



**Twenty-Third Ordinary Sunday
5 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

Today, we begin our five week series – the ‘Season of Creation’. As we do so, we join with many other churches and denominations around the world.

The world and its environment is a precious gift given to us by God, one that we should treasure, nurture and grow.

THE ENTRANCE HYMN TIS 96

Gtr. Capo 3 F(D) Bb(G) F(D) Eb(C) F7(D7) Bb(G) Dm(Bm)

Gm(Em) C7(A7) F(D) Bb(G) Eb(C)

Cm(Am) F(D) D7(B7) Gm(Em) Eb(C) Bb(G) F7(D7) Bb(G)

1. The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
And here and hereafter the kingdom will grow.
2. The Kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
The captives are free, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share,
And hope is awakened instead of despair.

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3. The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.
 4. God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
And all things cry 'Glory!' to God in all in all.

Bryn Rees (1911-1983)

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

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, increase our faith, hope and love, and, that we may receive all you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for the reading

A reading from the Book of Proverbs:

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favour is better than silver or gold.

The rich and the poor have this in common:
the Lord is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.

Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor,
or crush the afflicted at the gate;

for the Lord pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Proverbs 22.1-2, 22.8-9, 22.22-23

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

PSALM 125

Response:

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion that stands forever

Those who put their trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion,
which cannot be shaken, but endures forever.
As the mountains stand about Jerusalem,
so stands the Lord about his people,
from this time forward for evermore.

Response

For the sceptre of wickedness shall have no sway
over the land apportioned to the righteous:
lest the righteous set their hands to do evil.

Response

Do good, O Lord, to those who are good:
to those that are upright in heart.
As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
let the Lord lead them away with the evildoers:
and in Israel let there be peace.

Response

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of James:

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

James 2.1-10, 2.14-17

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, **Alleluia**

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

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

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were

astounded beyond measure, saying, ‘He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.’

Mark 7.24-37

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 699

D Bm Em A /
A new com - mand - ment I give un - to you that you
D F#m Bm Em A / D F#m
love one an - o - ther as I have loved you, that you love one an -
Bm Em A D / G A
- o - ther as I have loved you. By this will o - thers know that
D Bm / Em7 D G 3
you are my dis - ci - ples if you have love one for an -
A D / G A D F#m
- o - ther; by this will o - thers know that you are my dis -
Bm / Em7 D G 3 A D
- ci - ples if you have love one for an - o - ther.

A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another
as I have loved you,
that you love one another
as I have loved you.
By this will others know
that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another;
by this will others know
that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.

Arrangement © Australian Hymn Book Co

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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.**

The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

Breaking of Bread

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**

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.**

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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN TIS 786

G D G D Em C Am D7 G /
G D G D Em C Am D7 G /
G Em A7 D G D Am D7 G

1. Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
2. Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation.
Word that came from heav'n to die,
crucified for our salvation.
Saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.
3. Word that caused blind eyes to see,
speak and heal our mortal blindness.
Deaf we are, our healer be,
loose our tongues to tell your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken;
heal the world, by our sin broken.

4. Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling.
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling.
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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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 of the harvest,
bless the labours of our hearts and hands,
bless the fruits of our cooperation and community,
bless the gathering of neighbours and strangers.
Awaken us to your longing for a different world,
where all are welcomed, valued and appreciated.
Give us grace to discern your presence in one another
and in the invitation of your Son, Jesus Christ,
that, together, we may come to the eternal harvest of your grace.

Amen

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G BMV 568

JS Bach

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: Bruce Fentham, John Marley.

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

CELEBRATING THE SEASON OF CREATION ONLINE



We're also coordinating an ONLINE celebration of creation and creatures on [St Mary's Facebook page](#)! 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: office@stmarys.org.au

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!



CHRISTMAS STALL



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.

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The Anglican Diocese in 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*

