ANGLICAN St Mary's HURC

Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Sunday 12 September 2021



Welcome to St Mary's North Melbourne. Thank you for joining us in worship. Please join in saying the text marked in bold and singing the musical responses and hymns.

INTRODUCTION

A disciple must follow his master, walking with him on the path the master has chosen. It would have been easy for the disciples to follow a glorious messianic figure; instead Jesus asked them to give up all thoughts of power or greatness and accept lives of love, service and sacrifice. He asks the same of us.

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THE ENTRANCE HYMN TIS 111

 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation; O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation. Come all who hear, brothers and sisters draw near, praise him in glad adoration.

- Praise to the Lord who in all things is wondrously reigning and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining: have you not seen all that is needed has been sent by his gracious ordaining?
- Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work and defend us; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us: ponder anew what the Almighty can do as with his love he befriends us.
- Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding, who, when the godless do triumph, our best hopes confounding, sheds forth his light, scatters the horrors of night, saints with his mercy surrounding.
- 5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him. Let the Amen sound from his people again: gladly for ever adore him.

Joachim Neander 1650–80 tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827–78 and others

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you: And also with you.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord have mercy; **Lord have mercy** Christ have mercy; **Christ have mercy** Lord have mercy; **Lord have mercy**

The deacon introduces the confession:

God's whole creation groans. The land produces thorns and thistle and longs to be set free. Our sin affects all around us. We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Creator God,

we confess that we have not honoured and obeyed you. We have broken our relationships with one another, abused your fragile creation, wounded your love and marred your holy image in us. We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins. Father, forgive us. Lead us from apathy to love. Strengthen us as stewards of your precious people and of your glorious creation, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us. Amen.

The celebrant pronounces the absolution:

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed: forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

God of holy dreaming, Great Creator Spirit,

From the dawn of creation you have given your children the good things of Mother Earth.

You spoke and the gum tree grew.

In the vast desert and the dense forest, and in cities at the water's edge, creation sings your praise.

Your presence endures as the rock at the heart of our Land.

When Jesus hung on the tree you heard the cries of all your people and became one with your wounded ones; the convicts, the hunted and the dispossessed.

The sunrise of your Son coloured the earth anew and bathed it in glorious hope,

In Jesus we have been reconciled to you, and to each other and the whole creation.

Lead us on, Great Spirit, as we gather from the four corners of the earth; enable us to walk together in trust from the hurt and shame of the past into the full day which has dawned in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Rev'd (Aunty) Lenore Taylor, from APBA page 218

THE COLLECT

God of mercy, help us to forgive as you have forgiven us, to trust you, even when hope is failing, and to take up our cross daily and follow you in your redeeming work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for the reading

A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon: For she is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of his goodness. Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things; in every generation she passes into holy souls and makes them friends of God, and prophets; for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom. She is more beautiful than the sun. and excels every constellation of the stars. Compared with the light she is found to be superior, for it is succeeded by the night, but against wisdom evil does not prevail. 1 She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other, and she orders all things well.

Wisdom 7.26-8.1

Hear the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19

Response:

The heavens are telling the glory of God.

The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork; One day tells it to another: and night to night communicates knowledge. There is no speech or language: nor are their voices heard; Yet their sound has gone out through all the world: and their words to the ends of the earth.

Response

There he has pitched a tent for the sun: which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run his course. Its rising is at one end of the heavens, and its circuit to their farthest bound: and nothing is hidden from its heat.

Response

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul: the command of the Lord is true, and makes wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, and gives light to the eyes.

Response

The fear of the Lord is clean, and endures for ever: the judgements of the Lord are unchanging, and righteous every one. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold: sweeter also than honey, than the honey that drips from the comb.

Response

Moreover, by them is your servant taught: and in keeping them there is great reward. Who can know their own unwitting sins?: O cleanse me from my secret faults. Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the mastery over me: so I shall be clean, and innocent of great offence.

Response

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight: O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Response

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of James:

But someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith without works, and I by my works will show you my faith. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder. Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith without works is barren? Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works. Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness', and he was called the friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another road? For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.

James 2.18-26

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, Alleluia

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

Alleluia

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

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark:

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

Mark 8.27-38

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

SERMON

NICENE CREED We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth. of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Caring God, we thank you for your gifts in creation: **The heavens tell of your glory;**

For our land, its beauty and its resources, **For the rich heritage we enjoy.**

We pray:

For those who make decisions about the resources of the earth, **that we may use your gifts responsibly;**

For those who work on the land and sea, in city and in industry, that all may enjoy the fruits of their labours and marvel at your creation;

For artists, scientists and visionaries, **That through their work we may see creation afresh.**

Silence

We thank you for giving us life; **for all who enrich our experience.**

We pray for all through their own or others' actions are deprived of fullness of life,

For prisoners, refugees, the handicapped, and all who are sick;

For those in politics, medical science, social and relief work, and for your Church, **for all who seek to bring life to others.**

Silence

We thank you that you have called us to celebrate your creation. Give us reverence for life in your world.

We thank you for your redeeming love; may your word and sacrament strengthen us to love as you love us.

Silence

God, Creator, bring us new life. **Jesus, Redeemer, renew us.**

Holy Spirit, strengthen and guide us.

God of peace, let us your people know, that at the heart of turbulence there is an inner calm that comes from faith in you. Keep us from being content with things as they are, that from this central peace there may come a creative compassion, a thirst for justice, and a willingness to give of ourselves in the spirit of Christ. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

You shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN TIS 297



Yours the hand that made creation, womb of every constellation, every species, every nation: glory to the Three in one.

Jesus from the first descending, by your birth the broken mending, Word of God the never ending: glory to the Three in one.

Holy Wisdom, ever near us, tongue of fire to teach all hearers, sanctify and guard and cheer us: glory to the Three in one.

Elliot Rose (1928-1944)

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessèd be God for ever.

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessèd be God for ever.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O God, eternal Wisdom, all you have made is beautiful and good. We thank you for darkness and light, for this earth and for our bodies, for growth and change and all that lies beyond our knowledge and imagination. In every generation you befriend your people. You gave us your holy Law, sent the prophets, and called us back to the truth whenever we turned away. You were vindicated in your servant Jesus who came with forgiveness, feasting, and stories of your grace. Though we rejected him, death on a cross could not quench the fire of his love. You raised him up for us, the firstborn from the dead, to build a new community of hope where all are honoured as Christ's equal friends. And so we praise you with Mary, mother of the living Word, and with all your faithful friends, as we join the angels' song:

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 name of the Lord.Hosanna in the highest. God of the feast, your household is hungry for the bread of heaven and the cup of life. Send your Spirit on us and on our celebration, so that we may eat at this table and be satisfied with the sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

On the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with the people he loved. He took the bread, gave you thanks, broke it to share with them, and said: "Take and eat this: it is my body."

Then he took a cup of wine. Again he thanked you and told them: "Drink this, all of you: it is my blood, shed for you and for many so that sins may be forgiven. Whenever you do this, do it in memory of me."

So we delight to remember Jesus: the faithfulness of his life, the victory of his cross, the glory of his resurrection, the joy of the Holy Spirit poured out for the Church.

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. O God, holy Wisdom, merciful and generous, accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Make us good stewards of creation, with justice in our hearts, courage in our actions and power in our speech to bear witness to the truth. Protect us with your glory, unite your church in loyalty and love, and bring us home with all your saints to feast with you for ever. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, and in the Spirit's grace, with heart and soul and mind and strength we love and worship you alone, O God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Christ has taught us we are confident to pray:

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 for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF BREAD

The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom. **Amen**

AGNUS DEI

Jesus, Lamb of God have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, Redeemer of the world, Give us your peace.

THE INVITATION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already here, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. **Amen**.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN TIS 349



- 1. In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.
- Through the cross, Christ's love empowers us worldliness and self deny; by his Spirit it inspires us him, through love, to glorify.
- 3. When the woes of life o'ertake us, hopes deceive and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake us, from it shines our peace and joy.
- 4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.
- 5. In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love.

Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of the Spirit.

THE BLESSING

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord: **In the name of Christ**. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

"Psalm 19" (The Heavens declare)

Benedetto Marcello

PRAYERS

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

Also, those whose anniversaries of death fall this week: Vernon Samule Charles Jones, Ted Scragg, Patricia Blaikie, Kythe Pratt, Elizabeth Danne.

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

Acknowledgements:

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POET'S CORNER

The Summer Day 1990

Who made the world? Who made the swan, and the black bear? Who made the grasshopper? This grasshopper, I mean – the one who has flung herself out of the grass, the one who is eating sugar out of my hand, who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes. Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face. Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away. I don't know exactly what a prayer is. I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass, how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields, which is what I have been doing all day. Tell me, what else should I have done? Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon? Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

> from <u>New and Selected Poems</u>, 1992, Beacon Press, Boston, MA © 1992 by Mary Oliver



ST MARY'S PARISH NOTICES

ST MARY'S NORTH MELBOURNE Delta Studies for Season of Creation



SUNDAY	TOPIC	CHAIR
Week 1 (Sun 23 rd Ordinary Time) 5/9/21	Virtual morning tea: response to service	Geoff
Week 2 (Sun 24 th Ord) 12/9/21	New Testament & creation	Mthr Dorothy
Week 3 (Sun 25 th Ord) 19/9/21	Genesis creation narratives in Old Testament	Geoff
Week 4 (Sun 26 th Ord) 26/9/21	Creation & ecology: current situation	Audrey
Week 5 (Sun 27 th Ord) 3/10/21	Virtual morning tea: introduction to pets	Fr Jan

THE FUTURE OF THE PLANET







Pope Francis, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and the Archbishop of Canterbury join together for the first time in urgent appeal for the future of the planet

For the first time, the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church, the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Anglican Communion have jointly warned of the urgency of environmental sustainability, its impact on poverty, and the importance of global cooperation.

Pope Francis, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby urge everyone to play their part in 'choosing life' for the future of the planet.

In a joint statement, the Christian leaders have called on people to pray, in this Christian season of Creation, for world leaders ahead of COP26 this November. The statement reads: 'We call on everyone, whatever their belief or worldview, to endeavour to listen to the cry of the earth and of people who are poor, examining their behaviour and pledging meaningful sacrifices for the sake of the earth which God has given us.'

The joint declaration strikes a clear warning - 'Today, we are paying the price...Tomorrow could be worse' and concludes that: 'This is a critical moment. Our children's future and the future of our common home depend on it.'

The three Christian leaders spoke against injustice and inequality, saying: 'We stand before a harsh justice: biodiversity loss,

environmental degradation and climate change are the inevitable consequences of our actions, since we have greedily consumed more of the earth's resources than the planet can endure. But we also face a profound injustice: the people bearing the most catastrophic consequences of these abuses are the poorest on the planet and have been the least responsible for causing them.'

The statement calls on people to:

- Pray for world leaders ahead of COP26
- For individuals: To make meaningful sacrifices for the sake of the planet, working together and taking responsibility for how we use our resources
- For those with far-reaching responsibilities: To choose peoplecentred profits and lead the transition to just and sustainable economies

Contacts:

1. Ruth Mawhinney, Acting Communications Director to the Archbishop of Canterbury:

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2. The Reverend Dr John Chryssavgis, advisor to the Ecumenical Patriarch on environmental issues:

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3. Matteo Bruni, Director of the Holy See Press Office: <u>direzione@salastampa.va</u>



CELEBRATING THE SEASON OF CREATION ONLINE



We're also coordinating an ONLINE celebration of creation and creatures on <u>St Mary's Facebook page</u>! Throughout September, we'll publish posts of parishioners' short reflections on nature with pics of the natural world, and in the week starting Mon 27 Sep in the leadup to Sun 3 Oct, we'll show our appreciation and care for our community's creatures by posting pics and stories of the pets of St Mary's!

It's easy for parishioners and friends (including the four-legged, furry variety) of St Mary's to get involved, all you need to do is:

- send a SHORT REFLECTION on nature of roughly 100-150 words or a Bible verse celebrating creation together with A PHOTO of a place in nature that you find inspiring or a source of comfort (can be a photo of your garden or one taken on your daily walk)

- send a PIC OF YOUR PET with their name, breed and a BRIEF DESCRIPTION of their personality and what you celebrate about God's creatures in general and/or your pet specifically (it can also be a tribute to a beloved pet who has passed away).

Please take part in this fun, online action and email your pics and text today to: <u>office@stmarys.org.au</u>

GET YOUR FAVOURITE TEACUP READY!



As soon as permitted by Covid regulations I plan to hold a morning or afternoon tea on the church lawns. Notice will be given on Thursday by email to let you know that it is on. I will provide the scones etc, you bring along your own fancy teacup/mug and we will have some fun getting together. Fr Jan

Be ready!



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

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CHURCH GARDEN GROUP

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

CONTACT ST MARY'S

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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 inner-city 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

