



Diocese of Wangaratta

Wangaratta West and The Warbys Parochial District.

9.30 a.m. & 11.00 a.m. Ante Communion
The Third Sunday of EASTER
May 4th 2025

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The Introduction

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Sentence

To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing
and honour and glory and might for ever and ever.

Revelation 5.13

Opening Hymn: AHB 299 / TiS 376. Tune, Church Triumphant.

- 1. I know that my Redeemer lives —
what joy the blest assurance gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my everlasting Head.**
- 2. He lives, to bless me with his love:
he lives, to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed;
he lives to help in time of need.**

3. **He lives, and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives, my mansion to prepare;
he lives, to lead me safely there.**
4. **He lives, all glory to his name;
he lives, my Saviour, still the same;
what joy the blest assurance gives,
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

Samuel Medley 1738–99

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.**

The minister stands and declares God's forgiveness.

God desires that none should perish,
but that all should turn to Christ, and live.
In response to his call we acknowledge our sins.
God pardons those who humbly repent,
and truly believe the gospel.
Therefore we have peace with God,
through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The minister may add this sentence of scripture

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.

Ephesians 2.5

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Alleluia!

The peace of the Risen Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Alleluia!

All may exchange a Greeting of Peace.

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 Collect

Almighty God,
through your only Son you overcame death
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection,
may, through the renewing power of your Spirit,
rise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness;
through the same 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 [9. 1-6]

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God

Psalm 30. 1-4, 8, 10-12

**I will exalt you, O Lord,
for you have drawn me up from the depths:
and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me.
O Lord my God, I cried to you:
and you have made me whole.
You brought me back, O Lord, from the land of silence:
you saved my life
from among those that go down to the Pit.
Sing praises to the Lord, all you his faithful ones:
and give thanks to his holy name.
I cried to you, O God:
and made my petition humbly to my Lord.
'Hear, O Lord, and be merciful:
O Lord, be my helper.'
You have turned my lamentation into dancing:
you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with joy,
That my heart may sing your praise and never be silent:
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.**

A Reading from the Revelation to John [5. 6-14]

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

‘You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slaughtered
and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;
you have made them to be a kingdom
and priests serving our God,
and they will reign on earth.’

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

‘Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honour and glory and blessing!’

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

‘To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honour and glory and might
for ever and ever!’

And the four living creatures said, ‘Amen!’
And the elders fell down and worshipped.

Hear the word of the Lord
thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn: AHB 277 /TiS 361. Tune, Ellacombe (1)

- 1. The day of resurrection!
earth, tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God:
from death to life eternal,
from earth up to the sky,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.**
- 2. Our hearts be pure from evil
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light;
and listening to his greeting
may hear, so calm and strong,
his own 'All hail' and, hearing,
may raise the victors' song.**
- 3. Now let the heav'ns be joyful
and earth her song repeat,
the whole world shout in triumph
her living Lord to greet;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen,
our joy that has no end.**

John of Damascus c. 675–749
tr. John Mason Neale 1818–66 *alt.*

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [21. 1-19]

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children,

you have no fish, have you?’ They answered him, ‘No.’ He said to them, ‘Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.’ So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, ‘It is the Lord!’ When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.’ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast.’ Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ And he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.’ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, ‘Follow me.’

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

Let us affirm 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.**

Reflection

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.

Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you for the victory of love over hatred
that we celebrate in this season.
We praise you for staying true to your chosen path,
despite all the malice thrown against you,
the repeated taunts to put yourself first,
and the very real temptation you must have felt to do just that.
Hear now our prayer for the world you gave your life for -
a world so racked by enmity and division
and so desperately in need of love.

Gracious Lord, wherever hatred seems to rule,
may love emerge victorious.

We pray for those whose personal relationships have degenerated into hatred - scarred by petty grievances and arguments, undermined by verbal and physical abuse, poisoned by coldness and indifference; words spoken to wound rather than woo, deeds designed to break down rather than build up, all feeling and friendship long since forgotten.

Gracious Lord, wherever hatred seems to rule,
may love emerge victorious.

We pray for society at large where hatred masquerades under a variety of guises - prejudice, greed, selfishness, intolerance, ignorance - so much that denies, divides and destroys, creating a sense of 'them' and 'us', the acceptable and the unacceptable.

Gracious Lord, wherever hatred seems to rule,
may love emerge victorious.

We pray for countries racked by inner tensions and at odds with their neighbours - torn apart by religious extremism, by military dictatorships, racial hatred, civil war and abuses of human rights - lives wantonly destroyed, families broken, communities shattered, nations decimated.

Gracious Lord, wherever hatred seems to rule,
may love emerge victorious.

Lord Jesus Christ,
we pray for our world in all its need —
yet one that you love so much you were willing to die for it,
and a world that you will never abandon,
no matter how often your love is rejected.
Help us and all people to recognise the folly of our ways —
to understand that violence only breeds more violence,
vengeance more vengeance,

bitterness more bitterness
and hatred more hatred.

Give us the faith and the courage to try another way,
the way you revealed so powerfully
through your life and your death:
the way of love.

Gracious Lord, wherever hatred seems to rule,
may love emerge victorious. Amen.

Here other prayers may be offered

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.**

Offertory Hymn: AHB 287 / TiS 367. Tune, Vulpus.

- 1. The strife is past, the battle done;
now is the victor's triumph won;
now let the song of praise be sung: *Alleluia!***
- 2. Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
and Jesus has his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst: *Alleluia!***
- 3. On the third day he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
let us take up the great refrain: *Alleluia!***
- 4. He closed the frowning gates of hell;
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumph tell: *Alleluia!***

5. **Now by your stripes, our wounded King,
your servants free from death's dread sting,
that we may live in you, and sing 'Alleluia!'**

Anon., Latin,
in Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, Cologne, 1695
tr. Francis Pott 1832–1909 alt.

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 SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Notices may be given at this point

Here are words you may trust.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:
he is our salvation, our eternal glory.

If we die with him, we shall live with him;
if we endure, we shall reign with him.

If we deny him, he will deny us;
if we are faithless, he keeps faith.

For he has broken the power of death
**and brought life and immortality to light
through the gospel.**

cf 2 Timothy 2.11-13

Hymn: AHB 276 / TiS 360 part two [tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen]

6. **That Eastertide with joy was bright,
the sun shone out with fairer light,
alleluia, alleluia!
when to their longing eyes restored
the apostles saw their risen Lord.
*alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

7. **He showed to them his hands, his side,
where yet the glorious wounds abide:
alleluia, alleluia!
the tokens true which made it plain
their Lord indeed was risen again.
*alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***
8. **Jesus, the king of gentleness,
come now yourself our hearts possess,
alleluia, alleluia!
that we may give you all our days
the tribute of our grateful praise.
*alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

Anon., Latin
tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt

The minister says

Let us pray.

**Lord Jesus Christ,
send us out with confidence in your word
to tell the world of your saving acts,
and bring glory to your name. Amen.**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of Christ.

Alleluia! Alleluia!