



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

A PRAYER BOOK FOR AUSTRALIA

A Service of Praise, Prayer and Proclamation

page 35ff

WEDNESDAY, 14TH OCTOBER 2020

GATHERING IN GOD' S NAME

Offt

Val Edwards

Parish of Beechworth

Offt

In the name of the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit **Amen.**

Sentences of Scripture.

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name; give to God glorious praise.
Say, 'How awesome are your deeds!' Psalm 66. 1-3

1

Thanksgiving For the beauty of the earth



**We thank you, God of all loveliness,
for the beauty of earth and sky and sea;
for the richness of mountains, deserts and rivers;
for the songs of birds and the beauty of flowers.**

**We praise you for these good gifts,
and pray that we may guard our heritage,
to the honour and glory of your name. Amen**

2

Hymn—spoken



**All go to God when they are sorely placed:
they plead to him for help, for peace, for bread,
for mercy, for them sinning, sick or dead.
We all do so in faith or unbelief.**

**We go to God when he is sorely placed,
find him poor, scorned, unsheltered, without bread,
whelmed under weight of evil, weak or dead.
We stand by God then, in his hour of grief.**

2 **God comes to us when we are sorely placed,
body and spirit feeds us with his bread.
For everyone, he as a man hangs dead:
forgiven life he gives all through his death.**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer 1906–45
tr. Walter Henry Farquharson 1936– alt.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

3 *Prayer in preparation for the reading of the Scriptures.*

Lord Christ, eternal Word and Light of the Father's glory:
send your light and your truth
that we may both know and proclaim your word of life,
to the glory of God the Father;
for you now live and reign, God for all eternity. **Amen.**

4 **Psalm 108**

1. My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed:
 I will sing and make melody.
2. Awake my soul, awake lute and harp:
 for I will awaken the morning.
3. I will give you thanks, O Lord, among the peoples:
 I will sing your praise among the nations.
4. For the greatness of your mercy reaches
 to the heavens:
 and your faithfulness to the clouds.
5. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens:
 and let your glory be over all the earth;
6. That those whom you love may be delivered:
 O save us by your right hand, and answer me.
7. God has said in his holy place:
 'I will exult and divide Shechem,
 I will parcel out the valley of Succoth.
8. 'Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine:
 Ephraim is my helmet,
 and Judah my rod of command.
9. 'Moab is my wash-bowl, over Edom will I cast my shoe:
 against Philistia will I shout in triumph.

- 4
10. Who will lead me into the fortified city:
who will bring me into Edom?
 11. Have you not cast us off, O God?:
you go not out with our armies.
 12. Give us your help against the enemy:
for human help is vain.
 13. By the power of our God we shall do valiantly:
for it is he that will tread down our enemies.



**Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.**

5

**A Reading from the prophet Zechariah
chapter 7 verse 1 to chapter 8, verse 8**

In the fourth year of King Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah on the fourth day of the ninth month, which is Chislev.

Now the people of Bethel had sent Sharezer and Regem-melech and their men, to entreat the favour of the Lord, and to ask the priests of the house of the Lord of hosts and the prophets, 'Should I mourn and practise abstinence in the fifth month, as I have done for so many years?' Then the word of the Lord of hosts came to me: Say to all the people of the land and the priests: When you fasted and lamented in the fifth month and in the seventh, for these seventy years, was it for me that you fasted? And when you eat and when you drink, do you not eat and drink only for yourselves? Were not these the words that the Lord proclaimed by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, along with the towns around it, and when the Negeb and the Shephelah were inhabited?

The word of the Lord came to Zechariah, saying: Thus says the Lord of hosts: Render true judgements, show kindness and mercy to one another; do not oppress the widow, the orphan, the alien, or the poor; and do not devise evil in your hearts against one another. But they refused to listen, and turned a stubborn shoulder, and stopped their ears in order not to hear.

5 They made their hearts adamant in order not to hear the law and the words that the Lord of hosts had sent by his spirit through the former prophets. Therefore great wrath came from the Lord of hosts. Just as, when I called, they would not hear, so, when they called, I would not hear, says the Lord of hosts, and I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations that they had not known. Thus the land they left was desolate, so that no one went to and fro, and a pleasant land was made desolate.

The word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I am jealous for her with great wrath. Thus says the Lord: I will return to Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts shall be called the holy mountain. Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.

Thus says the Lord of hosts: Even though it seems impossible to the remnant of this people in these days, should it also seem impossible to me, says the Lord of hosts? Thus says the Lord of hosts: I will save my people from the east country and from the west country; and I will bring them to live in Jerusalem. They shall be my people and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.

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

6 *The Opening Canticle, A Song of Joy*



**Be joyful in the Lord, all the earth:
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with singing.**

**Know that the Lord is God:
it is he who has made us, and we are his;
for we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise:
give thanks to him and praise his name.**



6

**For the Lord is good;
his loving-kindness is everlasting:
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Psalm 100

7

The gospel according to Matthew (13. 31-43)

He put before them another parable:

‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.’

He told them another parable:

‘The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.’

Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet:

‘I will open my mouth to speak in parables;
I will proclaim what has been hidden from the
foundation of the world.’

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

Affirmation of Faith may be used.



**We believe in one God,
who made and loves all that is.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was born, lived, died and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,
and brings all things to their true end.**

This is our faith, the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Reflection: The Rt Rev'd Clarence Bester
Diocese of Wangaratta.

"How the Lockdown has affected my / our plans"

***Yesu, Yesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbours
we have from you.***

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet:
master who acts as a slave to them. **Yesu . . .**
2. Neighbours are wealthy and poor,
varied in colour and race,
neighbours are near us and far away. **Yesu . . .**
3. These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbours to us and you. **Yesu . . .**
4. Loving puts us on our knees,
willing to wash other's feet,
this is the way we should live like you **Yesu . . .**

*Tom Colvin 1925--and people of Ghana alt. Words: Tom Colvin
Music: Ghana folk song, adapt. Tom Colvin*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Offt Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Joel 2. 13

Let us now confess our sins to almighty God.



**Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have broken your holy laws
and have left undone
what we ought to have done.
We are sorry for our sins
and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Bp. Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

*Prayers may be offered for the world; for the community;
for the work of the Church, and for the needs of individuals.*

9 *Prayer of the week*

Almighty God,
in your wisdom you have so ordered our earthly life
that we must walk by faith and not by sight:
give us such trust in your fatherly care
that in the face of all perplexities
we may give proof of our faith
by the courage of our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

10	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Morning Collect</i></p> <p>Eternal God and Father, by whose power we are created and by whose love we are redeemed; guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service, and live this day in love to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>
11	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Those suffering abuse</i></p> <p>God, our redeemer and sustainer, we pray for survivors of violence, abuse and neglect. Give your power to the powerless, your fullness to the empty of spirit. Heal their wounds, free them from fear, and restore them to true health. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen Saviour who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.</p>
12	<p>Lord Your mercy reaches to the Heavens Your mercy knows no end. Let Your love and peace be known among us, That we may draw others to worship You, Through Jesus Christ our Lord Lord by Your power and your presence Grant us Your peace</p>
13	<p>We give thanks for our faith, and pray for all who struggle in the work of the gospel, for those who preach the word and administer the sacraments. We pray for a gentleness and graciousness in our outreach, We remember those who work among the outcast and the poor, We pray for all who strive to bring Your peace. Lord by Your power and your presence Grant us Your peace</p>

<p>14</p>	<p>We pray that our homes and our hearts may be places of healing.</p> <p>We pray for all suffering the hurt of broken relationships, We ask for peace and reconciliation where Your people are divided, That we may live at peace with all people.</p> <p>Lord by Your power and your presence Grant us Your peace</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>We pray for all troubled areas of Your world, That wars may cease and we may find a lasting peace.</p> <p>We pray for the peacemakers of our world.</p> <p>We remember those who have suffered through war, Those who have been injured, For all who have lost loved ones, For those whose memories and lives have been scarred by violence.</p> <p>Lord by Your power and your presence Grant us Your peace</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>We bring before You all who are struggling for survival, We pray for those who have lost loved ones, possessions, homes or work.</p> <p>We remember those who have been stripped of their dignity.</p> <p>We ask Your peace and healing on all affected by the pandemic of COVID-19, Comfort for those sleeping on the streets of our cities, For all who have lost hope or will.</p> <p>Lord by Your power and your presence Grant us Your peace</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>We entrust to Your loving care our friends and loved ones in this world, And those who have departed from our sight.</p> <p>We pray that we may all at the last share in the joy and peace of Your kingdom.</p> <p>Lord by Your power and your presence Grant us Your peace</p>

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD' S PEOPLE

18

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Loving God, we thank you for hearing our prayers,
feeding us with your word,
and encouraging us in our meeting together.



**Take us and use us
to love and serve you and all people,
in the power of your Spirit
and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn—TiS 201

- 1. King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and, that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast,
thou hast spared me.**
- 2. Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.**
- 3. Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol thee:
ev'n eternity's too short
to extol thee.**

George Herbert 1593–1633
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Bp

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; give honour to all;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

We pray for all who have been affected by the impact of Covid 19, those who are and have been ill with this virus, along with those who have been affected by the consequences of the response.

We bring before you those whose mental health has been affected by lockdown and loneliness.

We pray for all who are isolated in their homes and Aged Care Facilities and for families and loved ones who cannot be together.

We pray for those who have lost their jobs, homes, families, and livelihoods throughout our land and around the world.

We ask for your blessing on the whole of creation, that all life may be lived to its full potential.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Revd. David Still - Wangaratta West & The Warbys).

DIOCESAN PRAYER DIARY

Day 14

The World – Australia

Responsible care for the natural environment

Global warming and climate change issues

The Anglican Church of Australia (ACA)

Ministry with the Torres Strait Island People of Australia

Torres Strait Island Clergy and People

Our Diocese

Vocations to the ordained ministry

Vocations to the ordered religious life

Director of Vocations: Andre Du Plooy

Vocational Chaplains: David Still;
Catie Inches-Ogden;
Michael Jones;
Jane Freemantle

Local Community

Communities experiencing social change; wanted & unwanted