



**DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA**  
**The Parochial District of Wangaratta West and The Warbys**

**The Second Sunday in Lent**

**16<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Eucharist 8.00 a.m. & Sung Eucharist 9.30 a.m.**

**GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

**Hymn: AHB 490/TiS 577 [tune, Kilmarnock]**

- 1. Come, let us to the Lord our God  
with contrite hearts return;  
our God is gracious, nor will leave  
the desolate to mourn.**
- 2. His voice commands the tempest forth,  
and stills the stormy wave,  
and though his arm be strong to smite  
'tis also strong to save.**
- 3. Long has the night of sorrow reigned,  
the dawn shall bring us light:  
God shall appear, and we shall rise  
with gladness in his sight.**
- 4. So shall his presence bless our souls  
and shed a joyful light;  
that hallowed morn shall chase away  
the sorrows of the night.**

John Morison 1750–98.

***The Acclamation***

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

***The Priest Welcomes and Greets the People***

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.  
And also with you.**

*The Beatitudes: God calls all people to follow the way of truth and life.*

*Silence is kept between each Beatitude.*

Let us hear our Lord's blessing on those who follow him.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are those who mourn,  
**for they shall be comforted.**

Blessed are the meek,  
**for they shall inherit the earth.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,  
**for they shall be satisfied.**

Blessed are the merciful,  
**for they shall obtain mercy.**

Blessed are the pure in heart,  
**for they shall see God.**

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
**for they shall be called children of God.**

Blessed are those who suffer persecution  
for righteousness' sake,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

*The Trisagion is said.*

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

*The Collect*

Let us pray

God of our ancestors,  
whose chosen servant Abraham  
was given faith to obey your call  
and go out into the unknown:  
endow your Church with such faith  
that we may follow you with courage;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### **A reading from the Book Genesis [15.1–12, 17–18**

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, ‘Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.’

But Abram said, ‘O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?’ And Abram said, ‘You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.’

But the word of the LORD came to him, ‘This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.’ He brought him outside and said, ‘Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.’ Then he said to him, ‘So shall your descendants be.’ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, ‘I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.’ But he said, ‘O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?’ He said to him, ‘Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.’ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.’

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

### **Psalm 27. 1, 9-12, 16-17.**

**The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear?:  
the Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?**

**O Lord hear my voice when I cry:  
have mercy upon me and answer me.  
My heart has said of you 'Seek his face':  
your face Lord I will seek.**

**Do not hide your face from me:  
or thrust your servant aside in displeasure;  
For you have been my helper:  
do not cast me away or forsake me  
O God of my salvation.**

**But I believe that I shall surely see  
the goodness of the Lord:  
in the land of the living.**

**O wait for the Lord stand firm  
and he will strengthen your heart:  
and wait I say for the Lord.**

**A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians [3. 17—4. 1]**

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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

**Gradual Hymn: AHB 537 / TiS 609. Tune, St Leonards.**

- 1. May the mind of Christ my Saviour,  
live in me from day to day;  
by His love and power controlling,  
all I do and say.**
- 2. May the word of God dwell richly  
in my heart from hour to hour;**

**so that all may see I triumph  
only through His power.**

- 3. May the peace of God my Father  
rull my life in everything,  
that I may be calm to comfort  
sick and sorrowing.**
- 4. May the love of Jesus fill me  
as the waters fill the sea;  
Him exalting, self-abasing;  
this is victory.**
- 5. May I run the race before me  
strong and brave to face the foe;  
looking only unto Jesus  
as I onward go.**

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke [13. 31-35]  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him,  
'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.'

He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out  
demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third  
day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be  
on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away  
from Jerusalem."

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those  
who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children  
together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were  
not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not  
see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who  
comes in the name of the Lord."

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

*Sermon*

*A time of quiet for reflection may follow the sermon.*

## *The Creed*

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 A Lenten Litany

Response:

**Holy One, you are shelter and strength for those in distress.**

When loved ones experience pain and suffering...

When illness, aging, or chronic pain diminish our joy...

When doubts arise and confusion fills our minds...

When others fail us or refuse to forgive us for our failings...

When we stumble and stray from the path of goodness...

When death separates us from those we love dearly...  
When financial problems threaten our security...  
When things do not go the way we planned...  
When depression or loneliness return again and again...  
When broken relationships have not been mended...  
When our faith strengthens and gives us courage...  
When the precious gift of life is recognized and appreciated...  
When unexpected kindness and caring comes our way...  
When optimism stirs in our heart and springtime returns...  
When the peace of Christ calms our anxiety and softens our sadness...  
When we realize that our loving presence can make a difference...  
When the joy of Easter quietly permeates our heart...

*The prayers conclude with*

Accept our prayers though 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.**

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness  
and cleanse me from my sin:  
Make me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me:  
Cast me not away from your presence  
and take not your holy spirit from me.

**Jesus, forgive my sins.**

**Forgive the sins that I can remember,  
and also the sins I have forgotten.**

**Forgive the wrong actions I have committed,  
and the right actions I have omitted.**

**Forgive the times I have been weak in the face of temptation,  
and those when I have been stubborn in the face of correction.**

**Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements,  
and those when I have failed to boast of your works.**

**Forgive the harsh judgements I have made of others,  
and the leniency I have shown to myself.**

**Forgive the lies I have told to others,  
and the truths I have avoided.**

**Forgive me the pain I have caused others,  
and the indulgence I have shown to myself.**

**Jesus have pity on me, and make me whole.**

*Early Irish*

*The priest declares God's forgiveness*

May God our Father forgive you your sins  
and bring you to the eternal joy of his kingdom,  
where dust and ashes have no dominion. **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:** AHB 173 / TiS 233. Tune Hyfrydol.

- 1. I will sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me,  
how he left the realms of glory  
for the cross on Calvary.**

**Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me,  
sing it with his saints in glory,  
gathered by the crystal sea.**



2. I was lost: but Jesus found me,  
found the sheep that went astray,  
raised me up and gently led me  
back into the narrow way.  
*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .*
3. Faint was I, and fears possessed me,  
bruised was I from many a fall,  
hope was gone, and shame distressed me:  
but his love has pardoned all.  
*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .*
4. Days of darkness still may meet me,  
sorrow's paths I oft may tread;  
but his presence still is with me,  
by his guiding hand I'm led.  
*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .*
5. He will keep me till the river  
rolls its waters at my feet:  
then he'll bear me safely over,  
where the loved ones I shall meet.  
*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .*

Arrangement © Australian Hymn Book Co  
Francis Harold Rowley 1854–1952

## 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 indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance  
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline  
we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service  
you bring us back to your generous heart.  
Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence  
in the world and free our hands to welcome others  
into the radiant splendour of your love.

Therefore with saints and angels,  
and with all the company of heaven, we praise you 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.**

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.' ✠

Jesus Christ is Lord.

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

With this bread and this cup,  
we remember the saving death of your Son,  
his resurrection and ascension, and his promise to be with us for ever.

In the power of the Holy Spirit, bring us to eternal life with Christ,  
as we look for his coming in glory,  
and for the heavenly banquet prepared for all your people.

**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 consecrated bread.*

We who are many are one body in Christ,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

*Invitation to Communion*

Draw near with faith,  
to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.

**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.**

*Communion Reflection Sweet Sacrament Divine. On screen.*

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*The priest may say a prayer of thanksgiving all say this prayer together.*

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*

Hymn AHB 570/TiS 642. tune, Bunessan (2)

1. **This day God gives me strength of high heaven,  
sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth,  
flashing of lightning, wind in its swiftness,  
depths of the ocean, firmness of earth.**
2. **This day God sends me strength to sustain me,  
might to uphold me, wisdom as guide.  
Your eyes are watchful, your ears are listening,  
your lips are speaking, friend at my side.**
3. **God's way is my way, God's shield is round me,  
God's host defends me, saving from ill.  
Angels of heaven, drive from me always  
all that would harm me, stand by me still.**
4. **Rising, I thank you, mighty and strong One,  
king of creation, giver of rest,  
firmly confessing threeness of persons,  
oneness of Godhead, trinity blest.**

James Quinn 1919– alt.  
adapted from 'St Patrick's Breastplate'  
Words by permission Cassell plc, London

### *The Blessing*

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### *The Dismissal*

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

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