



29th October 2023
Twenty-Second Sunday
After Pentecost



Sentence

Let those that seek the Lord be joyful in heart; seek the Lord and his strength; O seek his face continually. (*Psalm 105:3-4*)

The Collect

O God, whose Son has taught us that love is the fulfillment of your law: stir up within us the fire of your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts your greatest gift of love, so that we may love you with our whole being, and our neighbours as ourselves; 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 Deuteronomy, chapter 34, beginning at verse 1.
Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, ‘This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, “I will give it to your descendants”; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.’ Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 90, verses 13 to 17

R: Lord, forever you have been our dwelling place.

Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. **R...**

Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil. Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. **R...**

Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands— O prosper the work of our hands! **R...**

Second Reading

A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians, chapter 2, beginning at the first verse.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. You remember our labour and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was towards you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you should lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers. *Hear the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 22, beginning at the thirty-fourth verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.' Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet' " ? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

For the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayers of the People

Heavenly Father, we ask you to hear us as we unburden our hearts.

Bring peace to those places on this earth that are riven by war; particularly in the Middle East. Give justice and safety to the innocent; move those who look on in disdain to help make a better future for children caught in the conflict. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Look with favour on the poor; those who struggle to hold onto employment, and those undone by vice. Increase the generosity of your people, not only in terms of money, but they time they spend in solidarity with the poor and unfortunate. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Give all your people the basic needs of survival. Feed those who are hungry, and give the affluent a better sense of stewardship of their resources; open their hearts and their assets to share with those who are starving and desperate. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Listen to the plight of women and children who in situations of domestic abuse, in whatever form it may take. Encourage victims to reach out, both to those who will provide assistance, and to you. Help us to be attentive to abuse, and to take action where it seems no one else will. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Mend the divisions in your church throughout the world. Sift out proud and selfish individuals, particularly those masquerading as ministers, and bring those who are lost back to the fold. Abide with your church as it struggles to find its way back to the gospel truth. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We bring before you those who have asked our prayers for your healing, grace and mercy: *Jonathan and Limor Rose, Emily Scerri, 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, Russel Taylor, David Valentine, Margaret Taylor, 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.**

Bless the dying, give rest to those souls that have gone before us, and comfort the bereaved. We pray for the souls of the departed, and those whose year's mind occurs at this time: *Irene Winnell, Agnes Tyler, Mavis Cotton, Isey Berry, Ab Anderson, and Ruby Baker.* 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

All Souls Day

There will be a service of Blessing of the Graves at Broadford Cemetery on Thursday November 2nd, at 5.30pm. All are welcome to attend and pray for those loved ones we have lost over the last 12 months. BYO folding/camping chair is advised.

Love in Action

In the lead up to Christmas, some of our families need our support in way of presents for their children. If you would like to contribute to these gifts, please

Speak to Barbara Radford. There will also be a Giving Tree put up in Christ Church later in November, for gift items and pantry items to go in Christmas hampers. These goods will be distributed around the middle of December.

Christ Church Rosters

The rosters at Christ Church need renewing. Rosters include Reading, Welcoming, Morning Tea and Dusting (dusters very much needed, as roster very short). And if you have the time, then the Church grounds would welcome a tidy up - the Memorial Garden (between the church and the Rectory) are in need of some TLC for anyone willing to take this on. Please contact Caroline as soon as possible.

Working Bee at Christ Church

We have been informed by the Shire Council that we need to get rid of the Shipping Container off our property. This will need to be cleaned out. If anyone would like to organise a working bee, please let Caroline know.

Parish Directory.

Each centre of Kilmore, Broadford, Tallarook and Pyalong have been given a draft copy of the latest Parish Directory. Please can you check your details today and amend or add as required. Please make any amendments in the draft copy or email to me (carolineburge@carolineburge.com) It is hoped that once the final additions are completed then copies will be made for all parishioners by November.

Melbourne Cup Luncheon

On Melbourne Cup Day (Tuesday 7th November) there will be a bring and share Parish Melbourne Cup "Chicken and Champagne" fundraising luncheon at Caroline Burge's house, from midday. Entry by donation and there will be a sweep stake on the race. Money raised will go towards ABM (Anglican Board of Mission). If you are unable to attend but would still like to donate to ABM, please put your donation in an envelope and give to Caroline, or bank it direct into our Parish Account and ensure that the deposit name is "ABM donation". Suggestions for the lunch: hot or cold chicken salad; cold meat platters, cheese platters, salads, sweets, casseroles, wine or soft drink. RSVP's aren't essential as it is bring and share, but numbers might be helpful for seating purposes. If you would like to donate a prize for the sweep stakes, please let Caroline know.

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 30th October: 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading
Wednesday 1st November: 1pm: Caladenia RACF Service
 2.30pm: Dianella RACF service
Thursday 2nd November: 10am Mass, St Matthews Broadford
 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading
 5.30pm All Souls Ecumenical Service, Broadford Cemetery
Friday 3rd November: 10.30am: Blue Cross RACF service
 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading
Saturday 4th November: 10.30am Tree Planting, Bishops Lodge
 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Next Sunday 5th November: All Saints Day: Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12		
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 30th October	Ps 148; 149	Ps 144; 150
	2 Kings 9:1-16	Job 42
	Matthew 18:1-14	2 Peter 1:1-11
Tuesday 31st October	Ps 83:1-18	Ps 109:1-19
<i>Martin Luther</i>	2 Kings 9:17-37	Esther 1:1-12
	Matthew 18:15-35	2 Peter 1:12-21
Wednesday 1st November	Ps 97	Ps 33
<i>All Saints</i>	Isaiah 65:17-25	Sirach 44:1-15
	Luke 9:18-27	Revelation 19:1-10

Thursday 2nd November	Ps 5; 6	Ps 7; 8
<i>All Souls</i>	2 Kings 10:18-36	Esther 2:5-23
	Matthew 19:16-30	2 Peter 2:12-3:2
Friday 3rd November	Ps 9	Ps 10
<i>Richard Hooker</i>	2 Kings 11:1-16	Esther 3
	Matthew 20:1-16	2 Peter 3:3-10
Saturday 4th November	Ps 11; 12	Ps 13; 14
	2 Kings 11:17-12:8	Esther 4
	Matthew 20:17-34	2 Peter 3:11-18

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

The health of the body, and the health of the mind, are inextricably linked to the health of the spirit. We don't tend to realise the difference it can make to the healing process to have a healthy spirit, or spiritual life. This means a healthy outlook on identity, purpose, motivation, routine, family and relationships. It's all too easy to say or think that 'God will fix everything', or to slap on a Jesus-shaped band-aid. Saying Jesus over and over, or parroting scripture that one clearly hasn't bothered to understand, do not a healthy spirit make. I know that sounds contrary, but the reality is that Jesus is so much more than a name, just as we are so much more than a name, or dare I say, a number on a spreadsheet.

There are a frightening number of Christians out there who only care about THEIR Christianity. THEIR Lord. THEIR story. Remember this: your testimony is only a testimony if it is *edifying to another*, rather than just talking about yourself. If you want to help someone: *inspire someone*. Don't just say how good you've got it. Don't just rattle off the writings of Paul and call it the gospel. Ironically, that is not actually healthy. It's not a healthy spirit, and it's not healthy Christianity. Because it does not make a watchword of *empathy*. It does not seek to listen, nor to understand, nor to *abide* with the lost; it merely passes judgment on them. These are real people, with real lives, and real lives come with real sin, real temptation, real pull toward evil. And it's a battle. It's a battle that scars as much as bullets and bayonets. That's what I mean about the link between body, mind and spirit. A troubled spirit can result from a troubled mind, for instance, or a body will be burdened by spiritual burdens. To heal one's wounds is to get to know the enemy that caused them. To understand the face and nature of vice, as well as the effect it has on people's lives. Scripture can only be the medicine if a) the diagnosis is thorough, and b) if it is administered with the care of a spiritual surgeon, rather than a snake-oil salesman. To heal a person, one must understand, and must persevere with that person.