



St Philip's Anglican Church
Merri Episcopate
Anglican Diocese of Melbourne
Come and Join our Diversity
Serving the Community since 1865
The Holy Eucharist



[Zoom in here](#)

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Season of Creation Week 4.

Opening Hymn TIS 174 Morning glory, sunlit sky Tune 591 vv 1,2,3,6.

Opening:

Blessed be God:
Creator of rivers and rain,
Keeper of springs,
and Giver of Living Water.
Blessed be God for ever.

Sentence

Come, let us return to the Lord, that we may live before him. Hosea 6.1a, 2b

Acknowledgement:



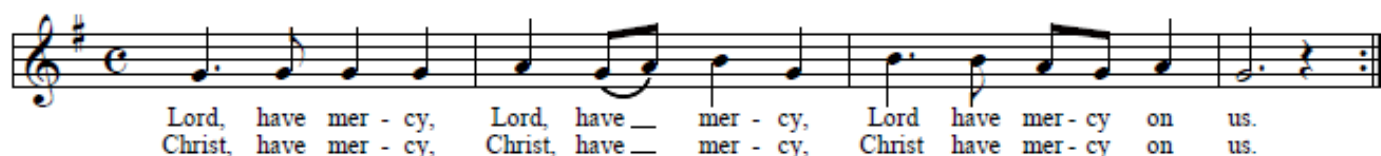
Prayer of Preparation

[Let us pray.]

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Two Great Commandments

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'



Seasonal Invitation

God calls us to love our neighbours and to care for the Earth, yet we confess that we have often failed.

A pause for reflection

Penitence

Lord God, you entrusted the waters of the Earth to all your children, yet we confess that we have failed to care for them.

We have polluted rivers and oceans, drained wetlands, and wasted the precious gift of water.

We have ignored the cries of communities who stand in queues or walk long distances for water, while others consume without restraint.

We have spoken about caring for creation without changing our lives, our churches, or our communities.

Teach us to treasure every drop, to protect every spring, and to become faithful guardians of the Living Water you freely give. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

The God who led Israel into freedom and who reconciles all things in Christ forgives you, renews you and make you faithful stewards of Living Water. **Amen.**

Gloria

1 Cantor =104 All:

Glory-to-God-in-the High - est and peace to God's peo - ple on Earth.

4 Lord God, hea - ven - ly king, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we

8 wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

12 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly son of the Fa - ther. Lord God,

16 Lamb of God, you take a - way the - sin of the world: have mer - cy on

20



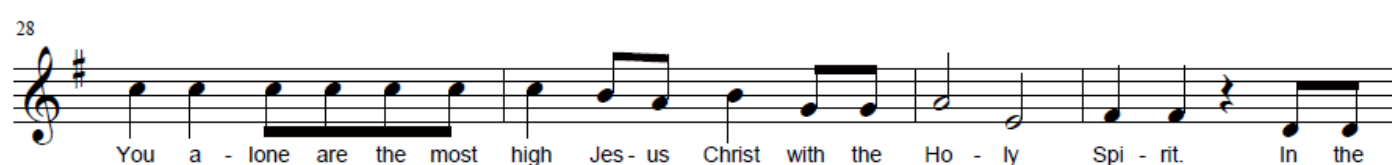
us; You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For

24



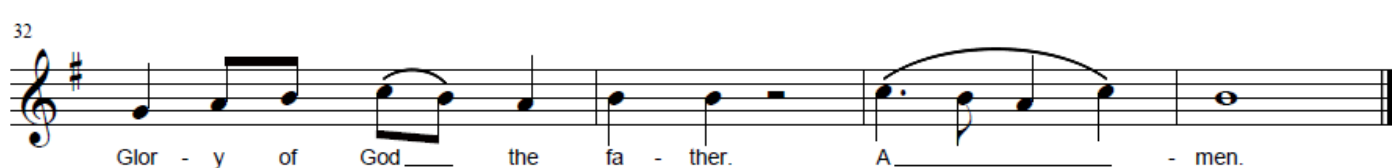
you a - lone are the ho - ly one. You a - lone are the Lord.

28



You a - lone are the most high Jes - us Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit. In the

32



Glor - y of God the fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect

[Let us pray.]

God of mercy, you heard your people's cry in the wilderness and brought forth water from the rock. Quench our thirst with your justice and peace. Forgive our grumbling and teach us to trust your care, that we may protect the earth's precious resources. Let streams of compassion flow from our lives, as we honour your creation with wisdom and love. Through Christ, the Living Water. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Exodus 17.1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Hear the word of the Lord

thanks be to God.

Psalm 78.1-4, 11-16 - read antiphonally.

¹ Give heed to my teaching, O my people:

incline your ears to the words of my mouth;

² For I will open my mouth in a parable:

and expound the mysteries of former times.

³ What we have heard and known:

what our forebears have told us,

⁴ We will not hide from their children, but declare to a generation yet to come:

the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works.

¹¹ For he did marvellous things in the sight of their ancestors:

in the land of Egypt, in the country of Zoan.

¹² He divided the sea and let them pass through:

he made the waters stand up in a heap.

¹³ In the daytime he led them with a cloud:

and all night long with the light of fire.

¹⁴ He cleft rocks in the wilderness:

and gave them drink in abundance as from springs of water.

¹⁵ He brought streams out of the rock:

and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.

¹⁶ But for all this they sinned yet more against him:

and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.

Epistle Reading

Philippians 2

¹ If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy,

² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷ but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸ he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.
¹⁴ Do all things without murmuring and arguing,
¹⁵ so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.
¹⁶ It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labour in vain.
¹⁷ But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you—
¹⁸ and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.
¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered by news of you.
²⁰ I have no one like him who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare.
²¹ All of them are seeking their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.
²² But Timothy's worth you know, how like a son with a father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.
²³ I hope therefore to send him as soon as I see how things go with me;
²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that I will also come soon.
²⁵ Still, I think it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus—my brother and co-worker and fellow-soldier, your messenger and minister to my need;
²⁶ for he has been longing for all of you, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill.
²⁷ He was indeed so ill that he nearly died. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, so that I would not have one sorrow after another.
²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, in order that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious.
²⁹ Welcome him then in the Lord with all joy, and honour such people,
³⁰ because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for those services that you could not give me.
Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn TIS 676 A spendthrift lover is the Lord (Tune 235)

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

The Creator be with you:

And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew, Chapter 21 beginning at the 23rd verse. **Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.**

Matthew 21.23-32

²³ When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' ²⁴ Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" ²⁶ But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a

prophet.' ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." ²⁹ He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

For the Gospel of the Lord

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon / Homily

Affirmation of Faith

Where possible please stand

**We believe in God, Creator of clouds,
rain, rivers, lakes, wetlands and oceans.**

**We believe that water is God's gift,
given freely for the flourishing
of every living creature.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
who called people to repentance,
justice and faithful action.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
whose living water refreshes the Earth,
renews the Church, and strengthens us
to protect creation.**

**We commit ourselves to cherish water,
to use it wisely, to restore damaged ecosystems,
and to ensure that all people
may share God's gift
with justice and joy. Amen.**

Intercessions

Please sit or kneel for the prayers, (These or other prayers may be used)

God of life, you brought water from the rock and satisfied your people in the wilderness.
We pray for your Church, that we may become examples of responsible water
stewardship, protecting your creation through both worship and action.

Living Water, **refresh your creation.**

We pray for Australia's rivers, lakes, wetlands, groundwater, and mountain catchments.
Protect them from pollution, over-extraction, destruction and climate change.

Living Water, **refresh your creation.**

We pray for communities experiencing drought, crop failure, water shortages and conflict
over scarce resources. Strengthen them with resilience, hope and practical support.

Living Water, **refresh your creation.**

We pray for governments, scientists, traditional leaders, farmers, and all who manage water resources. Grant them wisdom to protect water for future generations.

Living Water, **refresh your creation.**

We pray for ourselves. Help us to reduce waste, harvest rainwater, care for rivers, restore wetlands, and remember that every drop is a sacred gift from you.

Make our joy complete by bringing your healing love to all for whom we pray, especially ____.

Accept our gratitude and thanksgiving for all that we enjoy, especially for ____.

Hear our prayers for those who have followed our Saviour Jesus through death into exaltation, especially **Benjamin Hennequin** rest eternal grant unto them O Lord **and let light perpetual shine upon them** may they rest in Peace; **and rise in Glory.**

Living Water, **refresh your creation.**

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Parishioners:

Marina & Michael; Margaret; Fr David; Gwendolyn.

Friends: **Denise, Judi and Graeme; Amy; Ken; Maryann; Zac; Dylan; Jacob; Andrew; Jan; Richard; Eloise; Grant, Drickis; Heidi; Henry and Sam; Vladimir**

Extended Parishioners: **Matt; Maj; Blessing and Congratulations to Maurice on passing his Medical Exam.**

Judy Lazarus Transition Centre: **Con, Damien, Tony, Dimitri, and Steve**

Those who have died, or anniversary's fall currently: **Benjamin Hennequin (27-9)**

Within the wider Anglican Community, we pray today for:

The World: **Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru**

The Anglican Communion: **The Church of Bangladesh;**

The Anglican Church of Australia: **Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, Episcopal Area of Geelong - Bishop Nigel Pope; Archdeaconry of Williamstown; Werribee Deanery: St Thomas's Werribee, St Stephen's Karen AAC, Sojourners AAC, Epiphany Hoppers Crossing, Hope & Resurrection Community Church MP, St Eanswythe's Altona/St Clement Laverton, St Mark's Spotswood, Holy Trinity Williamstown, South Sudanese Dinka, Williamstown MP, St Peter's Jieeng AAC, Christ Church Newport, Christ Church Melton, Caroline Springs, Holy Trinity Bacchus Marsh, Emmanuel Karen Lara MP, Holy Trinity Lara**

Anglican Schools and Agencies: **Anglicare Victoria**

Bishops' Visitation: **St Stephen's Greythorn TIMA; City on a Hill Peninsula; Christ Church St Kilda**

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Hear God's promise of a redeemed creation: the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and a little child shall lead them. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain.

Greeting of Peace –

We want the warhorse

Jesus rides a donkey.

We want the eagle.

The Holy Spirit descends as a dove.

We want to take up swords.



Jesus takes up a cross.

We want the roaring lion.

God comes as a slaughtered lamb.

We keep trying to arm God.

God keeps trying to disarm us.

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

During the offertory hymn a collection may be taken

Indue Ltd: - BSB: 703-122; Acc: 050051084 – Credit Card facilities are also available on the bookshelf in the Narthex or at www.stphilipscollingwood.org.au

Offertory Hymn TIS 393 Christ is alive, with joy we sing vv. 1,4,5,6.

Preparation of the altar and the gifts

The bread and the wine are presented. – The gifts of the people are brought to the Lord's Table.

This is God's table. Here there is enough for all. Here strangers become neighbours. Here divided people become one family. Here we receive the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, so that we may become living water for a thirsty world. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Creator be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We exalt you, Lord God, for the holy extravagance of your salvation.

Worthy are you to whom we bow,

for in your Son you have knelt before us in humility,

You have looked with favour upon your servant Israel;

you have scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts

and have lifted up the lowly

Your Son, though of the same love and same mind as you,

did not regard equality with you as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.

Being born in human likeness, he humbled himself

even unto death on a cross.

You lifted him up in resurrection glory:

and exalted him to your right hand on high.

And so, on bended knee, we confess him as Lord,

with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven,

joining the unending hymn.





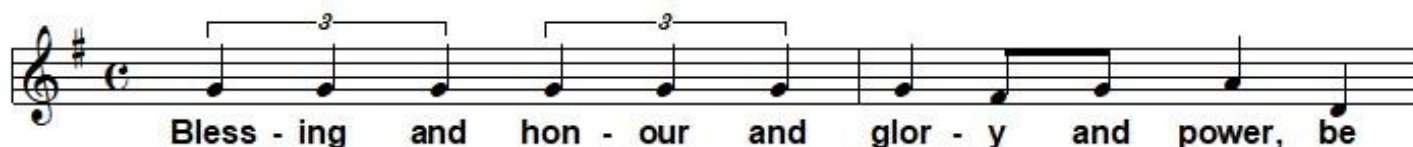
Communing God, make your joy complete
by uniting those who share this meal
with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus.
As we remember his saving mercies,
make us to be of the same love, the same heart,
sharing in the same Spirit;
and sanctify this bread and cup that they may be for us
the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;

who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying.
'Take, eat; this is my body which us given for you;
do this in remembrance of me" 🕊
After supper he took the cup,
Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me 🕊

Great is the mystery of faith.



God of every consolation, bring your kingdom among your children
who are bowed low under the weight of oppression.
Send your Spirit of truth into places
where servanthood has turned to exploitation,
service has turned to slavery,
or humility has turned to bonded labour.
Empty your church of all that obscures its witness to the cross of Christ.
Make us ready for that one eternal day
when we shall kneel around your throne,
together with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
in the company of Jesus our Lord,
giving all praise and glory to you,
God our Father,





Communion Rite -

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Simply N Kedrov Sr

$\text{♩} = 96$

Our Fath - er, who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be thy Name.

thy king - dom come, thy will be done

on earth as it is in heav - en.

Give us this day our dail - y bread, and for - give us our tres - pass - es

pp

as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us,

p

and lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion,

pp

but de - liv - er - us from e - vil. A - men.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

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

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, **grant us your peace.**

Communion - Please form a circle around the altar.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he gave himself for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to share with us in communion with Jesus who told us to break bread and share wine in remembering him and celebrating the reality of his presence.

Administration of Communion.

The body of Christ [the bread of heaven] keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

The blood of Christ [the cup of salvation] keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

Communion Chant

EAT THIS BREAD

Berthier



Prayer of Virtual Communion

Jesus, we believe that You are present in the Holy Sacrament. Our friends online desire to receive You. Since they cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into their hearts. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Creator of all, in the death and resurrection of Jesus you have reconciled all things in heaven and on earth. May this bread and wine open our eyes to your love and justice woven through all of creation. We ask this through Jesus, your creating Word.

Prayer of self-offering

Father, **we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Please return to your seat.

Notices

Wendell Berry's care for creation

<https://theconversation.com/farmer-poet-wendell-berrys-environmental-ethics-were-deeply-rooted-in-his-christian-faith-and-belief-in-caring-for-creation-291025>

Refugee Donations

Refugee Donations

Please bring non-perishable food, drink, clothing or bedding which we will donate to:

<https://www.westwelcomewagon.org.au/donate/>

A new episcopal structure

Following the consecration on 19 September, the Diocese of Melbourne now has four episcopal areas: Nunawading, led by Bishop Ben Wong; Dandenong, led by Bishop Paul Barker; Geelong, led by Bishop Nigel Pope; and Merri, led by Bishop Megan Curlis-Gibson.

Creation Care Notice

Each year, countries that are party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement gather for the world's most important climate meeting. Prior to this, a negotiation meeting occurs. This year, the negotiations are being held in Fiji and Tuvalu in partnership with Australia starting on 5 October. (Tuvalu is one of the most likely countries to be evacuated with sea level rising caused by fossil fuel burning). To encourage these negotiations to eliminate fossil fuels, Australian Religious

Response to Climate Change is holding public events across the country on Tuesday 6 October.

Green Tip

Come to the event in Melbourne outside St Michael's Uniting Church, Collins Street at 10 am on 6 October. (See <https://www.facebook.com/events/1003022632761680/>)

St Francis Day

Next Week is St Francis Day with the Blessing of Pets.
Bring and Share Lunch.

Parish Council

Will meet after the service today.

Prayer for Growth

God of the unfolding Mission, you are the quiet breath that makes all things bloom. Let your Spirit sweep through our dreams, giving light to our plans and fire to our footsteps. May we grow like a deep-rooted forest — expanding in number, deepening in devotion, and reaching out as a shelter for our neighbours. Through Jesus, our living hope. Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

Go now into a thirsty world. Protect the springs, restore the rivers. Treasure every drop. Speak for communities whose voices are unheard.
Stand with those who thirst for justice as well as water.
May your lives proclaim that water is sacred, creation is God's gift, and faithful discipleship is measured not only by what we believe but by how we care for the sources of life.

May God, who brought water from the rock, refresh your spirit.
May Christ, who calls us from empty promises to faithful action, strengthen your resolve.
May the Holy Spirit flow through you like a life-giving river, bringing hope, healing, and renewal to every community and every corner of creation.
And the blessing of our generous God the Creator who gives living water, the Son who reconciles all things, and the Holy Spirit who renews the face of the Earth, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Go in peace to love and serve the Creator
In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Recessional Hymn TIS 606 Son of God, eternal Saviour (Tune 590)

Please join us after the service for Morning Tea.

Reverend Bruce Everett:

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