



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

9.30am Sung Eucharist
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28th 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Processional Music

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

In baptism we died with Christ,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,
we might walk in newness of life.
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 Acts of the Apostles [8. 26-40]

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

Psalm 22. 26-32

Plain = Lectern side *Italics = Pulpit side* **Bold = All**

From you springs my praise in the great congregation:

I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;

The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied:

*and those who seek the Lord shall praise him
—may their hearts rejoice for ever!*

**Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord:
and let all the families of the nations worship before him.**

For the kingdom is the Lord's:

and he shall be ruler over the nations.

How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage:

or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

**But he has saved my life for himself:
and my posterity shall serve him.**

**This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation:
and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.**

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

Let us reaffirm our faith.

**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.

Risen Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Please Stand

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

Alleluia!

The peace of the Risen Lord be always with you.

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
that you raised him in triumph from the dead.
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.**

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 forever. 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.*

After Communion Meditation Hymn

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord

Gentile or Jew
Servant or free
Woman or man
No more

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord

Many the gifts, many the works
One in the Lord
Of all

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord
We are one body in this one Lord

John B Foley

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray

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;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Notices may be given at this point

Concluding Hymn: TiS 531 [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,
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!