

## THE Anglican Parish of Woodend-Trentham



## Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 30<sup>th</sup> 2018

We acknowledge the Jaara Jaara people, of Dja Dja Wurrung language group,  
the custodians of this land where we gather.

We pay our respects to their elders past, present, and emerging and we pray  
for reconciliation.

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Hymn – 398 Come down

## Sentence of the day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

*We pray 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.

*We take a moment of silent reflection*

**Merciful God...**

*Knowing that we are forgiven, we sing The Gloria  
(page 121 of the prayer book)*

*Let us pray*

## **MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

*A reading from the book of Esther chapter 7 verses 1 to 22*

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that

had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

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

## **Psalm 124**

If the Lord had not been on our side,  
now may Israel say:

if the Lord had not been on our side,  
when our enemies rose against us,

**Then they would have swallowed us alive:  
when their anger was kindled against us.**

Then the waters would have overwhelmed us,  
and the torrent gone over us:  
the raging waters would have gone clean over us.

**But praised be the Lord:  
who has not given us as a prey to their teeth.**

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler:  
the snare is broken, and we have gone free.

**Our help is in the name of the Lord:  
who has made heaven and earth.**

*A reading from Saint James' letter chapter 5 verses 12 to 20*

Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "Yes" be yes and your "No" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

**Gospel hymn - 231 At the name of Jesus**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Go to my brothers and sisters  
and share the good news

**Alleluia**

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark, chapter 9  
beginning at the 38<sup>th</sup> verse*

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following

us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

*The Sermon*

*Let us together affirm the faith of the church*

*Let us pray for the world, the church, and each other*

*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 – 665 Jesus Christ is waiting**

*We give thanks for the offered gifts*

God our sustainer,  
receive the gifts we bring before you,  
and feed us continually with that bread which satisfies all hunger,  
and the wine that quenches all thirst,  
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*We turn to page 128*

...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...*

**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**

**Everyone is welcome to the table of the Lord.**

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

*Prayer after communion...*

Living God,  
in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.  
May the power of your love,  
which we have known in word and sacrament,  
continue your saving work among us,  
give us courage for our pilgrimage,  
and bring us to the joys you promise.  
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 – 585 I heard the voice**

*The Blessing and Dismissal*

God of this ancient land,  
through baptism you have given us an inheritance into one family,  
give us grace to walk together in the unity of Christ Jesus;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the One who loves you,  
the One who calls you,  
and the One who makes you holy,  
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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

Have you been watching the news over these last few days?

It has been a terrible week for our brothers and sisters in the United States as the confirmation to the Supreme Court hearings for Judge Brett Kavanaugh have been delving into allegations from his past.

I have many friends in America for whom this process has been terribly confronting and has raised past hurts and fears for them.

This issue has divided the nation it seems. The question of who is telling the truth and who is not is only one of the problems in this. This issue goes to heart of what kind of person should have power over others.

Of course as Christians, we hope that the message of Jesus cuts through this; as today's gospel reading reminds us:

*"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea".*

The stumbling blocks to truth and fairness are huge in this issue and we must pray that the light of Jesus shines through and the right decisions are made.

May the light of God's peace and justice always guide us on the path of righteousness.

Blessings, Mel.

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### **Pew Bulletin**

#### **Safe Church**

A national apology to people who have been abused in institutions will be offered by Prime Minister Scott Morrison on October 22. This is in response to the Royal Commission and it is hoped that it will be a turning point for healing and new practices.

#### **Australian Anglican Church Calendar**

If you have placed an order for a calendar it is time to pay for them. They will be ready to be distributed in the next few weeks. Rev. Mel will collect the money.

#### **Blessing of the Pets**

Our Blessing of the Pets service will be on October 7th. Bring along your furry and feathered friends (or your teddy favourite teddy bear) for a blessing.

## **Refugee Lunch**

The Macedon Ranges branch of the Rural Australians for Refugees are holding a fund raising lunch on Oct 7 in the hall. Cost is \$25  
Got to try [booking.com/TDGF](http://booking.com/TDGF) or email [Pauline.brown1@bigpond.com](mailto:Pauline.brown1@bigpond.com) to book your seat at this most important event.

## **Car Boot Sale**

Woodend Car Boot Sale is on October 6. If you didn't bring your goods along to church today items can also be received on the day. We need at least 3 volunteers to help for an hour each on the day. See Robyn or Michael.

\*\*\*\*no electrical goods are able to be sold at this event\*\*\*\*

## **Trivia Night**

Our annual trivia night, a major fun and fund raising event for our parish, will be held on Saturday October 20 this year.

***We have only had a couple of people volunteer to visit local businesses to collect prizes – we need more helpers to get silent auction prizes!***

Please do what you can to help make this night as successful as it usually is for our parish.

## **News from the Guilds**

*St Mary's Guild:*

The next knit and natter is October 17<sup>th</sup>.

*St George's Guild*

The Flower Show is on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.

## **Other Diary Dates**

Fr Neil Fitzgerald will be presiding in Woodend-Trentham November 18  
Bishop Matt will be visiting with us on December 16 to officially receive Robyn Leeder into the Anglican Communion.

Christmas Carols in the garden at St Mary's on December 21

Christmas Carols in St George's on December 23

**Intercessions – our prayers are asked for:** Sam, Andrea, Alison, Ethan, Kirsten, Carole, Wendy, Jeanette, Trevor, Rudi, Trish, Hugh, Joshua and family, Alan, Faye, Lynne, Kay, Don, Kristina and John, Linda, Carmela, Heath, Helen, Jim, Judy and John.

### **Birthdays and anniversaries**

We have lots of birthdays to celebrate this week!

Robyn Langford, Norma Proctor, Fay Speer, James Fiford, and Bronwyn Neill. Blessings for your birthday and always.

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

We thank God for the life of Morna Sturrock, giving thanks especially for her work in the church and her talents in many areas.

We pray for her family and her many friends as they mourn her.

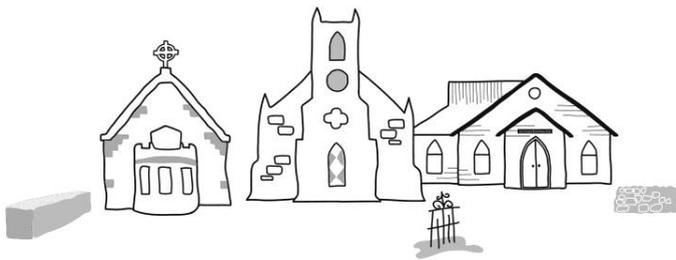
Tomorrow we remember Nita McKenzie and on Thursday we remember Keith Ian McDonald, in whose memory the KIM seat in the garden at St Mary's is placed. Keith was a flight officer killed in 1940 in WW2.

### **Readings for next week**

Psalm 26

Hebrews 1.1-2.12

Mark 10.11-16



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