



Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta  
Parochial District of  
Wangaratta West & The Warbys

**The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

Sung Eucharist, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 9.30am

**Annual Parish Meeting Sunday**

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

**Processional Hymn—TiS 148. tune, Te Laudant Omnia**

- 1. All things praise you, Lord most high,  
heaven and earth, and sea and sky;  
all were for your glory made,  
that your greatness thus displayed  
should all worship bring to you:  
so we praise you, Lord, anew.**
- 2. All things praise you — night to night  
sings in silent hymns of light;  
all things praise you — day by day  
hymns your power in burning ray;  
time and space are praising you:  
so we praise you, Lord, anew.**
- 3. All things praise you: heaven's high shrine  
rings with melody divine;  
lowly bending at your feet,  
seraph and archangel meet,  
know their highest bliss to be  
ever praising: so may we.**
- 4. All things praise you, glorious Lord,  
great Creator, powerful Word,  
omnipresent Spirit, now  
at your throne we humbly bow,  
lift our hearts in praise to you:  
so we praise you, Lord, anew.**

*George William Conder 1821–74 alt.*

*Welcome & Greeting*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The Acclamation*

We praise you, living God:  
you give strength to the earth that sustains us,  
**you open your hand to feed all living things.**

We praise you, Lord Jesus Christ:  
you teach us with stories of seeds and weeds and harvest time,  
**you call us to accept your word and bear much fruit.**

We praise you, Holy Spirit, fire of love:  
you are the breath of life in every creature,  
**you refresh our thirsty souls with grace.**

Blessed be God, Source of Wisdom, living Word, abiding Spirit,  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Sentence*

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
and with all your soul, and with all your mind.  
This is the great 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.

Matthew 22.37–40

*Prayer of Preparation*

**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.**

*Hymn of Praise (Gloria in excelsis)*

**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 Collect*

Let us pray (*silence for reflection on the theme of the day*)

O God, whose Son has taught us  
that love is the fulfilment 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 for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

#### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

#### **A Reading from the Book Deuteronomy [34. 1-12]**

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**

Psalm is said: Lectern side (left), Pulpit side (right) or All together

#### **Psalm 90. 1-6, 13-17**

Lord, you have been our refuge:  
**from one generation to another.**

Before the mountains were born  
or the earth and the world were brought to be:  
**from eternity to eternity you are God.**

You turn us back into dust:  
saying 'Return to dust, O children of Adam.'

**For a thousand years in your sight  
are like yesterday passing:  
or like one watch of the night.**

You cut them short like a dream:  
like the fresh grass of the morning;  
**In the morning it is green and flourishes:  
at evening it is withered and dried up.**

Relent, O Lord; how long will you be angry?:  
**take pity on your servants.**

O satisfy us early with your mercy:  
**that all our days we may rejoice and sing.**

Give us joy for all the days you have afflicted us:  
**for the years we have suffered adversity.**

Show your servants your work:  
**and let their children see your glory.**

*May the gracious favour of the Lord our God be upon us:  
prosper the work of our hands,  
O prosper the work of our hands!*

## **A Reading from The First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians [2. 1-13]**

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**

*Please Stand*

**Gradual Hymn** A & M 356. tune Savannah (AHB 520)

- 1. Praise we now the word of grace;  
may our hearts its truth embrace:  
from its pages may we hear  
Christ our teacher, speaking clear.**

2. **May the gospel of the Lord  
everywhere be spread abroad,  
that the world around may own  
Christ as King, and Christ alone.**

Sidney Newman Sedgwick (1872-1941)

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew [22. 34-46]  
**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**

*The Sermon*

*A time of silence, for reflection, follows the sermon.*

*The Creed*

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has promised that you will hear us when we ask in faith: receive the prayers we offer.

Holy God, you are our companion in all the tasks of daily life, and you build up your church with many gifts.

For your love and goodness,  
**we give you thanks, O God.**

We thank you for gatherings, meetings and societies, and for your Holy Spirit in all our times of friendship.

For your love and goodness,  
**we give you thanks, O God.**

We thank you for loaves and Fishes, Christians Caring, and for your Holy Spirit in all our community connections.

For your love and goodness,  
**we give you thanks, O God.**

We give you thanks for parish councils, committees and synods, and for your Holy Spirit in all our decision-making

For your love and goodness,  
**we give you thanks O God.**

We thank you for organisers and record-keepers,  
secretaries and historians,  
and for your Holy Spirit in all our administrative work.  
For your love and goodness,  
**we give you thanks O God.**

We thank you for builders and cleaners, gardeners and menders,  
and for your Holy Spirit in all our stewardship of property.  
For your love and goodness,  
**we give you thanks O God.**

We thank you for offerings, bequests and fundraising,  
and for your Holy Spirit in all our giving.  
For your love and goodness,  
**we give you thanks O God.**

We thank you for musicians and embroiderers,  
bell-ringers and flower-arrangers,  
servers and sacristans,  
readers and welcomers,  
and for your Holy Spirit in all our worship.  
For your love and goodness,  
**we give you, thanks O God.**

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us 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.**

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners  
and inviting them to the Lord's table.

*Silence may be kept.*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's  
forgiveness.

**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.**

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.**

*Please stand*

#### 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.**

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**Offertory Hymn—**AHB 70/TiS 135. tune, All Things Bright and Beautiful

***All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful—  
the Lord God made them all.***

- 1. The wildflowers in their beauty,  
the mountain ranges tall,  
the billabongs and rivers,  
and friendly birds that call.      *Chorus***
- 2. The cold wind in the winter,  
the bright, life-giving sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden—  
he made them every one.      *Chorus***

3. The coloured walls of gorges,  
the gum trees green and tall,  
the rocks, and pools, and palm trees,  
the sparkling waterfall,  
*All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful—  
the Lord God made them all.*
4. The many-coloured corals,  
the creatures of the sea,  
of the bushland, field or desert,  
on farms, or roaming free, *Chorus*
5. He gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty  
who has made all things well. *Chorus*

Cecil Frances Alexander 1818–95 (vv. 2 alt., 5, and refrain)  
Brian Black 1926– (vv. 1 and 3)  
Compilers (v. 4)

*Offertory prayer:*

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.**

O God, eternal Wisdom, all you have made is beautiful and good.  
We thank you for darkness and light,  
for this earth and for our bodies, for growth and change  
and all that lies beyond our knowledge and imagination.

In every generation you befriend your people.  
You gave us your holy Law, sent the prophets,  
and called us back to the truth whenever we turned away.

You were vindicated in your servant Jesus  
who came with forgiveness, feasting, and stories of your grace.  
Though we rejected him,  
death on a cross could not quench the fire of his love.  
You raised him up for us, the firstborn from the dead,  
to build a new community of hope  
where all are honoured as Christ's equal friends.

And so we praise you with Mary, mother of the living Word,  
and with all your faithful friends,  
as we join the angels' song:

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

♪♪♪

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

God of the feast, your household is hungry  
for the bread of heaven and the cup of life.  
Send your Spirit on us and on our celebration,  
so that we may eat at this table and be satisfied  
with the sacrament of Christ's body and blood. ✕

On the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with the people he loved.  
He took the bread, gave you thanks,  
broke it to share with them, and said:  
"Take and eat this: it is my body." ✕

Then he took a cup of wine.  
Again he thanked you and told them:  
"Drink this, all of you: it is my blood, shed for you and for many so that  
sins may be forgiven. Whenever you do this, do it in memory of me." ✕

So we delight to remember Jesus: the faithfulness of his life,  
the victory of his cross, the glory of his resurrection,  
the joy of the Holy Spirit poured out for the Church.

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God, holy Wisdom, merciful and generous,  
accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.  
Make us good stewards of creation,  
with justice in our hearts, courage in our actions  
and power in our speech to bear witness to the truth.

Protect us with your glory,  
unite your church in loyalty and love,  
and bring us home with all your saints to feast with you for ever.  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
and in the Spirit's grace,  
with heart and soul and mind and strength  
we love and worship you alone, O God,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

As this broken bread was once many grains,  
which have been gathered together and made one bread:  
**so may your Church be gathered  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

*All sing*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.**

*The Invitation to Communion is given*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Communion Reflection, tune ROCKINGHAM TIS 342*

*My God, your table now is spread,  
your cup with love will overflow;  
be all your children to it led,  
and let them all its sweetness know.*

*A sacred feast which Jesus makes,  
rich banquet of his flesh and blood!  
How happy those who here partake  
that sacred stream, that heavenly food.*

*Still let your table honoured be,  
and furnished well with joyful guests;  
and may each soul salvation see  
that here its sacred pledges tastes.*

Philip Doddridge 1702–51 alt

## THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Almighty God,  
you have taught us through your Son  
that love is the fulfilling of the law:  
grant that we may love you with our whole heart  
and our neighbours as ourselves;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**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. Amen.**

## Notices

**After Communion Hymn—**TiS 187. tune, Darwall

- 1. Let all creation dance  
in energies sublime,  
as order turns with chance,  
unfolding space and time,  
for nature's art  
in glory grows,  
and newly shows  
God's mind and heart.**
- 2. God's breath each force unfurls,  
igniting from a spark  
expanding starry swirls,  
with whirlpools dense and dark.  
Though moon and sun  
seem mindless things,  
each orbit sings:  
'Your will be done.'**

3. **Our own amazing earth,  
with sunlight, cloud and storms  
and life's abundant growth  
in lovely shapes and forms,  
is made for praise,  
a fragile whole,  
and from its soul  
heaven's music plays.**
4. **Lift heart and soul and voice:  
in Christ all praises meet  
and nature shall rejoice  
as all is made complete.  
In hope be strong,  
all life befriend  
and kindly tend  
creation's song.**

Brian Arthur Wren 1936—  
based on Psalm 148

*The Blessing*

The peace of God which passes all understanding  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Dismissal*

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **A Prayer for our PAM**

Father, as we meet together, help us  
to listen,  
to understand and  
to remember.

Make us aware that we are meeting  
not simply with each other,  
but with you:  
make your presence real to each one of us.

As we listen  
help us to concentrate  
so we hear what is intended  
and what is your will.

Give us courage to say what needs to be said  
and humility to accept decisions  
with which we do not agree;  
when we finish our meeting,  
enable us by your grace,  
to go out and fulfil your purpose,  
doing what you want us to do;  
and to your name be the glory,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **At the end of our APM**

Thanks be to you  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
For all the benefits you have won for us,  
and all the pain and insults you have borne for us.  
O merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,  
May we see you more clearly,  
Know you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly,  
Now and for evermore. **Amen.**

Adapted from Richard of Chichester

## The Meaning of Sunday

The Day of Creation,  
the Day of Resurrection,  
the Day of the Spirit—

the Lord's Day is all of these, and for that reason it is the day of celebration for the church. So it is also the baptismal day and the eucharistic day. It used to be said that every Sunday is a little Easter. Another way of saying this is suggested by the Roman Catholic writer, Aidan Kavanagh: **Easter is a big Sunday.**

It was the overwhelming significance of the first day of the week which led the first Christians to go beyond the Old Testament, which had set Saturday (the Sabbath) as the day holy to God, and to establish the first day of the week as the Lord's Day. The earliest Jewish Christians continued to keep the Sabbath, but they also gathered on the first day of the week to celebrate the Eucharist. Later Christians moved the celebration of Christ's resurrection from Passover to the Sunday following.

Gradually, Sunday came to be considered the day of rest, as the Sabbath had been, and finally, in A.D. 321, the newly converted Roman Empire established Sunday as a legal holiday. While there were advantages in this—for instance, most people had a legally protected day when they did not have to work—it has also created various problems in our understanding of Sunday and in our celebration of it.

It may help modern Christians understand the meaning of Sunday to know that the early Christians referred to Sunday as the "**Eighth Day.**" There being no eighth day of the week in our human scale of time, this expressed the notion of the Lord's Day as the day which transcends time and space—a day which takes us beyond our life in this world and into the life of the kingdom, the eternal day of Christ. This, by the way, is why many baptismal fonts are eight-sided—because Baptism is the way we enter into eternal life, into the Eighth Day.

Sunday, then, is not only the first day, the Creation Day, but also the Eighth Day, the day the creation was made new in Jesus' resurrection.