

"Seeking God, Serving with love, Sharing hope"

Blessed are you when people hate you on account of the Son of man. Rejoice and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. Luke 6.23.

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 179 "Praise with joy the world's Creator"

Praise with joy the world's Creator, God of justice, love, and peace, source and end of human knowledge, Force of greatness without cease. Celebrate the Maker's glory, power to rescue and release.

Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry, frees the captive, finds the lost, heals the sick, up-sets religion, fearless both of fate and cost. Celebrate Christ's constant presence: friend and stranger, guest and host.

Praise the Spirit sent among us, liberating truth from pride, forging bonds where race or gender, age or nation dare divide. Celebrate the Spirit's treasure: foolishness none dare deride.

Praise the Maker, Christ, and Spirit, one God in community, calling Christians to embody oneness and diversity. Thus the world shall yet believe, when shown Christ's vibrant unity.

John L. Bell (1949-) & Graham Maule (1958-)

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:

Righteous God, you challenge the powers that rule this world and you show favour to the oppressed: instil in us a true sense of justice, that we may discern the signs of your kingdom and strive for right to prevail; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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: Jeremiah 17.5-10

Thus says the Lord : Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes. and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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

Psalm 1

Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly: **nor followed the way of sinners**, **nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.** But their delight is in the law of the Lord: **and on that law will they ponder day and night.** They are like trees planted beside streams of water: that yield their fruit in due season.

Their leaves also shall not wither:

and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper. As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:

they are like the chaff which the wind scatters. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement:

For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:

but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

The second reading: 1 Corinthians 15.12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: TiS 448 "Blest are the pure in heart"

Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.

The Lord who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to dwell with us in lowliness, our pattern and our King:

Still to the lowly soul he will himself impart, and for his cradle and his throne chooses the pure in heart.

The Gospel reading:

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke, chapter 6, beginning at verse 17 **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

'Blessed are you who are hungry now,

for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

'Woe to you who are full now,

for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord, we your presence seek; this blessing now renew: give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple fit for you.

John Keble 1792-1866 (vv. 1,3) and others

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 Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, 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 390 "Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Lord"

Refrain: Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.

> Jesus is Lord of all the earth; he is the King of creation. *Refrain*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain*

God has proclaimed his gracious gift: New life for all. Alleluia! *Refrain*

Come, let us praise the living Lord, Joyfully sing to our Saviour. *Refrain*

TiS 390 Donald e. Fisher 1950-

Prayer over the gifts:

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 738 "My Jesus, my Saviour"

My Jesus, my Saviour Lord, there is none like you; all of my days, I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love. My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength, let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King. Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands; forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand. Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Darlene Zschech 1993-

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 560 "All my hope on God is founded"

All my hope on God is founded; all my trust he will renew, through all change and chance he guides me, only good and only true. God unknown, he alone, calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory, sword and crown, betray our trust; all we build with care and labour, tower and temple, fall to dust, but God's power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness lasts for ever, deep his wisdom, passing thought; light and life are all God's splendour bringing beauty out of naught. Evermore from God's store new-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily the almighty giver will his bounteous gifts bestow, God's desire our soul delighting, pleasure leading where we go. Love will stand at his hand; joy shall wait for his command.

Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of praise be done, high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ his Son. Hear Christ call one and all: you that follow shall not fall.

Robert S. Bridges (1844–1930) alt. after Joachim Neader 1650-80.

Dismissal:

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

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NOTICES

Not home alone is back for 2025! Our next lunch is Friday 28th February, 12 noon for a 12:30pm lunch at the Mountain View Hotel Glen Waverley. Looking forward to seeing you all, Judithe 9729 8185.

Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Spectacular 4th March! Once again we will enjoy pancakes and fellowship but this time at Heath McKenzie's house, 28 Morack Road Vermont. Put the date in your diary now, and add your name(s) to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex to ensure we will have pancakes for all!

Welsh Choir: The Melbourne Welsh Church will be hosting their St David's Day service at our cathedral. This will take place on **Saturday** 1 March at 3pm – more details can be found on their website: <u>Gymanfa Ganu 2025 & St. David's Day Flag Raising Ceremony –</u> <u>Melbourne Welsh Church</u>

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>.

- A peacemaking 'Father of the House': Archbishop Freier retires The Melbourne Anglican
- 'May God make us worthy of His calling': New deacons, bishop The Melbourne Anglican
- Secretary General joins retirement service for the Archbishop of Melbourne Anglican Communion News Service
- The church's disappearing women ABC News
- 'Trust in God': Dempsey on faith, footy and meeting a Cats legend AFL
- Trump isn't defending religious communities he's waging war on them Religion News Service
- Church of England stops short of backing full independence in safeguarding Reuters
- Church of England bans non-alcoholic wine, gluten-free bread from communion: 'injustice' – The Guardian
- 10% of priests in this Catholic diocese in England are married. Here's a look inside their daily lives National Catholic Reporter
- Texas bills would allow Ten Commandments and Bible reading in public schools NBC News

SAINTS AND HOLY WOMEN AND MEN FOR THIS WEEK

MondayHOLY INNOCENTSThursdayWilliam Grant Broughton, first bishop of Australia (d. 1853)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wednesday:

Next Sunday: SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Gen 8.6-13, 20-22 Psalm: 116.11-18 Mark 8.22-26 Genesis 45.3-11, 15 Psalm 37.1-11, 15 1 Corinthians 15.35-50 Luke 6.27-38

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

Sun 16 St James' Dandenong (Graeme Peters, Oyem Amaylek, George Ladu); The Diocese of Perth (Abp Kay Goldsworthy, David Bassett, Hans Christiansen, Kate Wilmot, Clergy & People); Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School (Narelle Umbers, Principal, Jenny Sonneman, Chaplain); The Church of Bangladesh (Bp Samuel Sunil Mankhin);

St Cuthbert's Grovedale – Pastoral service (Bp Brad Billings); St Oswald's Glen Iris – Pastoral service (Bp Paul Barker);

Mon 17 St Michael & St Luke's Dandenong (Jeremiah Paul); The Diocese of Riverina (Bp Donald Kirk, Clergy & People); Melbourne Anglican Diocesan Corporation;

Tue 18 The Diocese of Sydney (Abp Kanishka Raffel, Regional Bps Chris Edwards, Michael Stead, Peter Hayward, Peter Lin, Malcolm Richards, Gary Koo, Clergy & People); Calling Melbourne2Prayer Group (Jill Firth, Rachel McDougall, Jamie Miller, Philip Trouse);

Wed 19 St Philip's Deep Creek (Megan Curlis-Gibson, Benjamin Clements, Pedram Shirmast, Leili Shirmast); The Diocese of Tasmania (Bp Richard Condie, Missioner Bp Chris Jones, Clergy & People); Spiritual Health Victoria Council (Cheryl Holmes, CEO); *Thu 20* The Parish of St John's, Diamond Creek (Timothy Johnson, Kirk Mackenzie, Joel Snibson); The Diocese of The Murray (Bp Keith Dalby, Clergy & People); Ivanhoe Grammar School (Gerard Foley, Principal);

Fri 21 Christ Church Dingley (Richard Loh); The Diocese of The Northern Territory (Bp Greg Anderson, Clergy & People); Children's & Families' Ministry (Karen Winsemius, Facilitator);

Sat 22 Holy Trinity Doncaster (Andrew Price, Alan Xue, Esther Ruan, Geoffrey Hall, Mark Chew); The Diocese of Wangaratta (Bp Clarence Bester, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of The Yarra (Tim Johnson).

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, Kalo, Gerald (Pat Eadon's brother), Beverley Frost, Heather & Ron, Aggie Canterbury, Andrew Harding, Kathryn, Tim Youings and others known to us who are in special need of prayer.

Those at the Peter James Centre, Burwood Lodge and Calvary the Highbury 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	Ros Smith & Suzanne Seager
Reader	Sue Tregear	Suzanne Seager
Server	Sue Tregear	Christine Youings
Liturgical Assistant		Joanne Waite
Intercessions	Fr Anthony	Cath Ortlieb
Music		Heath McKenzie & Josh Waite
Godzone		Natalie Ortlieb & Joy Ritchie
Morning Tea		Barrie Harding & Ros Smith
Sacristan	Sue Tregear	
Printing	Ron McKenzie	
Flowers	Christine Youings	
Garden	Barrie Harding	
Cleaning	Gavin & Ruth Ganasalin	ngam



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