



Alstonville  
Anglicans

**Fifth Sunday of Pentecost**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021**



Image by falco from Pixabay

## **Sharing the Good Life**

We acknowledge the Bundjalung people,  
Traditional custodians of the Land.  
Our doors are open: LGBTQIA+ welcome here.  
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## Liturgy for 27<sup>th</sup> June

### Sentence of the Day

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3.22–23

### Collect

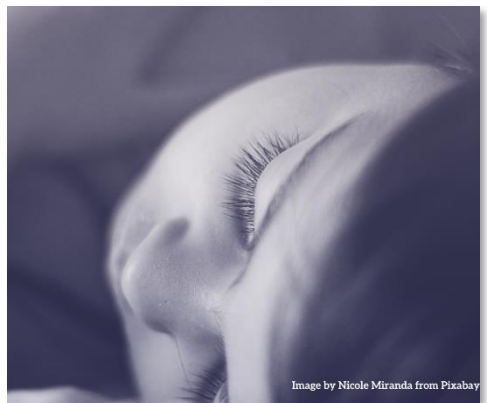
O Christ for whom we search,  
our help when help has failed:  
give us courage to expose our need  
and ask to be made whole,  
that, being touched by you,  
we may be raised to new life in the power of your name. Amen.

### Readings

#### **Mark 5:21–43**

<sup>21</sup> When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. <sup>22</sup> Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet <sup>23</sup> and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live." <sup>24</sup> So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. <sup>25</sup> Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. <sup>26</sup> She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. <sup>27</sup> She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup> for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." <sup>29</sup> Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. <sup>30</sup>

Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?"<sup>31</sup> And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?' " <sup>32</sup> He looked all around to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease." <sup>35</sup> While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" <sup>36</sup> But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." <sup>37</sup> He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. <sup>38</sup> When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup> When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." <sup>40</sup> And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" <sup>42</sup> And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. <sup>43</sup> He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.



## Messages

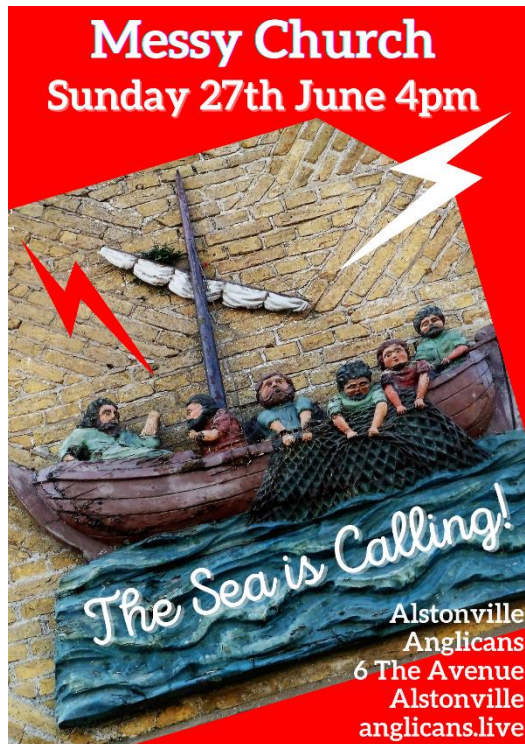
### Worship and Spirituality portfolio

Subscribe to AnglicansLive on YouTube

### Next Messy Life ?! Church

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July 5pm

We look forward to seeing you.



**Messy Church**  
Sunday 27th June 4pm

*The Sea is Calling!*

Alstonville  
Anglicans  
6 The Avenue  
Alstonville  
anglicans.live



## Baptisms

Today we welcome Sophia and Lucy who come with their family and friends to be baptised among us.

## Pastoral Care

### Family Crosses



On Sunday 20 June, the Family Cross is being given to Robin & Brian Delaney.



### Prayers

- Delaney Family
- Stuckey Family
- 

### Pastoral visits Remember!



If you or anyone you know is ill or in hospital, please let the office or Lynne Watt our Pastoral Care Coordinator know. Also, if you do visit anyone could you email Lynne? [wattlg@bigpond.com](mailto:wattlg@bigpond.com).

## Leadership Empowering

**Synod 2021** is 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August. If you have any questions or motions forward them to the Synod Representatives: Mark Stuckey, Cathy Angus, Rev Desiree.

### Sound Panels for Hall

In a bid to improve the acoustics in the hall we will be installing some sound panels. It is hoped this will lessen the reverb that we currently experience. If you have any questions, please talk to Bruce Sharp.

## Good Governance

### COVID Restrictions

- sign in
- sanitise.

## Ministry and leadership

### Opportunities

At Alstonville Anglicans, we consider all the baptised as ministers. Thus, everything that builds the community in love is ministry.

**Put your hand up!**



#### 1. Worship Team members

We are looking for people to assist on the Worship team on a Sunday: welcomers, readers and people to help with morning tea. Please contact Helen Nicholson [helen22nic@gmail.com](mailto:helen22nic@gmail.com) if you are able to assist.

## Community Engagement



### Working Bee

There is to be a working bee to clean the kitchen in the Ministry Centre. Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 8am – 12noon. Contact Phil Cowie 0402 488 545 for further details.

### Naidoc Week



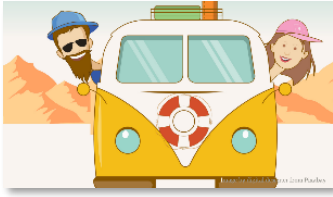
NAIDOC week runs from the 4 – 11 July. NAIDOC Week is a special time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements and is an opportunity to recognise the contributions Indigenous Australians make to our country and society.

This year's theme is '**Heal Country, heal our nation**'.

Heal Country calls for stronger measures to recognise, protect, and maintain all aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage. This year's theme also seeks substantive institutional, structural, and collaborative reform – something generations of Elders and communities have been advocating, marching and fighting for.

Monday 5 July 10am the Annual Celebration Walk begins at the Ballina RSL and proceeds along River St to the Visitors Centre for the official ceremony. Alstonville Anglicans participate each year. Let's walk together in 2021.





## Fun Car Tour

Sunday 18 July 11am

The Fun Car Tour will start from St Bart's car park at 11am. We are looking for about 4 people per car.

The journey (one and a half to two hours) will be interspersed with tests of your powers of observation and skill as you tour our beautiful countryside. We will finish with a picnic lunch at a local park.

Register at the office or after the services and say whether you have a car or need a lift. Fun for all ages. Don't miss out! BYO picnic lunch and chairs. Enquiries Paul Earner 0416 280 140.

## Sermon notes on Job 38:1-11, Mark 4:35-41 for Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June

Many young children climb into bed with their parents because they are scared during the night. Young adults fear what their HSC or university results will be and worry about careers and unemployment. There is widespread concern about global warming. Older Adults fear blood clots after COVID



vaccinations; their driving licence renewal tests and failing health. Everyone has some fears and often this is temporarily



necessary; for example, we need caution crossing roads. However, some fear is irrational.

How we deal with fear is the issue. Some people seem to brush fears aside and “get over it” while others seem stuck and even paralysed by fears. Why? What’s the difference? How might we live with a cautious awareness of dangers and, at the same time, live joyfully without anxiousness? Maybe our Bible readings give us the answer.

Today, we have heard some small parts of the story of Job and the Good News according to Mark. There’s always a connection between First (or old) Testament reading and Gospel. Today the two readings we heard are connected by the subject of water (or sea).

The people of Israel had a thing about water. They didn’t like the sea. Perhaps that’s why they named what we would call a big lake The Sea of Galilee! The Israelites thought that water was the domain of demons; a place for the evil one. In their minds, water was a place where God had opposition. So, the Israelites feared the sea and preferred to stay on dry land where they thought that they were in the security of God’s power. Israel was not a seafaring nation. The people believed that God was at war with the wild forces that ruled the sea.

Job Chapter 38 gives God’s profound response to the questions of Job as to why God would allow a good person to suffer. In our first hymn today, we were asking the same questions that Job had been asking. Why God? God’s response is to ask, “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements?” Then, in verse 8, there’s the important words

that tie in with the Gospel story of the storm at sea when Jesus and his disciples are in a boat. God says to Job “Who shut in the sea with doors ... and prescribed bounds for the sea?” In other



words, God is saying “who do you think has control of the sea?” God’s ironic words “surely you know” remind us of how much we actually don’t know. This is a very sharp and purposeful lesson for us to never think that we know everything that God knows. We are being reminded that this amazing love that God has for us, and for everything that God has created, can be seen in the way the world functions and that God’s love gives meaning to everything.

Well now, what are we able to learn from Mark? Earlier in Mark we have been told about Jesus’ power in teaching; we have seen this power confirmed by Jesus’ defeat of the demonic forces that plague our human existence and make it hard for people to live the life that God intends us to live.



This 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of Mark has had a number of parables on the kingdom. Last week we heard the parables of growing seed and the mustard bush. I really appreciated the way Desiree explained that Mark’s message of hope can sustain us against the darkness we

encounter. The mustard seed inspires our faith, imagination, patience and endurance.

This section of Mark finishes with story we heard today of Jesus and the disciples getting into a boat when the evening had come. Jesus wanted to leave the crowd behind and cross to the other side. A storm blows up. We know the story well and, in Sunday School, we probably have all coloured in pictures of Jesus in the boat with big waves about and storm clouds blowing overhead.



There's a contrast between the behaviour and attitude of the disciples in the boat and the actions and demeanour of Jesus. The disciples are afraid. However, Jesus sleeps through the storm. Jesus simply is not anxious.

It's not that Jesus is unconcerned with the reality of evil or that he is uncaring about the fate of his disciples. Yet Jesus is not overcome with anxiety as the disciples are, because he has full confidence in the presence and the power of God to deal with the threats of the stormy sea.

Jesus has taught that the kingdom of life and justice is a gift from God. Having faith means accepting that gift and living accordingly. Trusting and living a relaxed, even joyful life without anxiety.

The disciples in the boat show us that there is a subtle way of not believing. There is a subtle way of not trusting in the Lord. It is being afraid! A life of fearfulness and constant worrying is a life of subtle unbelief.



This unbelief is very subtle because it doesn't seem like rejection. Yet, in reality, it is rejecting the peace beyond our understanding that God offers. Significantly, Philippians 4:4 gives us the formula for a life of

peace. It says, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus".

What I see in this story of Jesus and the disciples in a storm at sea is Jesus making it quite clear that being afraid is closely linked to not having faith. Jesus says in verse 40 "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"

If there is faith,... there is no fear!

Yes, it's a tough world. Skyrocketing rental costs are forcing some people into homelessness. (Recently our daughter's rent went up \$100 a week.) The cost of living is rising and seems to be higher than we can manage. It was very relevant that in the first hymn today we sang "children are crying, hungry for food. People are homeless, lost and alone"

The media attention being given to the Tamil refugee family trying to return to Biloela reminds us of our good fortune in Australia and makes us aware that many of the big problems in

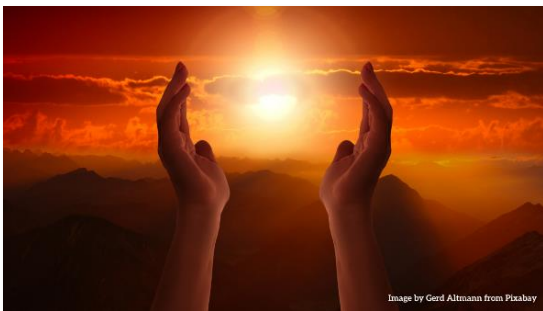
this world are “out there” in other places. We certainly live in the “lucky country”.

Because we are afraid of losing our present security and privileges we can easily overlook and refuse to accept the total availability of God’s protection. We can miss out on all that God promises us.

Also, if we are insecure, we might not be as welcoming and generous as we might otherwise be.

The story of God’s power in Jesus stilling the storm reminds all of us that fear in the challenges of living a Christian life hides something very grave; a lack of faith! This Gospel story is teaching that our level of fear rises depending on the smallness of our faith. Less faith means more fear. More faith means less fear.

If there is faith, there is no fear of the difficulties and threats we inevitably face in this broken world. Although there may not be rest, with faith there is profound peace.



Our encouragement is in knowing that trusting in God’s amazing love for each of us is what gives us reason to have joy and courage to face the adversities and challenges of our lives.

## ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

Ministers	all the baptised!	
Rector	The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman 0402 764 969 <a href="mailto:priest@anglicans.live">priest@anglicans.live</a>	
Associates	The Reverend John Kidson	0411 394 213
	The Reverend Geoff Vidal	0447 645 456
	The Reverend Doug Bannerman	0418 182 450
	The Reverend Greg Ezzy	0412 660 742

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**Bank account:** BSB 705 077 / Acc:00032931

### The Anglican Op Shop

1 The Avenue, Alstonville **Tel:** 6628 8777

### Dates 27<sup>th</sup> June to 4<sup>th</sup> July

27 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday 9am Holy Communion Sunday 10am St Peter & St Paul's Tregeagle
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday 10am Anam Cara Praying for You Parish Office open 9am-12pm Op Shop 9am-3pm
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Tuesday Parish Office closed
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Wednesday 9am Anam Cara Parish Office open 9am-12pm Op Shop 9am-3pm
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Thursday 9.30am Play Place Parish Office open 9am-12pm Op Shop 9am-3pm Thursday 6pm Anam Cara
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Friday 10am Holy Communion Parish Office open 9am-12pm
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Sunday 9am Holy Communion NAIDOC Week

AN AFTERNOON CONCERT  
OF CELTIC FUSION

# BACH BAGPIPES BEATLES

**SUNDAY  
11 JULY 2021  
3PM  
ST MARTIN'S  
38 STUART  
STREET  
MULLIMBIMBY**

A fundraiser for  
"Make a Wish"

Suggested cash donation \$20

Rev Desiree is performing with Marius and other Alstonville musicians to raise money for the 'Make a Wish' Foundation Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 3pm in St Martin's Church Mullumbimby.

Be entertained and benefit a very worthy cause.