



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA
PAROCHIAL DISTRICT OF WANGARATTA WEST & THE WARBYS

The Fourth Sunday in Lent
Mothering Sunday
10th March 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Opening Hymn: Tune, O Waly Waly (AHB 453)

- 1. Today we bring our thankful hearts,
for all a mothering love imparts:
for those who gave us life and breath,
for love that's stronger far than death.**
- 2. For kindness, patience, warmth and care,
for each embrace, each tear, each prayer,
each word of peace, each healing touch,
these simple gifts which mean so much.**
- 3. We look to you, our mothering Lord,
who knows love's cost, and love's reward,
your passion fiercer than the grave,
love for the world you came to save.**

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The priest greets and welcomes the people

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Acclamation

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures for ever.

The Sentence

The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him
may have eternal life.

John 3.14–15

Please kneel or be seated

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Let us then ask for mercy,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

The Litany is said.

God the Father, **have mercy on us.**

God the Son, **have mercy on us.**

God the Holy Spirit, **have mercy on us.**

Holy Trinity, one God, **have mercy on us.**

From all evil and mischief;
from pride, vanity and hypocrisy;
from envy, hatred and malice;
and from all evil intent,
good Lord, deliver us.

From sloth, worldliness and love of money;
from hardness of heart
and contempt of your word and your laws,
good Lord, deliver us.

From sins of body and mind;
from deceits of the world, the flesh and the devil,
good Lord, deliver us.

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy;
in the hour of our death and at the day of judgement,
good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation;
by your birth, childhood and obedience;
by your baptism, fasting and temptation,
good Lord, deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work;
by your mighty acts of power;
and by your preaching of the kingdom,
good Lord, deliver us.

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion;
and by your precious death and burial,
good Lord, deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection;
by your glorious ascension;
and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,
good Lord, deliver us.

**Give us true repentance;
forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance
and our deliberate sins;
and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit
to amend our lives according to your holy word.**

The Kyries (if sung each is sung 3 times)

**Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.**

The Absolution

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy,
you so loved the world
that, when we were dead in our sins,
you sent your only Son for our deliverance.

Lifted up from the earth,
he is light and life;
exalted upon the cross,
he is truth and salvation.

Raise us up with Christ
and make us rich in good works,
that we may walk as children of light
toward the paschal feast of heaven.

We ask this through Christ, our deliverance and hope,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
holy and mighty God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the Book Numbers [21. 4-9]

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.

The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm 107. 1-3, 17-22

Plain = Lectern (Left) side *Italics = Pulpit (right) side* **Bold = All**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
for his loving mercy is for ever.

Let the Lord's redeemed say so:
whom he has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,

**And gathered in from every land,
from the east and from the west:
from the north and from the south.**

Fools were far gone in transgression:
and because of their sins were afflicted.

*They sickened at any food:
and had come to the gates of death.*

Then they cried to the Lord in their distress:
and he took them out of their trouble.

He sent his word and healed them:
and saved their life from the Pit.

**Let them thank the Lord for his goodness:
and for the wonders that he does
for the children of Adam;**

**Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving:
and tell what he has done with shouts of joy.**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians [2. 1-10]

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are

disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: Tune, Londonderry Air.

- 1. For God so loved the world he gave his only Son,
who came to die that we might ever live;
and on a cruel cross our full redemption won,
that we might know the peace he longs to give:
though he was rich, he came alone and poor for us;
though he was Lord, he served as if a slave;
though he was God, our human shape he bore for us;
to earth he came in love, his own to seek and save.**
- 2. Yes God so loved the world he gave his only Son,
who came to die that we might ever live;
and on a cruel cross our full redemption won,
that we might know the peace he longs to give:
though he was rich, he came alone and poor for us;
though he was Lord, he served as if a slave;
though he was God, our human shape he bore for us;
to earth he came in love, his own to seek and save.**

Michael Perry (Word and Music) (1942 - 1996)
from John 3, 2 Corinthians 8 and Philippians 2
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The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John [3. 14-21]

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

[Jesus said to Nicodemus:]

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.’

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

Silence for Reflection

The Nicene Creed is said, all standing.

Let us together 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

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

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.
And may light perpetual shine upon them.

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.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: God of Eve and God of Mary. Tune, Love Divine.

- 1. God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother-earth,
thank you for the ones who with us
shared their life and gave us birth.**

2. **As you came to earth in Jesus,
so you come to us today;
you are present in the caring
that prepares us for life's way.**
3. **Thank you that the Church, our Mother,
gives us bread and fills our cup,
and the comfort of the Spirit
warms our hearts and lifts us up.**
4. **Thank you for belonging, shelter,
bonds of friendship, ties of blood,
and for those who have no children,
yet are parents under God.**
5. **God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our brother, human Son,
Spirit, caring like a Mother,
take our love and make us one!**

Fred Kaan 1929-2009

Offertory Prayer

Loving God, you care for your children
with both a father's and a mother's love:

† bless this Simnel Cake, symbol of our gratitude for all the favours
you have bestowed on us through your holy church, the mother of us
all; and symbol also of our gratitude for the love of our earthly
mothers, and for their tender and unselfish care.

We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

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.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me. ✕

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me. ✕

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son. ✕

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The bread is broken

We break this bread,
Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let us pray

**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 Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

After all have Communicated—tune, SONG 47 (46) AHB 402.

1. Thanks be to God for his most holy Son.
Our hearts we lift in adoration now.
2. Thanks be to God for all the Spirit's power.
Our hearts we lift in liberation now.
3. Thanks to be God for giving us new birth.
Our hearts we lift in consecration now.
4. Thanks be to God for eucharistic food.
Our hearts we lift in exultation now.
5. Thanks be to God for hope of heaven's joy.
Our hearts we lift in expectation now.
6. Thanks be to God, blessed Trinity above.
Our hearts we lift in veneration now.

Michael Saward

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THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Father of all we give you thanks and praise
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us in this hope that we have grasped;
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.

Notices

Concluding Hymn: Tune, Abbot's Leigh (AHB 93).

- 1. Sing we of the blessed Mother
who received the angel's word,
and obedient to his summons
bore in love the infant Lord;
sing we of the joys of Mary
at whose breast that child was fed
who is Son of God eternal
and the everlasting Bread.**
- 2. Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
of the sword that pierced her through,
when beneath the cross of Jesus
she his weight of suffering knew,
looked upon her Son and Saviour
reigning high on Calvary's tree,
saw the price of our redemption
paid to set the sinner free.**
- 3. Sing again the joys of Mary
when she saw the risen Lord,
and in prayer with Christ's apostles,
waited on his promised word:
from on high the blazing glory
of the Spirit's presence came,
heavenly breath of God's own being,
manifest through wind and flame.**
- 4. Sing the chiefest joy of Mary**

**when on earth her work was done,
and the Lord of all creation
brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessed,
raised on high and crowned with grace,
may your Son, the world's redeemer,
grant us all to see his face.**

George Boorne Timms (1910-1997)

The Blessing

May the Father from whom every family
in earth and heaven receives its name
strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith
and that, knowing his love,
broad and long, deep and high beyond all knowledge,
you may be filled with all the fullness of God;
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. Amen.

Resources used in this Order of Service include:

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