



THE Anglican Parish *of* Woodend-Trentham

**St George's, Trentham 9.00am | St Mary's, Woodend 11.00am  
& Wednesday at St Mary's 10.00am**



**11<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – Fourth Sunday of Lent**

We acknowledge the Jaara Jaara people,  
of the Dja Dja Wurrung language group,  
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

The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him  
may have eternal life.

*John 3.14–15*

### Gathering Hymn – 453 We Limit Not

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins  
**Whose mercy endures forever**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you**

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

### Almighty God...

#### *The Confession*

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led  
by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted.

Let us confess our sins remembering before God the  
times when we have fallen from temptation into sin.

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:  
fill us with your Spirit.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:  
fill us with your Spirit.

Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:  
fill us with your Spirit.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy**

*The absolution*

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
Have mercy on us.**

*Let us pray*

Lord our God,  
by your Holy Spirit  
write your commandments upon our hearts  
and grant us the wisdom and power of the cross,  
so that, cleansed from greed and selfishness,  
we may become a living temple of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

*A reading from the book of Numbers chapter 21 verses 4-9*

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to

take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

### **Psalm 107.1-3, 17-22**

O God of my praise, do not be silent:  
for evil and deceitful mouths are opened against me.

**They speak of me with lying tongues:  
they surround me with words of hatred,  
they fight against me without cause.**

In return for my friendship they oppose me:  
and that for no fault of mine.

**They clothed themselves in cursing like a garment:  
so let it seep like water into their bodies  
and like oil into their bones.**

Let it be as the clothes they wrap about them:  
or like the girdle that they wear each day.

**This is the Lord’s recompense to those that oppose him:  
to those that speak evil against me.**

Act for me, O Lord my God, for your name’s sake:  
and deliver me, as your steadfast love is good.

**For I am poor and needy:  
and my heart writhes within me.**

I fade like a lengthening shadow:  
I am shaken off like a locust.

*A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians chapter 2 verses 1–10*

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But 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—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

*Praise to you Lord Jesus, King of endless Glory  
Saviour of the world, Saviour of the world.*

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John chapter 3  
beginning at the 14<sup>th</sup> verse*

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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*

Jesus said: Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

*We pray the prayer of Approach (page 125)*

### *The Greeting of Peace*

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has given us access to his grace.

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 Chant – (repeat until the altar is ready)**

**Bless the Lord**

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

*We give thanks for the offered gifts*

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**

*The preface to the Great Thanksgiving prayer is on page 151*

....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**

*Then we return to page 128*

**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**

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

*Prayer after communion...*

Lord God,  
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live by every word  
that proceeds from your mouth;  
through 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 – 473 Community of Christ**

*The Blessing and Dismissal*

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
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*

During the week Bishop Matt sent out an email to the clergy of the diocese, checking on us during this busy time and assuring us all, the people of the diocese, that he is praying for us in this season of Lent.

He also encouraged us to look for better ways to enjoy ourselves when Lent is over and we get into the celebrations of Easter.

At Easter we look forward to sharing time with our family and friends, and if we have young children in our circle, there is often some sort of exchange or hunt for chocolate eggs....actually there is no rule saying that chocolate eggs are only for children!

Anyway (chocolate always gets me off track!), Bishop Matt is encouraging us to look for chocolate that is ethically sourced and not the result of child labour or slavery.

The Baptist World Aid website states:

*The majority of the world's cocoa comes from the West African nations of Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana. But global demand for cheap cocoa is forcing the farmers in these nations to lower production costs, in order to avoid selling their produce at a loss...*

*It is currently estimated that the West African cocoa industry uses 2 million child labourers.*

*On some cocoa farms in rural parts of Cote d'Ivoire, children as young as 8 are trafficked to harvest cocoa beans in dangerous conditions. Instead of attending school, child labourers work 12-hour days on cocoa farms.*

Those of us who buy chocolate can negatively contribute to this cycle of trafficked children, poor conditions, and poverty; but we can also contribute positively by contacting retailers and insisting that they only stock ethically sourced chocolate. It may cost us a dollar or two more but it is worth it knowing that people in some of the world's poorest nations may have a chance to escape their poverty.

People power can make a difference; companies such as Cadbury, Mars, Nestle, Ferrero, Lindt and Hershey have all agreed to work towards ensuring that their chocolate is traffik-free. Aldi and Haighs only stock Easter products that have been certified against the use of child labour.

Easter brings freedom for Christians – let's help spread that message to the entire world by reflecting before we buy.

For more information go to:

[baptistworldaid.org.au/action/make-easter-traffik-free](http://baptistworldaid.org.au/action/make-easter-traffik-free)

Peace, Mel.

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## Pew Bulletin

### Lent, Holy Week, and Easter

Please keep these dates free for Lenten gathering and worship:

March 17 5.30pm	Lent 5 Taize service	St Mary's
March 24 5.30pm	Lent 6 Taize service	St George's

### Holy Week

March 29 7.00pm	Maundy Thursday	St Mary's
March 30 9am	Good Friday	St George's
March 30 midday	Good Friday	At the Children's Park
March 31 7.00pm	Easter vigil	St Paul's Kyneton
April 1 9am	Easter Day	St George's
April 1 11am	Easter Day	St Mary's

### Closing the Gap

On Wednesday after our Eucharist at St Mary's we have been invited to join with our friends at the Uniting Church in Woodend for morning tea and to hear about the needs of indigenous Australians.

### News from the Guilds

*St Mary's Guild:*

Knit and Natter is on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> from 11am in the hall. BYO lunch. Guild will have a sale table at the Newham Craft De-Stash event on Saturday April 7 from 9am. If you're able to assist on the day, or have any tissue paper / paper bags for purchases please see Carol or Alicia.

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

## Upcoming Baptisms and Weddings

Please pray for Neve, Gabriel and Maya as they prepare for their baptisms, and pray for Betty and Shaun as they prepare for their wedding.

## Birthdays

We give thanks for the safe arrival of Rupert Richard Churchill Fiford. We pray for his parents Carmen and James and his big sister Niamh.

## Years Mind and those who have died recently

We give thanks for the life of Graham Bathie and pray for his family and friends who mourn him.

We remember Judy Campbell tomorrow and on Tuesday we remember Murray Bedson, Ivan Londish and Penny Turner.

## Readings for next week – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jeremiah 31.31-34      Ps 119.9-16  
Hebrews 5.5-14      John 12.20-33

Weekday services:

Monday	Morning Prayer 9am	St Mary's
Tuesday	Morning Prayer 9am	St George's
Wednesday	Eucharist 10am	St Mary's
Thursday	Morning Prayer 9am	St Paul's Kyneton



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