



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

11.00am Eucharist with Baptism
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28th 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Greeting

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

He is Risen Indeed! ALLELUIA!

Opening Hymn: tune, Richmond—TiS 425

1. I am the Light whose brightness shines
on every pilgrim's way,
and brings to evil's darkest place
the glorious light of day.
2. I am the Gate that leads to life
along the narrow way,
the Shepherd who will tend my sheep
that none are lost or stray.
3. I am the Well from whose fresh springs
life-giving water flows
and on each side the tree of life
with leaves for healing grows.
4. I am the Bread, God's gift from heaven,
sent down to satisfy
that hunger which cries out for food;
who eats shall never die.
5. I am the Vine whose branches grow
united in one root;
who dwell in me, and I in them,
shall live and bear much fruit.



6. **I am the Resurrection life,
the power of God whereby
whoever truly trusts in me
shall live and never die.**
7. **I am the Way, the Truth, the Life,
and truth shall set you free
to seek and find the way to life
and live that life in me.**

Robert Willis (b. 1947)

The Sentence

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us.
Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one
another.

1 John 4.10–11

Let us pray.

**Father of glory, holy and eternal,
look upon us now in power and mercy.
May your strength overcome our weakness,
your radiance transform our blindness,
and your Spirit draw us to that love
shown and offered to us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Confession & Absolution

God raised Jesus Christ from the dead
and sent the Holy Spirit to recall the whole world to himself.
In baptism we die to sin and rise to newness of life in Christ.
Here we find rebirth in the Spirit,
and set our minds on his heavenly gifts.
As children of God, we are continually created anew,
as we walk the path of faith,
and feed on the forgiveness of his healing grace.

Let us receive new life in him
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith

cf Romans 6.4

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.**

**Have mercy on us,
forgive us all that is past,
and grant that we may serve you
and live a new life to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of love and power,
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise is said or sung.

**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 Priest sings or says the Collect

O God,
form the minds of your faithful people,
that we may love what you command
and desire what you promise,
so that, amid the many changes of this world,
our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A Reading from the First Letter of John [4. 7-21]

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

Gospel Hymn: tune, Eventide

- 1. Abide with me as I abide with you.
Branch of the vine, our lives will bear the fruit.
Your strength and power, connected we must be,
Source of all love, always abide with me.**
- 2. Gardener of life, your pruning hand is strong,
Take all the dead wood that I drag along,
Burn all those burdens so I can be free,
Renewed by grace, O God abide with me.**
- 3. When life is dark and hope is hard to find
Keep me secure, held strongly to the vine,**

**Don't let me lose my way when I can't see,
Through fearful storms, Jesus abide with me.**

4. **Make us be fruitful in all that we do
Blessed with a joy complete, a gift from you,
Blooming in love, for all the world to see.
Spirit of peace, abide with all, and me.**

Jennie Gordon

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [15. 1-8]
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

The Sermon

A period of silence for reflection follows the sermon

Holy Baptism

THE PRESENTATION

*The priest invites the sponsors to stand in view of the congregation.
The minister may say these or similar words.*

Children are baptised in response to God's all-embracing love. Parents and godparents who have responded to that love come now to bring this child for baptism. Before this congregation they must express their own trust and commitment to the promises of God, and their intention to bring up their child in the faith and practice of the Church. In due time this child should make his own response to God, and be prepared for confirmation.

The priest says to the sponsors

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing this child for baptism?

I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of this child?

I am.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage this child in the life and faith of the Christian community?

I will, with God's help.

THE DECISION

The priest says

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

The priest says this prayer over the candidate

Almighty God
deliver you from the powers of darkness,
and lead you in the light of Christ
to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

The priest says to the sponsors and the congregation

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 priest says to the sponsors

Do you affirm this faith as yours?
I do.

Will you each, by God's grace,
strive to live as a disciple of Christ,
loving God with your whole heart,
and your neighbour as yourself,
until your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

The priest says to the congregation

You have heard these our brothers and sisters respond to Christ.
Will you support them in this calling?

The congregation answers

We will.

THE BAPTISM

*At the place where the water for baptism is, the priest begins the
thanksgiving.*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life. With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things.

Through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom, and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise.

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit. Through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph.

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your kingdom.

And now we give you thanks that you have called this your servant to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that he who is baptised in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May he die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue forever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The candidate is brought to the water.

The minister baptises by dipping the candidate in the water, or pouring water over her, saying

Tyson James, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

AFTER BAPTISM

the priest makes a cross on the forehead, saying

Tyson, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

Live as a disciple of Christ:
fight the good fight,
finish the race,
keep the faith.

and the congregation responds, saying

**Confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

The minister says

God has brought you out of darkness
into his marvellous light.

and the congregation joins the minister in saying

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

The minister continues

God has called you into his Church.

The congregation joins the minister in saying

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray

Gracious God,
we who have been brought from death to life,
dedicate ourselves to you.
Produce in us the fruit of your Spirit.
Equip us to serve your people
and advance your gospel in the world.
Enable us to live in holiness and righteousness
and to please you in all that we do;
Lord, hear us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, in your infinite love you have made a new covenant
with us in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
promising to be our God and the God of our children.
Enable all who are baptised in your name
to live as a covenant people.
Fulfil your promises for Tyson we pray,
and grant that he may grow in your faith and service until his life's end;
Lord, hear us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we pray for Tyson's parents, Brenton and Ashlee; give them the spirit of wisdom and love. May their children grow up to love and reverence you and their home share in the joy of your eternal kingdom. Lord, hear us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

God of truth and love, we pray for Scott and Tegan, the godparents of Tyson. Enable them to share with their godson what you have revealed to us in your holy gospel. Lord, hear us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

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 forever. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, Peace be with you!

The peace of the Risen Lord be always with you. Alleluia!

And also with you.

Alleluia!

All may exchange a Greeting of Peace.

Offertory Hymn: TiS 526 (tune: Living Lord)

- 1. Lord Jesus Christ
You have come to us
You are one with us
Mary's Son
Cleansing our souls from all their sin
Pouring Your love and goodness in
Jesus, our love for you we sing
Living Lord**
- 2. Lord Jesus Christ
Now and every day
Teach us how to pray
Son of God
You have commanded us to do
This in remembrance Lord of you
Into our lives your power breaks through
Living Lord**
- 3. Lord Jesus Christ
You have come to us
Born as one with us
Mary's Son
Led out to die on Calvary
Risen from death to set us free
Living Lord Jesus, help us see
You are Lord**
- 4. Lord Jesus Christ
I would come to you
live my life for you
Son of God
All your commands I know are true
Your many gifts will make me new
Into my life your power breaks through
Living Lord**

Patrick Robert Norman Appleford 1925–
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Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
In your loving care you spread before us the table of life
and give us the cup of salvation to drink.
Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour and our Shepherd,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER

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 now and always,
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.

He is the true Paschal Lamb who was offered for us
and has taken away the sin of the world.

And now we give you thanks
because by water and the Holy Spirit
you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord,
you raise us to new life in him
and renew in us the image of your glory.
By his death, he has destroyed death and by his rising to life again
has restored us to eternal life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing/saying:

**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.**

And now, Father, we pray that we who receive these your gifts of
bread and wine according to our Saviour's word
may be partakers of his body and blood.

For on the night Jesus was betrayed he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, his almighty Father,

he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying
"Take, eat. This is my body which is 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
which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory.**

We offer our prayer and praise, Father,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
through Jesus Christ our Lord:

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread, then says

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.**

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.**

The invitation to Communion is given:

The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ.
**Be known to us, Lord Jesus,
in the breaking of the bread.**

We are one body, alleluia,
for though many we share one bread.
**Be known to us, Lord Jesus,
in the breaking of the bread.**

*An invitation is extended to all Christian people to make their
Communion here today.
To receive a blessing and not communion, simply keep your hands
behind your back as the signal that this is what you seek.*

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray

Author of life divine,
in the resurrection of your Son, you set before us
the mystery of his triumph over sin and death;
may all who are washed in the waters of rebirth
rise to newness of life
and find the promised presence of your abundant grace;
through 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 may be given at this point

Concluding Hymn: TiS 531 [tune: The Ashgrove]

- 1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from his table take leave.
The supper is ended: may now be extended
the fruits of his service in all who believe.
The seed of his teaching, our hungry souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for all humankind.
His grace shall incite us, his love shall unite us
to work for his kingdom, his purpose to find.**
- 2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living
the tasks of our everyday life we will face,
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing as neighbours all those of each race.
One feast that has fed us, one light that has led us,
unite us as one in his life that we share.
Then may all the living, with praise and thanksgiving,
give honour to Christ and his name that we bear.**

Words: Omer Westendorf (1916-1997)

The Blessing and Dismissal

Almighty God,
who redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ,
who raised us to newness of life through the waters of baptism,
and has brought us out of slavery into everlasting freedom,
give you joy and peace in faith and bring you to your eternal inheritance;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of Christ. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia!



¶ Pastoral Introduction

This may be read by those present before the service begins.

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love.

For all involved, particularly the candidates but also parents, godparents and sponsors, it is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making serious promises and declaring the faith. The wider community of the local church and friends welcome the new Christian, promising support and prayer for the future. Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and reflect on the progress made on that journey, which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church.

The service paints many vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian way. There is the sign of the cross, the badge of faith in the Christian journey, which reminds us of Christ's death for us. Our 'drowning' in the water of baptism, where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ's dying and rising, a picture that can be brought home vividly by the way the baptism is administered. Water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit. This reminds us of Jesus' baptism. And as a sign of that new life, there may be a lighted candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptized walks in that light for the rest of their lives.

As you pray for the candidates, picture them with yourself and the whole Church throughout the ages, journeying into the fullness of God's love.

Jesus said, 'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'

John 10.10