



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the triune God, the Creator of heaven and earth, and God's ownership of all things (Psalm 24:1). We recognise that God gave stewardship of these lands upon which we meet to the First Nations Peoples of this country (Acts 17:26). In God's sovereignty, God has allowed other groups to migrate to these shores. We acknowledge the cultures of our First Nations Peoples and are thankful for the community that we share together now. We pay our respects to the traditional custodians of this land and their elders, both past and present, and those who are rising up to become leaders.

Welcome

The Cantor(s) will open the service saying,

Thank you for joining us for worship today. We especially welcome those who are joining us via our livestream. If you could please stand to sing our opening hymn:

Hymn: In the Cross of Christ, I Glory,

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.

2 Through the cross, Christ's love empowers us
worldliness and self-deny;
by his Spirit, it inspires us
him, through love, to glorify.

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.

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.

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Minister's Greeting

God calls us to worship during this season of Lent.

We worship Jesus Christ, the one who comes in the name of the Lord,

Who rides in humility to do the saving work of the Lord.

God gave Christ the victory so we can call him King.

Let us praise God for his great gift to us in Christ, his Son.

Sentence

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. (Psalm 126:6)

Prayer of Preparation

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.

Prayer of the Day

O God, the Redeemer of all who trust in you; today we acknowledge that through the sending of your Son, our Saviour, you prepared a way through the wilderness for us to walk. Thank you for doing new things amongst us. May we, who have been freed from sin, serve you in perfect freedom and rejoice in your unfailing love; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The first reading is from the book of Isaiah, chapter 43, verse 16-21.

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says— he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters,¹⁷ who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:¹⁸ “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. ¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.²⁰ The wild animals honour me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen,²¹ the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

The Psalm of the day, number 126.

¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed.

² **Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”**

³ The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

⁴ **Restore our fortunes, LORD, like streams in the Negev.**

⁵ Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.**

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.

The second reading is from Philippians chapter 3 verse 3-14

³ For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— ⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for

whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in^[a] Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

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

Gospel song: Take my life and let it be!

1. Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2. Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

4. Take my silver and my gold,
nothing, Lord, would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

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The Gospel of our Lord

**The Gospel of our Lord, according to John, Chapter 12, verses 1-8.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

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

The Message: Rev Juleen Partridge will bring the message

The Deacon will lead the creed,

The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.**

Hymn: Change My Heart O God!

1 Change my heart, O God,
make it ever true;
change my heart, O God,
may I be like You.

3 Change my heart, O God,
make it ever true;
change my heart, O God,
may I be like You.

2 You are the potter,
I am the clay;
mould me and make me,
this is what I pray.

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The Minister prays,

The Prayer of the Week

We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: we thank you that through his death he has called us to life, so by his presence abiding in us he many raise us to joys eternal; through Jesus Christ your Son your Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Prayers for God's mission

Lord of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them.

Lord of creation, we also pray for the families and individuals whose property has been devastated by the floods. We thank you for all the faith communities and aid organisations who are rallying support in both spiritual and physical areas. Lord, may these floods be a timely reminder that creation groans for the manifestation of the children of God. May these be a sign for all Australians to call upon you to heal our land.

Lord and bridegroom of the Church, we pray for the worldwide body of Christ, all denominations and faith communities who call on the name of the Lord Jesus as Saviour and Lord. We pray that your worldwide church would be united, so that all peoples may know that we are disciples of Christ. May we speak of our fellow believers as brothers and sisters in Christ, with encouragement and grace and not allow criticism or judgementalism to take hold. May each denomination and faith community hold your Word with integrity and teach the true Gospel with honesty and courage.

Lord of God's mission, we pray for all the various global missionary agents who operate in your world. We particularly pray for the Anglican Board of Mission and the Church Missionary Society. We

ask you to raise up new missionaries who will go to nations in which your gospel has not yet been preached. Speak to the hearts of those whom you have called to enter nations where the name of Jesus is not permitted to be preached. Give them courage and faith to develop relationships, so that churches may be established. Protect the lives of those who work in your name, and provide the financial means necessary for them to continue their work.

Finally, we commend to your fatherly goodness all who are afflicted or distressed in body, mind or circumstances, especially those on our prayer list. Relieve them according to their needs, giving them patience in their suffering and deliverance from their afflictions. Send your healing hand upon them and give them peace.

Let us pray together the prayer of St John Chrysostom

Lord, you have given us grace to agree in these our prayers, and you have promised 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 our truth and in the age to come, life eternal. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

We conclude by praying as our Saviour taught 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 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 Deacon leads the time of confession

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Knowing the goodness and compassion of our heavenly Father, let us draw near to him with repentant hearts.

**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.**

Deacon: Please stand as we hear God's promise of forgiveness.

Promise of Forgiveness

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, 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.**

**Lord, have mercy Christ, have mercy Lord, have mercy.
Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

Greeting of Peace

We who were once far away have been brought near. We have been washed, sanctified and are being glorified. Let us therefore share in the peace we have received.

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share in his peace.

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

Thanksgiving and Communion

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 thanks and praise.**

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

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

He was tempted in every way as we are, yet he did not sin.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to walk in the way of his love.

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

**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 bread and this 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 giving 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.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

God of mercy, may we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness to this broken world.

Renew us by our 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,
by the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you,
Father, in songs of never-ending praise.

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

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.

Come and let us share in the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ and let us feed on him in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

Communion Hymn: Made in God's Likeness

Chorus

*Made in God's likeness, moved by the Spirit,
called to create a new world for the Lord
called to create a new world for the Lord.*

1 Birds in the mountains sing of your praises,
called in the morning to tell of your love;
bellbirds and whipbirds sing of creation
celebrate always that Christ is the King
(Chorus)

2. Summoned at noontide, come now and follow,
joyfully marching wherever you lead;
roller birds stuntmen, kingfishers' laughter, Clowns
of creation in the circus of God.

(Chorus)

3 Called in the night time to act in your drama to
take on the Christ role, your script in our hearts;
masked owl and bowerbird teach us to study the
part we must play and the gifts we can share.
(Chorus)

4 Called now at all times to wait on the Father,
follow his lead as he partners our dance;
brolga bird dances, re treats, and, returning
bowing at last to his partner, the Lord.

(Chorus)

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Communion Hymn: Peace I give to You

1. Peace I give to you,
I give to you My peace;
Peace I give to you,
I give to you My peace.

2. Love I give to you,
I give to you My love;
love I give to you,
I give to you My love.

(Chorus)

4. Hope I give to you,
I give to you My hope;
hope I give to you,
I give to you, My hope.

(Chorus)

Chorus:

*Let it flow to one another,
Let it flow, let it flow;
Let it flow to one another,
Let it flow, let it flow.*

3. Hope I give to you,
I give to you My hope;
hope I give to you,
I give to you My hope.

(Chorus)

5.. Joy I give to you,
I give to you My joy;
joy I give to you,
I give to you My joy

(Chorus)

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Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord

Living God, in this holy meal you fill us with new hope. May the power of your love, which we have known in word and sacrament, continue your saving work among us, give us courage as we await your arrival, and bring us to the joys you promise.

Father,

you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.

Let us go from this place proclaiming that we have seen the glory of God, believing that there is a light that shines in the darkness, which the darkness shall not overcome. And may the love of God the Father, the peace of Jesus the Son, and the joy of the Spirit, be with you today and evermore.

Amen.

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

Closing Song: God gives us our Future!

1 God gives us a future,
daring us to go
into dreams and dangers
on a path unknown.
We will face tomorrow
in the Spirit's power,
we will let God change us,
for new life starts now.

2. We must leave behind us
sins of yesterday,
for God's new beginning
is a better way.
Fear and doubt and habit
must not hold us back:
God gives hope, and insight,
and the strength we lack.

3. Holy Spirit, teach us
how to read the signs,
how to meet the challenge
of our troubled times,
Love us into action,
stir us into prayer,
till we choose God's life,
and find our future there.

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Lenten Devotional - Week 6

Week 6 of our Lenten Devotional is available for your use.

Each week we'll reflect on the Prayers of Jesus.

As we give special attention to praying for the lost souls of Southlakes,
I pray that you create space each day for spending time with Jesus,
learning to be transformed into His likeness.

