



## THE Anglican Parish of Woodend-Trentham

*A member of the Central Highlands Cluster Ministry*



28<sup>th</sup> January – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

We acknowledge the Jaara Jaara people,  
of the Woi wurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung language groups,  
the custodians of this land where we gather.  
We pay our respects to their elders past and present and pray for  
reconciliation.

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.

*Matthew 9.35*

## Gathering Hymn – 132 Holy Holy Holy

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

*The Prayer of preparation (page 119 of the prayer book)*

**Almighty God...**

*The Shema (page 120 of the prayer book)*

Hear, O Israel....

*The Confession and absolution (page 120 of the prayer book)*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

**Merciful God...**

*The Gloria (page 121 of the prayer book)*

**Glory to God in the highest...**

*Let us pray our prayer for the week*

God of compassion,  
you have shown us in Christ  
that your love is never ending:  
enable us both to love you with all our heart  
and to love one another as Christ loved us.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

*A reading from the book of Deuteronomy chapter 18 verses 15-20*

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

For the word of the Lord **thanks be to God**

## Psalm 111

O praise the Lord. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart:  
in the company of the upright and among the congregation.

**The works of the Lord are great:  
and studied by all who take delight in them.**

His deeds are majestic and glorious:  
and his righteousness stands for ever.

**His marvellous acts have won him a name  
to be remembered: the Lord is gracious and merciful.**

He gives food to those that fear him:  
he remembers his covenant for ever.

**He showed his people the power of his acts:  
in giving them the heritage of the heathen.**

The works of his hands are faithful and just:  
and all his commandments are sure;

**They stand firm for ever and ever:  
they are done in faithfulness and in truth.**

He sent redemption to his people, he ordained his covenant for ever:  
holy is his name and worthy to be feared.

**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,  
and of good understanding are those  
that keep his commandments: his praise shall endure for ever.**

*A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians chapter 8 verses 1 – 13*

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who

claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

For the word of the Lord **thanks be to God**

**Gradual Hymn – 546 Lord Jesus, think on me**

***Alleluia Alleluia***

Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.

**Alleluia**

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark chapter 1  
beginning at the 21<sup>st</sup> verse*

## **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

### *The Sermon*

*The affirmation of faith (page 123 of the prayer book)*

### *The Prayers of the People*

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked for in faith**

**We may by your grace receive,**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## *The Greeting of Peace*

We are the body of Christ  
**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

### **Offertory Hymn – 576 O for a closer**

*\*a collection to assist the mission of God in this  
parish will be taken up during this hymn*

Blessed are you.....(*we give thanks for the bread and wine*)  
**Blessed be God forever**

Blessed are you.....(*we give thanks for money and food offerings*)  
**Blessed be God forever**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

....for ever praising you and singing  
**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 Lord's name**  
**Hosanna in the Highest**

*We say together...*

**Christ has died  
Christ is risen  
Christ will come again**

*...in songs of never ending praise*

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen**

*With our hearts set on the kingdom and our hands open to serve, we  
pray as Jesus taught us... (page 141)*

**Our Father in heaven...**

## **The Sending out of God's people**

God of glory,  
you nourish us with your Word  
who is the bread of life:  
fill us with your Holy Spirit  
that through us the light of your glory  
may shine in all the world.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Most loving God...  
**you send us into the world you love.  
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit.**

*The Notices*

**Final Hymn – 733 Lord God, you have set your servant free**

## The Blessing and Dismissal

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; 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.  
**In the name of Christ.**

*\*\*\*some thoughts from Rev. Mel*

Early on Thursday morning I was invited to Gisborne to be part of a treasured family tradition. A woman who I had met through the local knitting group asked me to give her and her family a blessing as they take a huge leap of faith and move their family to America for the next few months to take up a business opportunity.

This blessing wasn't a Christian blessing – as a bit of background, this woman was raised in the Islamic faith but was rejected from her mosque when she married a non-Muslim man. We have had some amazing conversations together about God, Jesus, Mohammed, charity, faith, etc....she is truly remarkable. She has been to church at St Mary's, she came to see what it is that we do, and she enjoyed it, mentioning to me that "besides the Jesus bit, the message is pretty familiar". She has donated stacks of yarn to our knitters so that we can continue to help our community, and she always asks how you all are when we get together.

So, back to the blessing....before she got into the car to leave for the airport we said to each other 'Hakini Helal Et' and replied 'helal olsun' (I've added Turkish to my list of languages!). Basically what we have said to each other is 'if I have done you any wrong please forgive me' and 'I forgive you, we are at peace'. Then as the family drove off in their car I poured a bucket of water on the driveway behind them and in that

moment my prayer was 'as this water smoothly flows behind you, may you flow back to us smoothly'.

This family participate in this ritual everytime one of them goes away for a holiday, school camp, long weekend or whenever they know that they will be away from each other for any period of time. It was such a special thing to be a part of and a real honour to be asked to be the person to remind them to come back home to this part of the world.

It doesn't matter what faith or culture we know as our own, family and home are always important, and peace is the foundation of everything.

Salem, Shalom, Peace

Mel

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### **Pew Bulletin**

#### **Every week!**

Conversations – Tuesdays at 7pm in the rectory

Meditation Group – Mondays at 5pm in St Mary's

#### **Fr John Sanderson visit**

Fr John will be with us in Woodend on February 4<sup>th</sup> to baptize Geoff and Rosie's two grandchildren. It will lovely to have him with us again for such a special occasion.

#### **The Melbourne Anglican**

If you would like to receive a copy of The Melbourne Anglican newspaper each month, please let Norma Richardson know.

*There is a cost of \$12 for this subscription.*

#### **AGM**

Our AGM is set for February 11<sup>th</sup> (the day we will celebrate the Transfiguration of Jesus).

We still need Synod Representatives and a Warden if you're interested.

Thanks to everyone who have submitted their reports so efficiently.

## Lent and Easter

Before we know it Lent will be upon us.

Please keep these dates free for Lenten gathering and worship:

Feb 13 3.30pm	Pancakes in the hall	Woodend
Feb 13 7.00pm	Pancakes at Uniting Church	Trentham
Feb 14 12.00pm	Ash Wednesday service	St George's
Feb 14 7.00pm	Ash Wednesday service	St Mary's
Feb 17 5.30pm	Lent 1 Taize service	St Mary's
Feb 24 5.30pm	Lent 2 Taize service	St George's
March 3 5.30pm	Lent 3 Taize service	St Mary's
March 10 5.30pm	Lent 4 Taize service	St George's
March 17 5.30pm	Lent 5 Taize service	St Mary's
March 24 5.30pm	Lent 6 Taize service	St George's

## World Day of Prayer – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

It is St George's turn to host World Day of Prayer in Trentham this year.

Volunteers are required to make this happen. Please see Rev. Mel if you can assist.

## Raise the roof!

Robyn Leeder is organising a weekend of singing from Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday March 4<sup>th</sup>. Details to come but please note this weekend in your diary.

## Helping in the liturgy

Would you like to assist in the liturgy by reading, serving, welcoming, collecting the offertory, or leading prayers? Our time at church together is a shared time and everyone is welcome to be a part of the service. Please see Rev. Mel if you are interested.

## News from the Guilds

*St Mary's Guild:*

Congratulations to the following office bearers for 2018

President: Carol Barker

Secretary: Sylvia Matthews

Treasurer: Jenny Zimmeran.

The Guild are keen to welcome new members if you, or any of your friends would like to join.

The next Street Stall will be February 10.

Extra helpers to sell goods, and extra helpers to make goods are always welcome.

**Intercessions – our prayers are asked for:** John, Sam, Jim, Andrea, Alison, Ethan, Kirsten, Carole, Wendy, Judy, Jonathan, Jeanette, Trevor, Rudi, Trish, Hugh, Tim, Joshua and family, Alan, Aldyth, Benjamin, Faye, Lynne, Kay, Don, Gary, Norm, Kristina and John.

### **Birthdays**

Let us know if it is your birthday this week so we can celebrate you!

### **Years Mind and those who have died recently**

### **Readings for next week**

Isaiah 40.21-31

Ps 147.1-11

1 Cor 9.16-23

Mark 1.29-39



THE Anglican Parish *of* Woodend-Trentham

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Priest: Rev'd Melissa Clark 0411 722 718

Wardens: Derek 0417 252 222; John 5424 1127

Hon Priests: Rev'd Charles Sherlock 0423 020 699 and

Rev'd Wendy Hudson 0419 570 740



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