



Alstonville Anglicans

Pentecost 6 - 12th July 2020

You are welcome to join us this week...

- Sunday@**9am**. **Anglican Service of Worship in the Ministry Centre.**
- Or 10am connect via webpage www.anglicans.live
- Sunday@6pm A conversation approach. Join us via Zoom. Link available on the website www.anglicans.live
Meeting ID: 934 099 691 Password: 030920
- Anam Cara – a meditation group. Wednesday 9am St Bartholomew's



Sharing the Good Life

We acknowledge the Bundjalung people,
traditional custodians of the Land.
Our doors are open: LGBTQIA+ welcome here.
Streaming license CCLI #690910

Thought for the Week

Ah! The parables! Enigmatic entities whose meaning is not immediately clear, Spirit filled seeds of creation, brimming with promise of life and vitality. Some seem simplistic, others baffling, yet others tiresome. The shorter they are, the more meaningful they seem to be. The longer ones invite unfortunate critical analysis that destroys the purpose of their formulation, the presence of the living God.

Think of The Pearl of Great Price, or the Treasure Hidden in a Field - one-liners that carry a stupendous wealth of Presence. No other words are necessary. One is invited into a liminal space of boundless possibility that is - really, truly, madly - ineffable.

Rowan Williams once referred to Christ as a "riddler", "one who makes us strangers to what we think we know," whose "sharp and enigmatic words ... oblige us to imagine ourselves anew ..."

So, in considering the parable of the Sower, let us not get entangled in the details, but seek the greater truth, the

Sower Herself. Forget the possibilities for careful agriculture, husbandry of soil types, farmers negligent or otherwise, weeds and what not; the Sower in this tale is extravagant, reckless, abandoned, indiscriminate. Seed is scattered everywhere.

The late R S Thomas' poem Raptor has in part,

You have made God so small
setting him astride
a pipette or a retort
studying the bubbles,
absorbed in an experiment
that will come to nothing

I think of him rather
as an enormous owl
abroad in the shadows

...
I have heard him crooning
to himself, so that almost
I could believe in angels.

Doug Bannerman



Pentecost 6

9am Liturgy

12th July 2020

Welcome and acknowledgment of country

Sentence of the Day

The words you have spoken are spirit and life, O Lord; you have the words of eternal life. John 6.63, 68

Opening Song

Bring Many Names

1. Bring many names,
beautiful and good,
celebrate, in parable and story,
holiness in glory,
living, loving God.
Hail and Hosanna!
bring many names!

2. Strong mother God,
working night and day,
planning all the wonders of
creation,
setting each equation,
genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna,

strong mother God!
In the Kingdom's causes
let me rage with you.

3. Warm father God,
hugging every child,
feeling all the strains of human
living,
caring and forgiving
till we're reconciled:
Hail and Hosanna,
warm father God!

4. Old, aching God,
grey with endless care,
calmly piercing evil's new
disguises,
glad of good surprises,
wiser than despair:
Hail and Hosanna,
old, aching God!

5. Young, growing God,
eager, on the move,
saying no to falsehood and
unkindness,
crying out for justice,
giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna,
young, growing God!

6. Great, living God,
never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our
seeing,
closer yet than breathing,
everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna,
great, living God!

*Words Brian Arthur Wren
CCLI Song # 131727*

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Reading

Matthew 13:1-23

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ Let anyone with ears listen!" ¹⁰ Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" ¹¹ He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. ¹² For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an

abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ¹³ The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.' ¹⁴ With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says: 'You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive. ¹⁵ For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them.' ¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it. ¹⁸ "Hear then the parable of the



sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Sermon

Intercessory Prayers

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.

for all who are deprived of fullness of life,
for prisoners, refugees, and those 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.

Blessing

Whichever way we turn,
O God,
there is your face
in the light of the moon
and patterns of stars
in scarred mountain rifts
and ancient groves
in mighty seas
and creatures of the deep.
Whichever way we turn,
O God,
there is your face
in the light of eyes we love

in the salt of tears we have
tasted
in weathered countenances
east and west
in the soft skin glow of the child
everywhere.
Whichever way we turn,
O God,
there is your face
There is your face among us.

PRAYER FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD

By John Philip Newell

On this day
the blessings of heaven.
On this day
the blessings of earth.
On this day
**the blessings of sea and of
sky.**

To open us to life
to ground us in life
to fill us with life and with
wonder.

On those we love this day
and on every human family
the blessings of heaven
the blessings of earth
**the blessings of sea and of
sky.**

*From Praying with the Earth: A Prayer book
for Peace by John Philip Newell*



Final Song

Lord Let Me See

1. Lord let me see,
see more and more,
see the beauty of a person,
not the colour of his skin,
see the faces of the homeless
with no one to take them in,
see discouragement
because she'll never win
see the face of our Lord in the pain:
Lord let me see.

2. Lord let me hear,
hear more and more,
hear the sounds of great
rejoicing,
hear a person barely sigh;
hear the ring of truth,
and hollowness of those who
live a lie;
hear the wail of starving people
who will die
hear the voice of our Lord in the
cry:
Lord let me hear.

3. Lord let me care,
care more and more,
care for those who feel the
loneliness,
for those who have no say,
care for friends who have no job
and find it hard to face the day,
care for those with whom we
sing
and work and pray
and in care Jesus Christ will be
found:
Lord let me care.

4. Lord let me learn,
learn more and more,
learn that what I know is just a speck
of what there is to know;
learn from listening to my neighbour
when I'd rather speak and go;
learn that as we live
in faith and trust we grow;
learn to see, hear and care, with
our Lord;
Lord let me learn.

5. Lord let me love,
love more and more,
love the loveless and the fragile,
help them be what they can be,
love the way that I would like
them to be looking after me;
for to know You is to love them
and be free,
and in love Jesus Christ will be
found:
Lord let me love.

Words Ross Langmead CCLI Song # 1447551
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Did you know?

Back Together

To sing or not to sing?

It is wonderful to be back worshipping together. Our licence to reopen depends on us obeying the rules.

One difficult rule is no singing in churches which is difficult for many, as it is for a lot of us an important part of worship.

The COVID-19 is a respiratory virus and spreads by breathing other peoples infected air. Singing and shouting spread it far more effectively.

SO no option, no exceptions except for the designated soloist. Our staying open depends on it.

As the Victorian experience has reinforced, social distancing of 1.5m is the vital key to combating the spread of this virus.

So from last weeks experience at our church, well done.

Paul Earner

Questions

August is the month set aside for answering your questions of faith, life, the universe and everything in between.

There will be a box in the hall and the office. Please drop your questions in or email them through to the office.



ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

Ministers	all the baptised!	
Rector	The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman 04 02 764 969 priest@anglicans.live	
Associate	The Reverend John Kidson	0411 394 213
	The Reverend Geoff Vidal	0447 645 456
	Life Groups Chaplain	
	The Reverend Greg Ezzy	0412 660 742
Parish Office:	The Ministry Centre, 8 The Avenue, Alstonville	
Telephone:	6628 0231	
Postal:	PO Box 451, Alstonville NSW 2477	
e-mail:	office@anglicans.live	
website:	anglicans.live	

The Anglican Op Shop 1 The Avenue, Alstonville Tel: 6628 8777

**We give thanks to God for all people making offertories to
the vision of God's Kingdom here on earth.**

Option 1

Parish Provider these are the details: **BSB: 705 077 / Acc: 00032931**

Option 2

Cheques can be posted to the address above or placed in our locked letterbox. Before 12pm Fridays.

Sharing the Good Life

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