

"Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope"

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel. Luke 2.30-32.

Welcome to Church

We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today. Please take Communion, whatever your denomination. If you are visiting, please make yourself known to Fr Anthony or to one of our welcomers following the service and do stay for a cuppa and chat!



For those who have children with them, there is a children's corner in the church for the little ones. During school term, children who are pre-school age and above can attend 'Godzone' - Special Children's Activities - shortly after we begin the 9.30am service.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Before each service we enter a time of silence as we prepare ourselves for worship.

Entrance Hymn: TiS 158 "God has spoken by his prophets"

God has spoken by his prophets, spoken his unchanging Word, each, from age to age proclaiming God, the one, the righteous Lord! In the world's despair and turmoil one firm anchor still holds fast, God is king, his throne eternal, God is first, and God is last.

God has spoken by Christ Jesus, Christ the everlasting Son, brightness of the Father's glory, with the Father, ever one: spoken by the Word incarnate, God from God, ere time began, Light of light, to Earth descending, God, revealed as Son of man.

God is speaking by his Spirit speaking to our hearts again, in the age-long word expounding God's own message, now as then, through the rise and fall of nations one sure faith yet standing fast: God still speaks, his word unchanging, God the first and God the last.

George Wallace Briggs 1875-1959 alt.

Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God for ever.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Welcome

Prayer of Preparation: Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Two Great Commandments:

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is

like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

Kyries: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

The Gloria:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Prayer of the Day:

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only Son was presented in the temple in accordance with the law, so we may be dedicated to you with pure and clean hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We pray together for hope:

God of Hope

You call on us to be your witness in this uncertain world; By your Spirit awaken in us

a true vision of your kingdom, a greater certainty of our salvation, and a deeper dedication to your service;

that through our words and actions the same Spirit may bring many who are lost to be found, and for them to celebrate the hope that we can only have in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Godzone blessing

The ministry of the Word: The first reading: Malachi 3.1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling-place: O Lord God of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. The sparrow has found her a home. and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even your altar, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house: they will always be praising you. Blessed are those whose strength is in you: in whose heart are the highways to Zion; Who, going through the valley of dryness, find there a spring from which to drink: till the autumn rain shall clothe it with blessings. They go from strength to strength: they appear, every one of them, before the God of gods in Zion. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Behold, O God, him who reigns over us: and look upon the face of your anointed. One day in your courts is better than a thousand: I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

For the Lord God is a light and a shield, the Lord gives favour and honour: and no good thing will he withhold from those who walk in innocence. O Lord God of hosts:

blessed are those who put their trust in you.

The second reading: Hebrews 2.14-18

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

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

Gradual hymn: TiS 324 "Lord, bid Your servant go in peace"

Lord, bid Your servant go in peace, Your word is now fulfilled. These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, This child so long foretold.

This is the Saviour of the world, The Gentiles' promised light, God's glory dwelling in our midst, The joy of Israel.

This child shall see in Israel so many rise or fall; God's sign raised high for all to see, which yet shall be denied.

The Gospel reading:

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke, chapter 2, beginning at verse 22

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'),

and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.

It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,

according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed

so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage,

then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day.

At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

His mother's soul a sword shall pierce of sorrow keen and deep. From many hearts their secret thoughts through him shall be revealed.

Blessed be the Father, who has given his Son to be our Lord, blessed too that Son, and with them both the Spirit of their love.

James Quinn 1919 - 2010 (Luke 2:29-32, 34-35)

Sermon – followed by a time of silent reflection

The Creed:

Let us stand together and affirm the faith of the church: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation. he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The prayers of the people:

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Response: God of Hope, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

At the conclusion

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.

Preparation

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3.16.

Prayer of Approach:

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Invitation to Confession:

Christ the grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.

Let us bring our weaknesses and infirmities to him, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Confession:

Merciful God, our maker and our judge we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution:

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The Greeting of Peace:

We are the body of Christ. **His spirit is with us.** The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** Offertory hymn: TiS 590 "What a friend we have in Jesus"

What a friend we have in Jesus all our sins and griefs to bear, What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer, O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations, Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged: take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness: take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Jesus is our only refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer. Do your friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

Prayer over the gifts:

Joseph M. Scriven, 1820-1886 alt.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, Mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, Our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary And lived as one of us.

You anointed him as Messiah, the light of the nations, and revealed him as the hope of all who thirst for righteousness and peace.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered a one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, And all the company of heaven, We proclaim your great and glorious name, For ever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blesséd is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The breaking of the bread:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Agnus Dei:

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Invitation to communion:

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Communion

Post communion hymn: TiS 519 "And now, O Father, mindful of the love"

And now, O Father, mindful of the love that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's hill, and having with us him who pleads above, we here present, we bring before you still that only offering perfect in your eyes, the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

Look, Father, look on his anointed face, and only look on us as found in him; look not on our misusings of your grace, our prayer so halting, and our faith so dim: for now between our sins and their reward we set the passion of your Son our Lord.

And so we come; O draw us to your feet, most patient Saviour, who can love us still; and by this food, so awesome and so sweet, deliver us from every touch of ill; in your own service make us glad and free, and may we in your presence ever be.

William Bright 1824-1901 alt.

Prayer after Communion:

God of the nations,

we thank you for nourishing us with this holy sacrament. Guide us by your presence,

that we may bring your light to those who dwell in darkness, and establish your justice in the earth.

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.

Notices

The Blessing:

May Christ the Son of God be manifest to you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the + blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Final Hymn: TiS 473 "Community of Christ"

Community of Christ, who make the Cross your own, live out your creed and risk your life for God alone: the God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong, whose children are of every race and every song. Community of Christ, look past the Church's door and see the refugee, the hungry, and the poor. Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street, take towel and water, that you wash your neighbour's feet. Community of Christ,

through whom the word must sound cry out for justice and for peace the whole world round: disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy, turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.

When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done, the climate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun; our currency be love and kindliness our law, our food and faith be shared as one for evermore.

Dismissal:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

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NOTICES

Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Spectacular 4th March! Once again we will enjoy pancakes and fellowship but this time at Heath McKenzie's house. Put the date in your diary now, a sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex next Sunday, to ensure we will have pancakes for all!

News and views on faith from Australia and around the world brought to you by *The Melbourne Anglican*. The NewsStand is now live on *TMA*'s website, using the link <u>http://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/newsstand</u>.

SAINTS AND HOLY WOMEN AND MEN FOR THIS WEEK

 Monday FIRST ANGLICAN SERVICE AT SYDNEY COVE, CONDUCTED BY RICHARD JOHNSON, SYDNEY 1788
Tuesday Anskar, missionary bishop in Sweden (d. 865)
Wednesday Martyrs of Japan, crucified at Nagasaki (d. 1597)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wednesday:

Next Sunday: FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Hebrews 12.4-7 (8-10) 11-15 Psalm: 103.15-18 Mark 6.1-6

Isaiah 6.1-8 (9-13) Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15.1-11 Luke 5.1-11

WE THANK GOD FOR HIS MANY BLESSINGS, LET US PRAY EACH DAY FOR: THE CHURCH

Sun 2 Red Door Caroline Springs (Jonathan Smith); The Diocese of Bendigo (Bp Matt Brain, Clergy & People); Christ Church Grammar School (Neil Andary, Principal; Nicholas Russell, Chaplain); The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia (Abps Justin Duckworth, Don Tamihere, Sione Ulu'ilakepa); Upper Yarra Anglican Parish – Pastoral service (Bp Paul Barker);

Mon 3 Casey Anglican Dinka Congregation AAC (Peter Alier Jongroor); The Diocese of Brisbane (Abp Jeremy Greaves, Asst Bps John Roundhill, Sarah Plowman, Cameron Venables); Anglican Overseas Aid (Jo Knight, CEO); Korowa Anglican Girls' School – Year 12 Leaders Induction Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell); Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School – Senior School Commencement service (Bp Brad Billings); *Tue 4* Oaktree Parish - St Mary's Caulfield with St Clement's Elsternwick (Mark Juers, Andrew Stewart, Karen Winsemius); The Diocese of Bunbury (Bp Ian Coutts, Clergy & People); Authorised Stipendiary Lay Ministers; St John's Camberwell – Commissioning service of vicar Aaron Ghiloni (Bp Genieve Blackwell); Mullum Mullum Anglican Church Ringwood – Commissioning service of vicar Samuel Creek (Bp Paul Barker); *Wed 5* St Paul's Caulfield North (Incumbency vacant); The Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn (Bp Mark Short, Asst Bp Vanessa Bennett, Clergy & People); Christ Church Melton -Commissioning service of vicar Ian Hennebry (Bp Brad Billings); *Thu 6* Anglican Parish of Longbeach Chelsea (Suzanne Bluett); The Diocese of Central Queensland (Bp Peter Grice, Clergy & People); Firbank Grammar School (Jenny Williams, Principal; Christine Croft, chaplain);

Fri 7 St Matthew's Cheltenham (Incumbency vacant); Chaplain to Anglican Centre staff (Anne Wakeling);

Sat 8 All Saints' Clayton (Charlie Fletcher, Abraham Amuom, Weiyi Lou, Xiaoxi Lou); The Diocese of Gippsland (Bp Richard Treloar, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of Melbourne (Yvonne Poon).

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Reconciliation and justice for our First Nations People. Those impacted by the state of the economy and recent natural disasters.

THE WORLD

A compassionate outcome for all Asylum Seekers. Productive and harmonious relationships among Pacific neighbours. Peace in the Holy Lands, Middle East, Eastern Europe and Africa. All affected by climate change - wisdom and leadership to prevent further environmental damage.

THE ASCENSION COMMUNITY

Please hold in your daily prayers any individual parish members who may be on your heart, and for an awareness of God's presence in the events of the week.

Those in special need of prayer: Estelle Carman, Don Lambourne, Douglas Mortimer, Jean & Alan Close, Glenys Howell, Kaye & Carole Smith, Pauline & Edith Le Riche, Lyle & Jan Mansfield, Stanley & Rose Joseph, Pam & Tony, Marie Cleaver (Judithe's friend), Shirley & Alan Wagner, Joy (Jan Wheeler's sister), Fanny (Aggie's sister) & Clifford, Pat Ludwick, Gerald (Pat Eadon's brother), Beverley Frost, Heather & Ron, Andrew Harding, Kathryn, Tim Youings and others known to us who are in special need of prayer.

Those at the Peter James Centre and Burwood Lodge Those working in Health and Aged Care settings Our local Schools, Colleges, and Universities

Ourselves - as we are strengthened through the power of the Holy Spirit in love and prayer for one another

ROSTERS:

| | <u>8:00am</u> | <u>9:30am</u> |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Welcomers | Sue Tregear | Joanne Waite & Pat Ludwick |
| Reader | Sue Tregear | Chloe Bedlow |
| Server | Sue Tregear | Natalie Ortlieb |
| Liturgical Assistant | | Joanne Waite |
| Intercessions | Fr Anthony | Trevor Smith |
| Music | | Peter Bedlow |
| Godzone | | Michael Jellis & Anne Wharton |
| Morning Tea | | Ruth and Gavin Ganasalingam |
| Sacristan | Judithe Atkinson | |
| Printing | Alma Brand | |
| Flowers | Robin Jellis | |



378 Blackburn Road, Burwood East, 3151

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation. We pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

Vicar: Fr Anthony Frost

Office Manager: Ron McKenzie

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PARISH WEB ADDRESS: www.ascensionchurch.org.au

FACEBOOK Please visit and

www.facebook.com/AscensionBurwoodEast

Email: office@ascensionchurch.org.au

Pastoral Care contact: Fr Anthony

Pew sheet: Please send all items for inclusion in next week's pewsheet to Ron McKenzie by 5:00p.m. Thursday evening (<u>r.mckenzie@novatechsolutions.com.au</u>.)

Baptism, Marriage & funerals by arrangement

| Sunday | 8:00am Eucharist |
|-----------|--|
| | 9:30am Eucharist |
| | 'Godzone' children's program during 9.30 am service (during school term) |
| Wednesday | 10:00am Eucharist |
| Friday | 10:00am – Noon. Drop-in for cuppa and chat. |

Banking details for direct debit or donation:

Bank:Indue LimitedName: Anglican Church of the AscensionBSB:703122A/C:050095388

Commitment to Child Safety: At the Church of the Ascension, we follow Christ in being a caring Church welcoming of all, extending his love and invitation of new life. In ministry to children, young people and vulnerable adults we are committed to providing an environment that is physically, emotionally and spiritually safe and supportive. We have a zero-tolerance approach to Child abuse or abuse of vulnerable people. This includes a culture of child-safety and of inclusivity for people of cultural and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background, people with disability or any other specific group.

Read the full Commitment to Child Safety document on our website: www.ascensionchurch.org.au