

Twenty-First Ordinary Sunday 22 August 2021



Sunday Matins (Morning Prayer)

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Open our lips, O Lord, and we shall declare your praise.

This is the day that the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Friends in Christ, we come together to meet with God, and to take our part in the building up of his Church. We will lift up our hearts in thanks and praise, hear from God's holy word, and pray for this world, and for ourselves. The Bible tells us to approach God confidently, through our Lord Jesus Christ. As we do so, we must confess our sins, seeking forgiveness through God's boundless goodness and mercy.

So let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, and pray together,

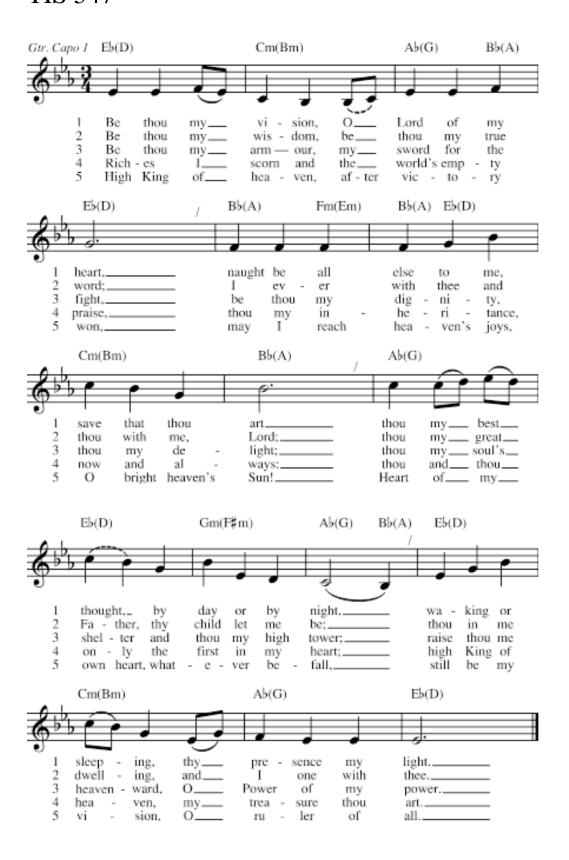
God of all mercy, we humbly admit that we need your help. We have wandered from your way. We have sinned in thought, word and deed, and have failed to do what is right. You alone can save us. Have mercy on us, wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others. Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit that we may live the new life to your glory. This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

God desires that none should perish, but that all should turn to Christ, and live. In response to his call we acknowledge our sins. God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel. Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. **His steadfast love endures for ever!**

Grace and peace be with you and also with you.

TIS 547



A reading from the book Joshua

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God.

And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors--Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor--lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. "Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed;

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and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 34:15-22

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous and his ears are open to their cry.

The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cry and the Lord hears them and delivers them out of all their troubles.

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and will save those who are crushed in spirit.

Many are the troubles of the righteous; from them all will the Lord deliver them.

He keeps all their bones, so that not one of them is broken.

But evil shall slay the wicked and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

The Lord ransoms the life of his servants and will condemn none who seek refuge in him.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Ephesians 6:10-20

For the word of the Lord, Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

BENEDICTUS (THE SONG OF ZECHARIAH)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel: who has come to his people and set them free.

The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour: born of the house of his servant David.

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old: to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,

To show mercy to our forebears:

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear:

holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High:

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation:

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God:

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death:

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

Let us affirm the faith of the Church.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus gave 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 sin 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 for ever. Amen.

Be exalted, Lord, above the heavens, let your glory cover the earth.
Keep our nation under your care, and guide us in justice and truth.
Let your way be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.
Send out your light and your truth, that we may tell of your saving works.
Have mercy on the poor and oppressed.
Hear the cry of those in need.
Hear our prayers, O Lord, for we put our trust in you.

The Collect of the Day

Everliving God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear the prayers we offer for all your faithful people, that in the ministry to which you have called them each may serve you in holiness and truth; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

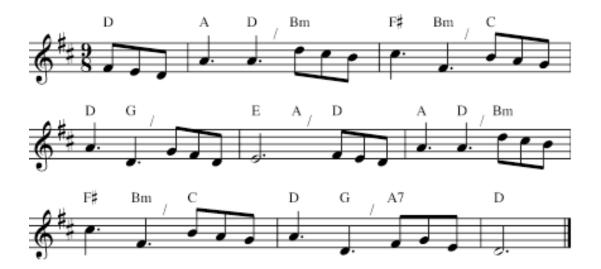
Intercessions are led for the world and the church, to which response to each petition may be:

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The intercessions conclude with:

Lord, you have given us grace to agree in these our prayers, and you have promised that when two or three gather in your name you will grant their requests. Fulfil now, Lord, our desires and prayers as may be best for us. Grant us, in this life, knowledge of your truth and in the age to come, life eternal. **Amen.**

TIS 642



- 1. This day God gives me strength of high heaven, sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth, flashing of lightning, wind in its swiftness, deeps of the ocean, firmness of earth.
- 2. This day God sends me strength to sustain me, might to uphold me, wisdom as guide.

 Your eyes are watchful, your ears are listening, your lips are speaking, friend at my side.

- 3. God's way is my way,
 God's shield is round me,
 God's host defends me,
 saving from ill.
 Angels of heaven,
 drive from me always
 all that would harm me,
 stand by me still.
- 4. Rising, I thank you, mighty and strong One, king of creation, giver of rest, firmly confessing threeness of persons, oneness of Godhead, trinity blest.

James Quinn 1919– alt. adapted from 'St Patrick's Breastplate'
Words by permission Cassell plc, London
Music by permission Oxford University Press
Words: additional permission required. Available from LicenSing

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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.

We conclude this time of prayer together with the words of the Grace:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen.

POSTLUDE:

"Processional" William Matthias (1964).

Prayers

Please pray for those in need, including Leanne, Jocelyn, Jackie, Roderick, Mandy, Jenny, Sasha, Martin, Jane, Pamela, Paul, and Rhondda.

Please pray for the recently departed: Father Gary Bouma.

Also, those whose anniversaries of death fall this week: Ethel Lloyd, Edna Rankin .

If there is a name that should be included, please advise the Parish Office by email office@stmarys.org.au

Acknowledgements:

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ST MARY'S PARISH NOTICES



We are planning, all going well, to hold a Christmas stall on Advent Sunday, November 28. In the absence of the Fair this will be our main big money raising project for the year. We need the help of everyone to help stock this stall with gifts and useful things for people to buy at Christmas time.

Are you a cook or a craftsperson? Can you make jams or marmalades, pickles or chutneys, sauces or other preserves? Suggestions for favourite preserves include:

- preserved lemons
- citrus marmalades (orange, kumquat, grapefruit)
- raspberry jam
- onion marmalade
- tomato relish
- tomato kasoundi
- mint jelly

I have good recipes for all these if required. Jars available at the Church. If you can sew, maybe you could make items such as potholders, serviettes, hand towels, cushion covers, lavender bags, or anything else you can think of. Lockdown times are a good chance to make things, so do get cooking or sewing!

Ring me if you want to talk (0417364431)

Marion Poynter for the Hospitality Committee



YOUR OFFERING ONLINE

Account Name: St Marys Anglican Church North

Melbourne,

Bank: Westpac North Melbourne.

BSB: 033 132, Account Number: 264412





CHURCH GARDEN GROUP

If you are available to help in the Church Garden, please contact Margaret Noble on 0458 753 654.

A PRAYER FOR ST MARY'S, NORTH MELBOURNE

Loving and gracious God, we give you thanks for calling us as your church to worship and to serve. We pray for your blessing on our parish of St Mary's, asking that you will direct us in our hopes and plans for the future.

Bless, we pray, all those who lead: for our Vicar, Fr Jan, and other clergy, Mthr Dorothy and Fr Mark; for our Wardens, Sam, Anne and Michael; for Harriet in her educational work with the children; for our organist, Beverley, and choristers; for the members of the parish Council, the Hospitality committee and all who serve in many other ways. We thank you for their willing service. And we pray for all who enter our doors: to pray, to worship, to find acceptance and healing, to serve, to encounter you.

We pray also for the wider community of North Melbourne. Help us to discern how we may work for your kingdom in our mission. We pray for Indigenous people, refugees, and those who are poor, that they may discover your inclusive and welcoming love through our witness.

We pray for ourselves and for anyone we know who needs our prayers at this time.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Crucified and Risen Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

CONTACT ST MARY'S

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Director of Music: Beverley Phillips 5286 1179

bevjp@westnet.com.au

Wardens: Anne Sunderland annes@jenkinsau.net

> Michael Golding m-golding@bigpond.com Sam Miller samcmiller92@msn.com

Parish Administrator Darrell Pitt.

Office Hours: 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, Mon-Fri.

The Anglican Diocese is conjunction with St Mary's Anglican Church North Melbourne does not tolerate abuse, harassment or other misconduct within our communities. If any person has

concerns about behavior of a church worker, past or present. The Diocese of Melbourne is committed to doing all that is possible to ensure that abuse does not occur. All complaints of abuse are taken very seriously, and we do all we can to lessen harm. We offer respect, pastoral care and ongoing long-term support to anyone who makes a complaint. St Mary's Statement of Commitment to Child Safety is on our noticeboard and can be downloaded from our website www.stmarys.org.au.

PLEASE REPORT ABUSE CALL 1800 135 246

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

St Mary's Anglican Church, North Melbourne is an innercity Christian community that strives to be faithful, inclusive and sacramental.

God inspires us to worship in daily celebration; to be caring, thoughtful and inviting.

In response to God's call, in the next three to five years we aim:

- To grow substantially in faith and numbers
- To create an inter-generational culture that values all age groups children and adults equally
- To express our faith in active engagement within and beyond our own community
- To deploy our property and financial assets in strategic support of the ministry needs of the parish for the long term
 - To become more open to change as we learn to grow

