

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

16 February, 2025 10:00 a.m.

Before the service, speak with God; during the service, let God speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Opening Hymn:

- Light's abode, celestial Salem,
 Vision whence true peace doth spring,
 Brighter than the heart can fancy,
 Mansion of the highest King;
 O, how glorious are the praises
 Which of thee the prophets sing!
- 2. There for ever and for ever Alleluya is outpoured; For unending, for unbroken Is the feast-day of the Lord; All is pure and all is holy That within thy walls is stored.
- 3. O how glorious and resplendent, Fragile body, shalt thou be, When endued with so much beauty, Full of health, and strong, and free, Full of vigour, full of pleasure That shall last eternally!
- 4. Laud and honour to the Father,
 Laud and honour to the Son,
 Laud and honour to the Spirit,
 Ever Three and ever One,
 One in love, and One in splendour,
 while unending ages run. Amen.

Words: Latin c. 15th century tr. J. M. Neale (1818–66) Music: Regent Square Henry Smart (1813–79)

The Celebrant greets the people:

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

SENTENCE:

Blessed are you when people hate you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

Luke 6:23

The Celebrant offers words of welcome

There is one Body and one Spirit;

there is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism,

one God and Father of all.

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When he had risen from the dead, he commanded his followers to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

We have come together today to obey that command.

Baptism with water signifies the cleansing from sin that Jesus' death makes possible, and the new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit.

In baptism, the promises of God are visibly signed and sealed for us.

We are joined to Christ, and made members of his body, the Church universal.

Children are baptized in response to God's all-embracing love.

Parents and godparents who have responded to that love come now to bring their children for baptism.

Before this congregation they must express their own trust and commitment to the promises of God, and their intention to bring up their children in the faith and practice of the Church.

In due time these children should make their own responses to God, and be prepared for confirmation.

To prepare ourselves to celebrate these two great sacraments, let us affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confess that we need forgiveness.

A pause for reflection

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image.

Forgive us when we turn away from you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death.

Rescue us from slavery to sin.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship with you and one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Celebrant pronounces Absolution, to which all respond

Amen.

We sing together, following the choir, the ancient hymn "Gloria in excelsis":

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

The people pray silently, and then the Celebrant 'collects' the silent prayer:

Righteous God, you challenge the powers that rule this world and you show favour to the oppressed: instil in us a true sense of justice, that we may discern the signs of your kingdom and strive for right to prevail; for the sake of 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 MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Jeremiah 17:5–10

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—
who can understand it?

I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm I

Response: Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord!

- I Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on his law day and night.

R.

- They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff that the wind blows away.

R.

- Therefore the wicked will not stand upright when judgement comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is doomed.

R.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain.

We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ — whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished.

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

- I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'Come unto me and rest;
 Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
 Thy head upon my breast.'
 I came to Jesus as I was,
 Weary, and worn, and sad;
 I found in him a resting place,
 And he has made me glad.
- I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'Behold, I freely give
 The living water, thirsty one;
 Stoop down, and drink, and live.'
 I came to Jesus, and I drank
 Of that life-giving stream;
 My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
 And now I live in him.
- 3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'I am this dark world's Light; Look unto me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy day be bright.' I looked to Jesus, and I found In him my Star, my Sun; And in that light of life I'll walk 'Till travelling days are done.

Words: Horatius Bonar, (1808–89) Music: 'Kingsfold' English folk song adapted by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958) GOSPEL Luke 6:17–26



Rejoice and be glad: your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus came down with the twelve and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judæa, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

Woe to you when all speak well of you,

for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.'

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon.

After the sermon, silence is kept.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Anglican Church:

We pray for The Church of Bangladesh; The Diocese of the Perth; St James', Dandenong; St Cuthbert's, Grovedale; St Oswald's, Glen Iris; and Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School.

For all in need:

May all who are in trouble, in need or sickness find peace and refreshment in you.

We pray for: Ann; Coral; Helen; John; Nigel; Ravi; and Roma; and those we name before you in the silence of our hearts.

For the Faithful Departed:

We remember those who have died recently: Anne Bradfield; Christina Tadgell, whose ashes are interred this morning; and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time: Stanford Ames; Wylie Ames; Robert John Bisset; Marguherita Burrell; Thomas Duncan; Ada Emery; Erina Villers Pringle; Gwenthelleyean (Gwen) Richards; John Richards; James Wearing Smith; Alexander Wakefield; and Kit Watling.

THE PRESENTATION

The Celebrant invites the candidates and their sponsors to stand in view of the congregation.

We welcome Ava May Walton and Harry Alexander Walton who come to be baptized. I invite their sponsors to present them now.

The respective sponsors answer:

We present Ava May Walton to be baptized. We present Harry Alexander Walton to be baptized.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Ava and Harry for baptism?

I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of Ava and Alexander? **I am.**

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage Ava and Harry in the life and faith of the Christian community?

I will.

THE DECISION

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

The Celebrant says to the congregation:

You have heard these our brothers and sisters respond to Christ.

Will you support them in this calling?

We will.

Let us pray.

Grant, merciful God, that Ava and Harry may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in them.

May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in them. Amen.

Give to their sponsors and families the desire to share with them what you have revealed in your holy gospel. **Amen.**

May they know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May they proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ. **Amen.**

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith.

Hasten that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ. Amen.

Ava, Harry and their sponsors and family follow the clergy and move to the font.

THE BAPTISM

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life.
With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom, and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your kingdom.

Thanks be to God.

And now we give you thanks that you have called Ava and Harry to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that those who are baptized in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May they die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue for ever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Celebrant now says to the sponsors of Ava and Harry:

I now ask you to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in God the Son?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

The Celebrant says to the congregation:

This is the faith of the Church.

The Congregation responds:

This is our faith:
We believe in one God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Ava May, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Harry Alexander, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Ava, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

Harry, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

Live as disciples of Christ: fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

The congregation responds, saying

Confess Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, look for his coming in glory.

A candle is lit from the Easter candle, and the Celebrant says to each:

God has brought you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

After both candles have been presented, the congregation joins in saying

Shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

God has called you into his Church.

The congregation joins in saying

We therefore receive and welcome you as members with us of the body of Christ, as children of the one heavenly Father, and as inheritors of the kingdom of God.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

In baptism, God has made us one in Christ. His Spirit is with us.

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

Members of the congregation greet one another in an appropriate way, and especially greet and welcome the world's newest Christians, Ava and Harry.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

During the following hymn, the people's gifts are brought forward, and the altar prepared.

Offertory Hymn

Please stand

- Author of life divine,
 Who hast a table spread,
 Furnished with mystic wine
 And everlasting bread,
 Preserve the life thyself hast given,
 preserve the life thyself hast given,
 And feed and train us up for heaven.
- 2. Our needy souls sustain
 With fresh supplies of love,
 Till all thy life we gain,
 And all thy fulness prove,
 And strengthened by thy perfect grace,
 and, strengthened by thy perfect grace,
 Behold without a veil thy face.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–88)

Music: Lovely (Rhosymedre),
John Edwards (1805–85)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Celebrant offers prayers over the gifts, to which the people respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

The Celebrant then begins the Great Thanksgiving 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.

The Celebrant continues with the prayer, concluding with:

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:

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.

The Celebrant continues the prayer until the deacon says:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues the prayer, which concludes:

...we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

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

A brief silence is kept.

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

As the Celebrant breaks the bread, the following is said:

As this broken bread was once many grains which have been gathered together and made one bread, so may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

We sing together:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us your peace.

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.

Communion is distributed.

We gather around the altar, kneeling if you wish or, given we are all raised with Christ, standing. Follow the directions of the sidespeople.

All are welcome to receive the sacrament, which is distributed in both kinds. If you prefer, please come forward for a blessing, and indicate this to the Celebrant.

During communion, the Choir sings the following anthem:

O Word immortal of eternal God,
Only-begotten of the only Source,
For our salvation stooping to the course
Of human life, and born of Mary's blood;
Sprung from the ever-virgin womanhood
Of her who bare thee, God immutable,
Incarnate, made as man with man to dwell,
And condescending to the bitter Rood;

Save us, O Christ our God, for thou hast died To save thy people to the uttermost, And dying tramplest death in victory; One of the ever-blessèd Trinity, In equal honour with the Holy Ghost, And with the eternal Father glorified.

Words: Greek, 6th century Tr: T. A. Lacey (1853–1931) Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

All stand.

The Celebrant offers a prayer, concluding with:

Father,

we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Please sit for notices.

All stand to sing:

- Immortal love for ever full,
 For ever flowing free,
 For ever shared, for ever whole,
 A never-ebbing sea!
- Our outward lips confess the name, All other names above; Love only knoweth whence it came And comprehendeth love.

- 3. Through him the first fond prayers are said Our lips of childhood frame;
 The last low whispers of our dead Are burdened with his name.
- Alone, O Love ineffable,
 Thy saving name is given;
 To turn aside from thee is hell,
 To walk with thee is heaven.

Words: John Whittier (1807–92) Music: Bishopthorp (St Paul's) melody by Jeremiah Clarke (1673–1707)

The Celebrant pronounces a blessing to which all respond:

Amen.

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

Postlude: Fuga Fugue in G Minor BWV 578 J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK - SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Genesis 45:3–11; 15 1 Corinthians 15:35–50 Psalm 37:1–11; 40–41 Luke 6:27–38

The Week Ahead

Monday	Matthias, Apostle and Martyr – Eucharist 9:00 a.m.		
Tuesday	Eucharist at Cabrini Chapel – noon. All welcome		
Thursday	William Grant Broughton, first bishop of Australia (d: 1853)		

A reminder that the Daily Offices (Morning and Evening Prayer) are prayed in St Martin's Chapel each Monday – Saturday at 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. respectively, and can be joined via Zoom at:

Morning Prayer

8:30 a.m., Monday - Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRIdmIXWDQ4Zz09

Evening Prayer 5:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRIdmIXWDQ4Zz09

Ro	oster for today	Roster for next week SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY		
	DAY AFTER EPIPHANY February 2025			
To I coldary 2023		23 February 2025		
8:00 a.	m. Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist		
Sides-persons	Venetia Patchett Miriam Cherry	Sides-persons	Lorilae Garcia Simon Dickie	
Acolyte	Malcolm Tadgell	Acolyte	Judy Mallinson	
Eucharistic Assistants	Betty Renjen Helen Baddeley	Eucharistic Assistants	Venetia Patchett Simon Dickie	
Intercessor	Leigh Mackay	Intercessor	Leonie Bird	
Readers	Simon Dickie Leigh Mackay	Readers	Betty Renjen Malcolm Tadgell	
l 0:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist		l 0:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist		
Sides-persons	Robyn Whitehouse Len Whitehouse	Sides-persons	Sandra Morgan Ewan Morgan	
Acolytes	Meg Winter Jenny Macpherson	Acolytes	Pam Felgate Niko Nikolakopoulos	
Eucharistic Assistants	Geraldine Powell Meg Winter	Eucharistic Assistants	Robyn Whitehouse Grant Rowlands	
Intercessor	John Stewart	Intercessor	Muriel Porter	
Readers	Gavin Watson Nicholas Bird	Readers	Grant Rowlands Jenny Macpherson	
Morning Tea	Sandra Morgan Ewan Morgan	Morning Tea	Sandra Morgan David Amos	
Thursday 10	0:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist	Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist		
Sides-person	Miriam Cherry	Sides-person	Andrea King	
Reader	Miriam Cherry	Reader	Andrea King	

Of your charity, **please continue to pray** for those in long term need or sickness: His Majesty the King; Angus; Ann; Geoff; Ivan; Jane; Jenny; Joan; Liza; Sarah; and Simon.

NOTICES

We warmly welcome to St George's this morning Ava and Harry Walton and their family and friends on the occasion of their baptism.

Please join us and share morning tea with all the family in the parish hall.

We also give thanks for the memory of **Christina Tadgell**, whose ashes will be interred in the Garden of Remembrance at the conclusion of this service, and assure Hamish, Malcolm and all the family of our continuing prayers.

The monthly collection for St Alban's will occur next Sunday February 25. Please give generously (cash or shopping vouchers) to assist the parish of St Alban's in providing food for those in desperate need in these difficult times in a part of Melbourne where many struggle to eat.

Spiritual Café Returns Tuesday 25 February: Our guest speaker is **the Reverend Professor (Emeritus) Robert Gribben AM**, a minister of the Uniting Church in Australia, previously the General Secretary of the Victorian Council of Churches. He taught liturgical studies at an Anglican theological college in UK, followed by many years lecturing at UFT, and was a founding member of the Victorian Council of Christians and Jews.

His topic is 'Iznik, Türkiye: its 1700-year-old creed – and us': a celebration of Nicaea, its historical setting and some contemporary ways of seeing its relevance plus some personal ecumenical experiences. Join us for dinner at Giorgio's, 1235 High St Armadale (enter Glenferrie Rd) at 6.30 p.m. Speaker will speak at 7.30pm. Bookings via email: office@stgeorgesmalvern.org or call 9822 3030.

Save the date for the next Spiritual Café: 8 April.

PARISH DIRECTORY

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CHILD SAFE OFFICER

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We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we meet.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, acknowledge their continuing spiritual connection to Country, and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.