

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST  
ST ALBAN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, EPPING NSW

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**ANZAC Day Commemoration**

**28 April 2024**

8am and 10am



**Welcome** whether you are joining us today in our building for this service or online. This order of service will assist you as you take part in the service. We invite you to join in the words in bold type. You are welcome to sit at any stage during the service should you feel the need.

We welcome babies and children, and understand that young children may make a noise. If you wish, you are welcome to use the space at the back of the church to settle them. During school terms pre-school and school age children can join our Children's Ministry Worker in 'The Loft' for Sunday School.

**If you wish to make an offertory today towards the work of the Parish, please place it in the Offertory Box located in the aisle towards the rear of the church or tap the card reader at the rear of the Church.** The Offertory Box is brought to the Sanctuary during the singing of the hymn after the 'Greeting of Peace'. To contribute financially to the ministry of this parish by direct transfer, check the details on the back page of the Bulletin.

Please stand as the ministers enter.

**HYMN** (10am)

- 1 God is our strength and refuge,  
our present help in trouble;  
and we therefore will not fear,  
though the earth should change,  
though mountains shake and tremble,  
though swirling waters are raging:  
God the Lord of Hosts is with us  
evermore.

- 2 There is a flowing river  
within God's holy city;  
God is in the midst of her,  
she shall not be moved.  
God's help is swiftly given,  
thrones vanish at his presence;  
God the Lord of Hosts is with us  
evermore.
- 3 Come, see the works of our maker,  
learn of his deeds all-powerful:  
wars will cease across the world  
when he shatters the spear.  
Be still and know your creator,  
uplift him in the nations;  
God the Lord of Hosts is with us  
evermore.

Richard Thomas Bewes (1934-2019) © The Jubilate Group (Admin. by Hope Publishing Company)  
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## **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

President:

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4.10–11

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.**

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

President:

Let us pray.

**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.**

Deacon:

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

*Sung at 10am:*

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

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

President:

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE 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.**

## **COLLECTS OF THE DAY**

President:

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

O God, form the minds of your faithful people, that we may love what you command and desire what you promise, so that, amid the many changes of this world, our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Anzac Day*

O God, our ruler and guide, in whose hands are the destinies of this and every nation, we give you thanks for the freedoms we enjoy in this land and for those who laid down their lives to defend them: We pray that we and all the people of Australia, gratefully remembering their courage and their sacrifice, may have grace to live in a spirit of justice, of generosity, and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Collect for Peace*

Almighty God, ruler of all, in whose kingdom peace and righteousness abound; we pray for those who are in conflict. Take away prejudice, cruelty and revenge. Grant that barriers which divide may crumble, suspicions disappear and hatreds cease, through Jesus Christ our mediator. **Amen.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD *(Seated)*

### First Reading

**Acts 8.26-40**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 8, beginning at verse 26

<sup>26</sup> Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup> So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup> and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' <sup>30</sup> So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' <sup>31</sup> He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup> Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' <sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' <sup>38</sup> He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

### Psalm 22.26-32

<sup>26</sup> From you springs my praise in the great congregation:

I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;

<sup>27</sup> **The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied:  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him—  
may their hearts rejoice for ever!**

<sup>28</sup> Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord:  
and let all the families of the nations worship before him.

<sup>29</sup> **For the kingdom is the Lord's:  
and he shall be ruler over the nations.**

<sup>30</sup> How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage:  
or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

<sup>31</sup> **But he has saved my life for himself:  
and my posterity shall serve him.**

<sup>32</sup> This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation:  
and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

## Second Reading

## 1 John 4.7-21

A reading from the First Letter of John, Chapter 4, beginning at verse 7

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. <sup>15</sup> God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup> Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Hear the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## HYMN

- 1 God is love, let heav'n adore him;  
God is love, let earth rejoice;  
let creation sing before him,  
and exalt him with one voice.  
God, who laid the earth's foundation,  
he who spread the heavens above,  
and who breathes through all creation  
God is love, eternal Love.
- 2 God is love, and gently enfolding  
all the world in one embrace,  
with unfailing grasp is holding  
every child of every race.  
And when human hearts are breaking  
under sorrow's iron rod,  
then they find that selfsame aching  
deep within the heart of God.

3 God is love, and, though with blindness  
sin afflicts our human hearts,  
God's eternal loving kindness  
holding, guiding, grace imparts.  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
o'er us final triumph gain;  
God is love, so love for ever  
o'er the universe must reign.

Timothy Rees (1874-1939) - Public domain

**GOSPEL** (*Standing facing the reader*)

**John 15.1-8**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;  
My branches bear much fruit.

**Alleluia!**

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, Chapter 15, beginning at  
verse 1

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus said: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples'.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**THE SERMON**

(*Please sit when indicated by the Preacher.*)

Bishop Ross Nicholson

**THE CREED**

*(Standing)*

Deacon: Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**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.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Intercessor:

Let us pray for the world and for the Church. *(Please kneel or sit.)*

*Prayers for the world, the country, the church, and those in need are offered. There  
is usually a simple response after each section as below, or as indicated by the  
leader and we join in a concluding response.*

Lord, in your mercy,	or	Father, hear our prayer
<b>hear our prayer.</b>		<b>Through Jesus Christ our Lord.</b>

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF APPROACH

*(Remain kneeling or seated)*

President:

Let us pray.

**We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

## THE GREETING OF PEACE

*(Standing)*

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*Please turn to those nearby, and offer a simple greeting of peace.*

*During the singing of the following hymn, the offertory will be brought forward to the Sanctuary.*

## HYMN

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | You servants of God,<br>your Master proclaim,<br>and publish abroad<br>his wonderful name;<br>the name all-victorious<br>of Jesus extol;<br>his kingdom is glorious,<br>and rules over all.     | 3 | Salvation to God,<br>who sits on the throne!<br>let all cry aloud,<br>and honour the Son:<br>the praises of Jesus<br>the angels proclaim<br>fall down on their faces,<br>and worship the Lamb.      |
| 2 | Our God rules on high,<br>Almighty to save;<br>and still he is nigh,<br>his presence we have;<br>the great congregation<br>his triumph shall sing,<br>ascribing salvation<br>to Jesus our king. | 4 | Then let us adore,<br>and give him his right,<br>all glory and power,<br>all wisdom and might,<br>all honour and blessing,<br>with angels above,<br>and thanks never-ceasing,<br>and infinite love. |

Charles Wesley (1707-88). Public domain



## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*(Remain standing)*

President:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have gifts to share. Accept all our offerings, those we bring this morning and those we make by other means, that they may be used for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *(Standing)*

President:

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.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

He is the true Paschal Lamb who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world. And now we give you thanks that you raised him in triumph from the dead. By his death, he has destroyed death and by his rising to life again has restored us to eternal life.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

*Said at 8am, sung at 10am:*

**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

*Said at 8am, sung at 10am:*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

*Said at 8am, sung at 10am:*

**Blessing and honour, glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour 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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body,

**for we all share in the one bread.**

*Said at 8am, sung at 10am:*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

Deacon:

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.

President:

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

*Members of all Christian churches are invited to receive Communion at Saint Alban's. If you do not wish for any reason to receive the bread and wine, you are very welcome to come forward for a simple prayer of blessing: keep your hands by your side and one of the clergy will give you a blessing.*

*We receive bread in the form of a wafer, then wine in a small individual disposable cup. If you prefer you could receive wine from the chalice. Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic grape juice are available. Please indicate to the clergy as they approach you at the Altar Rail. Please move to the Chancel Steps by the centre aisle to receive the bread and wine.*

*It is a matter of personal choice whether you stand or kneel to receive the bread and wine.*

*Return to your place by a side aisle, placing your used cup in the container at the end of the front pew. If you need to receive communion in your seat, please let a duty parishioner know and the clergy will come to you in the pew.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(Remain kneeling or seated)*

President:

Eternal God, giver of life, in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord. May we who celebrate this holy feast walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.

**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.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS** *(Seated)*

### **HYMN**

- 1 Lord God, to You our praise we bring,  
With joyful hearts to You we sing:  
Our hope forever, our refuge yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, with blood and pain  
With courage strong through death you came:  
Our living Lord, our Saviour yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget.
- 3 Creator Spirit, Holy One,  
Through You our life of faith begun:  
Our strength, our guide, our comfort yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget.
- 4 Your Church, O God, is gathered here,  
Bidden by Christ, his presence near:  
His bread and wine, our pledges yet,  
Lest we forget lest we forget.
- 5 This day our prayer of thanks we make  
For those who fought and for our sake,  
And for our land, our freedom yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

John Seddon - © More Hymns from the Heart, 2021. Used with permission.

## **ANZAC REMEMBRANCE**

*8am Ross Beattie; 10am Robin Cummins*

Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure keeping:  
Those who have died for their country in war;  
Those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure;  
And all who have lived and died in the service of humankind.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,  
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.  
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,  
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
we will remember them.

**We will remember them.**

Lest we forget.  
**Lest we forget.**

### **The Last Post**

*Silence*

### **The Reveille**

*The Last Post will be played by Edward Lawn at 10am.*

## **BLESSING**

President:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you what is pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Deacon:

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