral and existential crises. May your Spirit come upon them, to heal the broken, guide the lost, and forgive the doubtful and despairing. We pray especially for those known to us: *Jeanne Jones, Michelle Peponas, Bill Edge, Sharon and John Simpson, 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, Russel Taylor, David Valentine, Margaret Taylor, Peg and Ken Raeburn, Bishop John Parkes, Glenda McDonald, Edie Simpson, Bruce Seaman, Thomas De Sousa, Mary Cassar, Vince Fazio, and Adeline Bickley.*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those we have known and loved who have died; for those who have battled illness, those who have left this world peacefully, those seeking your forgiveness on their deathbed, and those whose lives have been tragically cut short. Bring all the faithful departed into your loving embrace, and deliver them into the eternal kingdom. We remember those whose year's mind occurs at this time:

Linda Dyer, Margaret Williams, Jack Woods, Amelia Moore, Ronald Matthews, Charles Smith, Stephen Smith, and Kathleen Craker.

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

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

Safe Church Protocols

The Diocese need to keep their Safe Church registers updated for auditing purposes, so if you are a volunteer who has undertaken the Safe Church training, could you make sure that either Caroline or Fr. David have copies of your WWCC and Police Check by the end of August.

Bible Study

The first session of our Bible study group is on Tuesday August 22nd at 7pm at Christ Church Kilmore. If you'd like to join in, please put your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

Love in Action

This week, Love in Action is seeking goods for Father's Day. We assist a number of single dads and homeless men, and we'd love to be able to give them a small gift, such as coffee cups, chocolates, licorice, etc. If we could get these ASAP, or alternatively, you can make a donation to the following account:

Love in Action Broadford, BSB: 633000, Acc. No.: 161132725.

Wanted – CD Player and Remote Control

Does anyone have a CD player with remote control they no longer use? If so, Christ Church would love to take it off your hands. Please contact Caroline Burge if you can help out. The CD player needs to have the red and white ports in the back of it, to plug into the new sound system. Thank you.

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 21st August: 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading

Tuesday 22nd August: 7pm Bible Study, Christ Church Kilmore

Wednesday 23rd August: 1pm Caladenia RACF Service

2:30pm Dianella RACF Service

7.30pm Parish Council, Broadford

Thursday 24th August: 10am Mass, St Matthew's Broadford

10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Friday 25th August: 10.30am: Blue Cross RACF Service

10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Saturday 26th August: 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Next Sunday 27th August: Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost: Exodus 1:8-2:10;		
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 21st August	Ps 121; 122; 123	Ps 119:129-152
	2 Samuel 20:14-26	Proverbs 18:4-21
	Acts 18:1-17	Romans 11:13-24
Tuesday 22nd August	Ps 118:1-18	Ps 118:19-29; 120
	2 Samuel 21:1-14	Proverbs 18:22-19:14
	Acts 18:18-28	Romans 11:25-36
Wednesday 23rd August	Ps 124; 125; 126	Ps 127; 128; 129
	2 Samuel 22:1-16	Proverbs: 19:15-29
	Acts 19:1-20	Romans 12:1-8
Thursday 24th August	Ps 86	Ps 97
<i>St Bartholomew</i>	Isaiah 43:8-13	Deuteronomy 30:11-16
	Matthew 10:1-15	Matthew 10:16-22
Friday 25th August	Ps 135	Ps 136
	2 Samuel 22:17-31	Proverbs 20:18-21:8

	Acts 20:1-16	Romans 13
Saturday 26th August	Ps 137:1-6; 138	Ps 139
	2 Samuel 23:1-23	Proverbs 21:9-31
	Acts 20:17-38	Romans 14:1-12

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

One of the hardest things in the world to do, is to apologise when you know you're in the right. You might think you know how to treat or care for a person in some kind of need or distress, and logically, rationally, you can see the answer to their problems. But our job is not to judge, but to abide. God is the only judge here, and he judges in favour of our good and freedom. Part of that process of abiding is to both forgive the sins and shortcomings of others, AND to apologise for trying to prescribe, diagnose, and proselytise in situations where only listening and empathy is required. We don't save them; that's God's territory.