

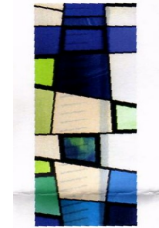
THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST STEPHEN AND ST MARY

MOUNT WAVERLEY

WELCOME

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**6 September 2020**



**“The future is in the hands of God who loves us”.**

- Mother Esther, Community of the Holy Name



*Grave of Mother Esther in the Pioneers' Cemetery, Cheltenham.*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, the people of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

This parish is committed to Child Safety and complies with Diocesan and State requirements. This is a shared responsibility of staff and parish. Please see the back of pew leaflet for contact details.

**At Worship Today:**

**Go before us, O Lord,  
and further us with your continual help,  
that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you,  
we may glorify your holy name,  
and finally, by your mercy,  
obtain everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**9.45 am (Sung Eucharist)**

Preaching & Presiding: The Venerable Dianne Sharrock  
Liturgy Setting: Marty Haugen  
Processional: TIS 233 'I Will Sing the Wondrous Story' vv. 1,2 & 4  
Sentence: 'Where two or three are gathered in my name,' says the Lord, 'I am there among them.'  
First Reading: Exodus 12.1 – 14  
Gospel Acclamation:



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Gospel: Matthew 18.10 – 20  
Offertory: 'Holy Spirit, go before us'  
Choir Anthem: 'Ave Maria' by J.S.Bach/arranged by C.Gounod  
Recessional Hymn: 'The King of Love my Shepherd is' vv. 1,3 & 6

'Few people seem aware of the many hungry souls there are, who are longing for some sympathetic soul to speak to them about spiritual things. Sanctified common sense is what is needed, tact to deal wisely with all comers.'—Mother Esther, CHN

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**First Reading: Exodus 12.1– 14**

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 2 This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 3 Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. 4 If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 7 They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8 They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. 10 You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 11 This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. 13 The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. 14 This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 18.10– 20**

10 'Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven. 12 What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? 13 And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. 14 So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost. 15 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. 16 But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 17 If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. 18 Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'



## ***From Your Vicar***

"Nothing you can do that can't be done....it's easy. All you need is Love!" sang the Beatles in 1967 ("All You Need Is Love," by John Lennon and Paul McCartney [Capitol Records, Yellow Submarine, 1969]). Oh, if only it were! As Christians, we are called, above all to love: to love ourselves, to love our neighbours, our enemies, strangers, the world. Paul tells us that we owe nothing to each other but love. And yet, we find it hard to love ourselves because we live in a culture that values certain characteristics – beauty, power, strength, intelligence, wealth – and if we don't have them we are aware only of what we lack, and if we do, we aren't sure if we are appreciated for who we really are, or just for the externals. We find it difficult to love our neighbours because the pain of rejection is enough to keep us from trying. We cannot imagine loving our enemies because, if we did, they wouldn't be our enemies anymore (which perhaps is the point). Loving strangers is fine as long as we don't have to do it up close and personal, and few of us have any idea what loving the world even looks like. I will talk about the parable of the lost sheep in a moment, but after the parable of the lost sheep Matthew goes on to talk about a method of restoring relationships. While the method of trying to restore a broken relationship appears easy, it is much more complex when we get into it. Jesus was about relationships. And if we remember his life and ministry we remember that he was also about reaching out to the people on the margins. It says, "that if the person does not listen to the community, treat that person like a gentile and a tax collector". But while we do know that Jesus said that if people do not listen to the gospel, leave that place and brush the dust from your feet (Luke 10:11), Jesus is seen to seek those out with whom he has a relationship to bring them even closer....he entered the home and ate with sinners and tax collectors." Jesus continually sought to maintain a relationship. Moving toward someone who has hurt us or wounded us is totally counter-intuitive. Perhaps when Jesus calls us to love and forgive, the reason he doesn't give us a timetable is that he recognizes that some situations are easier to cope with than others. But I do want to say a little something about the beautiful parable of the lost sheep.....

At the beginning of the gospel reading we have the parable of the lost sheep where the shepherd makes every effort to find the lost one and bring it back to the fold. We see in Matthew that Jesus loves each one of us so much we would go to such lengths to find that one lost sheep and the parable shows the joy of the Master when the lost one returns.

As many of you know that I was brought up on a sheep (grazing) property in the Western District. And so, the pastoral images of the bible really resonate with me as I can still see my Father echoing these images. Dad used to have a little book in which he had the name of each paddock and the number of sheep in each paddock listed....he didn't have names for the sheep though!! He would regularly go around his flocks and if any had died he would change the number in his book. When it came time to move the flock to another paddock, he would count the sheep through the gate (he could count 5 sheep at a time running and jumping through the gate). At the end of the transfer he would check the number with his tally in his book, and if it was out he would get either on the tractor or the quad bike and ride around the paddock to find that lost sheep and bring it to the flock in their new paddock. Dad loved his sheep and was always happy to find the lost one.

How much more the Lord loves each one of us even when we have strayed and left his side. We will gather us up into his loving arms and carry us through the gate to greener pastures.

Pax (peace)

Dianne

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

TIS 233 'I Will Sing the Wondrous Story' vv.1,2,4

1. I will sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me  
How He left the realms of glory  
For the cross on Calvary  
Yes I'll sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me  
Sing it with His saints in glory  
Gathered by the crystal sea
2. I was lost but Jesus found me  
Found the sheep that went astray  
Raised me up and gently led me  
Back into the narrow way  
Yes I'll sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me  
Sing it with His saints in glory  
Gathered by the crystal sea
3. Days of darkness still make meet me  
Sorrow's paths I oft may tread  
But his presence still is with me  
By his guiding hand I'm led  
Yes I'll sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me  
Sing it with His saints in glory  
Gathered by the crystal sea

Francis Harold Rowley 1854-1952

### OFFERTORY HYMN

'Holy Spirit, go before us'

1. Holy Spirit, go before us,  
every mind and heart prepare  
for good news of life in Jesus,  
for the joyful hope we share.  
Gently lead the lost to safety,  
gently teach them Wisdom's way,  
till they come to seek you gladly,  
till we find the words to say.

2. Holy Spirit, come and help us,  
give us words to speak of Christ.  
Teach us how to tell all people:  
deepest darkness can be light!  
Help us tell how faithful God is,  
and how Jesus sets us free;  
take our words, and make them gospel,  
so that many may believe.
3. Holy Spirit, stay to show us  
how to serve as Christ served us.  
May our words of love be grounded  
in love's actions, first and last.  
Your good news is news of justice,  
and the strong befriend the weak  
in your service, till compassion  
builds the peace the nations seek.

words: Elizabeth J. Smith

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

'The King of Love my Shepherd is' vv. 1,3 & 6

1. The king of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.
2. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me.
3. And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.

Henry Williams Baker 1821-77

The September edition of TMA is now available online (see <http://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/this-months-tma>)



24 print copies are available for pick-up from the Vicar's porch—first in, best dressed!

### “3 THINGS” FROM THE AUGUST ZOOM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

#### 1. **Zooming Sunday services**

We welcome the assistance of Gerard Hook who is zooming our services while Andrew has a break. John Leaver and Rowena Ferguson continue to assist each Sunday.

#### 2. **Interim Mission Action Plan (MAP)**

Work is being done on an Interim MAP. Some uncertainty surrounds this due to Covid-19, but we are currently focussing on digital technology capability and how this can best be used now and in the future.

#### 3. **Thank you letter received**

A letter was received from Professor Rev Mark Lindsay, the Deputy Dean of Trinity College thanking the parish for the mission allocation donation for the work of the theological school. He let us know that with all teaching online, students have coped well and there is a healthy enrolment for term 2 subjects. An offer has been made for a member of the faculty to come and preach one Sunday in the future.

### Val's on the move.

Please note Val Dyke's new contact details and amend your Parish Directories:

**Old Mailing Address:** Unit 2/22 Lee Ave., Mt Waverley 3149

**New Mailing Address: P O Box 2099 Mt Waverley 3149**





## BREAKING NEW GROUND: GROWING THE CHURCH



Saturday 31 October 2020 | 1.30 – 4.00pm

By Zoom conference

\$25 | \$20 concession

The Minister of Merri Creek Anglican, the **Rev'd Dr Peter Carolane**, shares the story of its growth, introduces the convictions that have formed it, and identifies the challenges of pioneer ministry in Melbourne. Joining him in discussion moderated by Bishop Kate Prowd is **Bishop Lindsay Urwin**, Vicar of Christ Church Brunswick.

For more information and to register click the link [www.trybooking.com/647170](http://www.trybooking.com/647170)

### *Roster for September*

#### 13 September – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Exodus 14: 19-31 John Foster  
Matthew 18: 21-35

Intercessor Michael Mosely

#### 20 September – Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist and Martyr

Proverbs 3: 1-6 Howard Brown  
Matthew 9: 9-13

Intercessor Val Dyke

#### 27 September – 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Exodus 17: 1-7 Irene Donohoue Clyne  
Matthew 21: 23-32

Intercessor Sue Retschko

Thank you to our volunteers—if you are able to help please contact Joan West.

#### **Afternoon Meditation Gathering**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month is still being offered during the Coronavirus in our own homes. We keep the same time in our own homes from 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm.

If you are interested in joining with other parishioners please contact Val and the meditation we will reflect on together will be sent to you. **Our next gathering is Wednesday 7th October.**

#### **Evening Meditation Gatherings**

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month meditation sessions are offered, via Zoom, in the Contemplative Traditions of Christian Meditation. The sessions start at 7.30pm but you can enter into the gathering after 7.15pm. Interested parishioners can contact Michael Mosley for more information. The next session will be on **Thursday 10th September** then on **Thurs 24th September.**

# The Anglican Parish of St Stephen & St Mary Mount Waverley

383-385 High Street Road, Mt Waverley, 3149. Phone: 9807 3168

Office hours: Currently Closed

Email: [parishoffice@stephenandmary.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@stephenandmary.org.au) Website: [www.stephenandmary.org.au](http://www.stephenandmary.org.au)

'Like' us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stephenandmary.mtwaverley](http://www.facebook.com/stephenandmary.mtwaverley)

**Priest**

(Day off - Monday)

The Venerable Dianne Sharrock

**Assistant Curate**

(Tues, Wed & Thurs mornings, Fri, Sun)

The Revd Greg Wong

**Children's and Families' Minister**

(Tues 10.00 am - 3.00 pm, Wed 9.30 am - 2.30 pm, Sun 10.30 am - 12.30 pm)

Lisa Eames

**Child Safety Compliance Officer**

Elaine Fasken

**Covid19 Compliance Officer**

Sugan Blanchard

**Music Director**

Brian Copple

**CE Music Coordinator**

Greg Ellsmore

**Treasurer**

Helen Warren

**Office Manager**

Katherine Rushby

**Churchwardens:**

Graeme Dellora

John Foster

Judith Gibson

**Parish Council:**

Sugan Blanchard, David Bruce, Margaret Crawford, Rowena Ferguson, Jennifer Gracie, Nathan Kelly, Frances Ludgate, Sherredan Maher, Helen Warren.

**Pastoral Care Ministry:**

*Aged Care Chaplaincies:*

*Hospital Visiting:*

Clergy

*Funeral Ministry:*

The Vicar

*Contemporary Eucharist Contact:*

Rowena Ferguson

**Spiritual Directors:**

Cath Connelly

Val Dyke

**Prayer Chain contact**

Margaret Syfret

**SERVICE: Sunday 9.45 am**