



Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other c. 1803 William Blake (1757-1827). Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost 13 August 2023

Welcome to St Philip's

We acknowledge the Ngambri and Ngunnawal people, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we worship, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present and emerging. We extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who worship with us.

St Philip's COVIDSafe Plan We are asking folk not attend church if they feel unwell, to be aware of their hand hygiene and to be mindful of social distance. Thank you. Masks are available for those who wish to wear one

Pew sheet & Order of Service: the full Pew sheet with more news and reflections is available on our **website**. The QR code in the pews will direct you to the current edition, please use your phone/tablet and follow along. Service cards, Pew Bibles and Prayer Books are also available.

Offertory: at the 'offertory' our gifts are brought forward, an opportunity for you to make your contribution. A self-serve EFTPOS machine is available in the foyer. St Philip's EFT details are also available if you would like to make a direct transfer or support us through a regular transfer: 702-

389 05202512. Giving cards are in the foyer if you wish to place something in the offertory bag after giving electronically.

Communion: if you are baptised you are welcome to receive communion. If you would like to receive a blessing, please cross your hands on your chest as you come forward.

To volunteer as a reader, sidesperson, welcomer or another role on the Roster then please email rosters@stphilipsoconnor.org.au

St Philips O'Connor, ACT

www.stphilipsoconnororg.au

email: comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au
Rector: The Rev'd Martin Johnson

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From the Rector

Dear Friends

We do have much to be thankful for when we consider the life and ministry of St Philip's and I was reminded of this again during the week as the Parish Council met to work through the knotty problems of mould and termite infestation, risk management, insurance, compliance and a raft of other matters that in year's past would not have been on our agendas. I am thankful for the wisdom and expertise of our wardens and councillors as I am for the commitment of many folk who enable this place to remain as a witness within the O'Connor community, a place of prayer, worship and fellowship.

Thank you to all those who have responded to the survey regarding the 10am Eucharist. There are some ideas that we can implement almost immediately, for some they might be almost imperceptible, whilst for others they help to enable greater, more meaningful participation. The conclusion of the seminar series on Missional Spirituality has also offered much 'food for thought', thank you to those of you who participated.

Susan and I will be on leave for the next two Sundays, enjoying time with family and friends. I am thankful that we are blessed with a clergy team to provide cover.

Blessings to you all, Martin

Eucharist for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Introit Hymn 138(TiS)

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave, who didst the ocean deep its own appointed bounds to keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, whose voice the waters heard and hushed their raging at thy word, who walkedst across the surging deep, and calm amid the storm didst keep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who didst brood upon the waters dark and rude, and bid their angry tumult cease, and give for wild confusion, peace: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, our people shield in danger's hour from rock and tempest, flood and foe, guard them wherever they may go: thus evermore shall rise to thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

William Whiting 1825 - 78

Entrance Antiphon

They cried out in fear, but Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Matthew 14:26-27

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God ♣ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

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.

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

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 Lord, have mercy. 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.

Almighty God, who 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.

Gloria

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 righthand 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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Mighty God, and ruler of all creation, give new strength to our faith, that we may recognise your presence even when all hope seems lost. Help us to face all trials with serenity as we walk with Christ through the stormy seas of life and come at last to your eternal peace. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Today's Readings

A reading from the first book of Kings (19:9-18)
At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' ¹⁰He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

¹¹He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. 13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' 14He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' 15Then the Lord said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.' For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:8-13

I will hear what the Lord God will speak:

for he will speak peace to his people,

to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.

Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him: and his glory shall dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together:

righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

Truth shall flourish out of the earth:

and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will also give us all that is good: and our land shall yield its plenty.

For righteousness shall go before him: and tread the path before his feet.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (10:4-15)

For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" ' (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷'or "Who will descend into the abyss?" ' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? 'The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart'

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn 126 (t.119) (10am)

God moves in a mysterious way

his wonders to perform; he plants his footsteps in the sea and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines of never-failing skill he treasures up his bright designs, and works his sovereign will.

You fearful saints, fresh courage take: the clouds you so much dread are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, but trust him for his grace; behind a frowning providence he hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding every hour; the bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan his work in vain; God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain.

William Cowper 1731-1800

Gradual (8am)

Alleluia,

Alleluia!

'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

Romans 10:15

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (14:22-36)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake.²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

²⁸ Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' ²⁹He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

³⁴ When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. ³⁵After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him, ³⁶and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

Prayers of the People

In our prayers we remember all in need, particularly: Ben, Hugh, Sarah, David, Otto, Bob, Noel, Deborah, Sue, Molly, Katherine, Matt, Wendy, Roberta, David & Margot, those unable to gather with us, those in hospital or care.

We commend to God the recently departed Thomas Martin and Paul McGlew, those whose year's mind falls at this time: Thelma Morton (15/8/1993), Linda Anchell deacon (16/8/2019), Donald Brown (17,8/1988); the victims of war, disease and tragedy; those whose memories are dear to us and those remembered only by God.

The Greeting of Peace

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

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of Peace

Offertory Hymn 540 (t.432) (TiS) (10am)

Christians, lift your hearts and voices, let your praises be outpoured; come with joy and exultation to the table of the Lord; come believing, come expectant, in obedience to his word.

See, presiding at his table, Jesus Christ our great high priest; Where he summons all his people, None is greatest. None is least; Graciously he bids them welcome To the eucharistic feast.

Lord, we offer in thanksgiving Life and work for you to bless; Yet unworthy is the offering, Marred by pride and carelessness; So, Lord, pardon our transgressions, Plant in us true holiness. On the evening of his passion Jesus gave the wine and bread, So that all who love and serve him Shall for evermore be fed. Taste and see the Lord is gracious Feed upon the living bread.

John Edward Bowers 1923 -

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; you bring forth bread from the earth.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; you create the fruit of the vine.

Blessed be God for ever.

God of mercy and compassion, your Word calls us home to faith and love. accept all we offer you this day; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

It is indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator of all things, ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in every generation, and your word endures for ever.

Therefore with angels and archangels, with the fellowship of saints and the company of heaven, we glorify your holy name, evermore 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 ¾ in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise you, merciful Father, not as we ought, but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son, in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, reaching out to the lost.

Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever.

In his offering of himself,
he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice, and rejoicing in his victory.

Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith:

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

Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love, and strengthened in our will to serve others; and make of our lives, we pray, a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, with whom, and in whom, in 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.

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 bread and 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.

Jesus Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus redeemer 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 Antiphon

Mercy and truth are met together: righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Psalm 85:3

The sending out of God's people

Let us pray: God of all compassion, by the dying and rising of your Christ you restore us to yourself and enfold us in your love.

May we who have been refreshed with the bread of life and the cup of salvation be renewed by your healing Spirit and made ready for the coming of your kingdom; Most loving God,

you send us into the world you love.

Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty № the Father № the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Recessional hymn 143(TiS) (10am)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, your great name we praise

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, but ruling in might; your justice like mountains high soaring above, your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

You give life to all, Lord, to both great and small, in all life now living, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree, then wither: but ever unchanged you will be.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, your angels adore you, all veiling their sight; of all your rich graces this grace, Lord, impart-take the veil from our faces, the veil from our heart.

All praise we would render: reveal to our sight what hides you is only the splendour of light; and so let your glory, Almighty, impart, through Christ in the story, your Christ to the heart. I will ever give to thee.

Walter Chalmers Smith 1824-1908

Reflection

How can a Christian explain the occurrence of walking on water?

Nature miracles in the Gospels present a challenge. It is important to distinguish between attempts to explain the origin of the narrative (if that is ever possible) and a meaningful explanation of the story's significance. What happened historically is probably beyond our grasp. A reverent agnosticism can relegate factual details to a historical suspense account, to avoid making an *a priori* judgement about what may or may not have occurred.

The story (Mark 6.45-52, Matthew 14.22-33, and John 6.15-21) has often been given a natural explanation: that Jesus was seen walking or wading in the shallows. It is sometimes argued that recollection of some such ordinary incident was embellished in transmission to acquire miraculous character - a process that continued in St Matthew's retelling, and included St Peter's unsuccessful attempt to walk on water towards Jesus. Others explain the story as a mystical or paranormal experience; but many NT scholars take it to be a displaced post-resurrection appearance.

An ingenious and plausible (albeit still speculative) version of this theory is can be found in Patrick Madden's book *Jesus' Walking on the Sea* (1997): that the nucleus of the story can be found in John 21.1-8. A comparison with Mark 6.45-52 shows affinities: fishermen in a boat, on the lake at night, and a delayed recognition of Jesus at daybreak, when Jesus was revealed "by the sea of Tiberias". It could be significant that the Greek *"epi tes thalasses"* ("by the sea") is also used at Mark 6.49 to imply that Jesus walked on the sea, whereas, at John 21.1, it describes him standing by the seaside, which may point to a transformation of the story in traditions behind our Gospels.

The valuable task is to explore the real significance of the story, what it meant to the Evangelists and the early Christians who heard it, and, further, what it means in liturgical preaching today. At this level of explanation, it is an awesome revelation of Christ, ascribing to him the power and mastery of God as the Lord of winds and waves, like God of old in Psalm 77.19 or Job 9.8. When Jesus "intended to pass by them" (Mark 6.48), readers would be reminded how God's glory passed before Moses (Exodus 34.6) and Elijah (1 Kings 19.11) as we heard in this morning's reading.

Towering over all is the majestic affirmation - "I AM" - "Ego eimi" - "Take heart; it is I." This self-manifestation of the Living One who is ever present with his people in their distress is the divine disclosure that gives this story its numinous quality.

(Canon) Terry Palmer Magor, Monmouthshire

News

Key points from the August Parish Council meeting

- The Council are working alongside the Kinder Committee to restore the Staff amenities room following an infestation of Black Mould. Insurance claims are being investigated.
- The Kinder will close briefly in September to enable work to commence in rectifying damage caused by under floor Termite infestation. At this stage \$20,000 has been set aside, however until the floor is lifted the full extent of the damage and the resultant cost is unknown. The Council are considering fund raising efforts should the damage be significant and costly. At this stage there are no plans to draw down funds from the Carola Parke bequest.
- The Parish continues to be subject to scamming attempts via phone, mail and email. The
 Council is alert to these attempts and will report them to the appropriate authorities as they
 arise.
- The Draft Risk Management Framework was tabled along with the results of a Safety Audit on the precinct.

 Plans are ongoing for the replacement of the Courtyard seating and the removal of the old railway sleepers bordering the garden beds, these will be replaced with concrete sleepers.

Many thanks for your ongoing support of **St John's Care**, demand is high at present. The following items are being requested for the pantry: Cup a soup, UHT full cream milk, powdered milk, sanitary items, children's toothbrushes and toothpaste. The website: https://www.stjohnscare.org.au/ provides more information on how we can help. Pandora's is continuing to support this important community outreach and we have been joined in our endeavours by the St Philip's Kinder.

This week @ St Philip's

Today Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist 9am Parish Breakfast

10am Eucharist with hymns (followed by morning tea)

Thursday 17 August Feria

10am Eucharist (followed by morning tea)

Saturday 19 August Feria

10am-1pm Pandora's OPEN

11am Morning Prayer - Canberra Aged Care

Next Sunday Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist 9am Parish Breakfast

10am Eucharist with hymns

Readings: Isaiah 56:1,6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11:13-32, Matthew 15:21-28

Rosters

		13-Aug-23	20-Aug-23	27-Aug-23	
Sunday of Month		2nd	3rd	4th	
Liturgical Season		11th Sunday after Pentecost	12th Sunday after Pentecost	13th Sunday after Pentecost	
Flowers		Flower team	Flower team	Flower team	
Celebrant		Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Scott	Rev'd Colin	
Preacher (if different to Celebrant)					
Sidespeople	1 _[Alison & Alistair	Rhonda & Susan	Shane & Tim	8
Liturgical Assistant	8am	Ellie P (Liturgical assistant)		Brian M (Lit assistant)	8am
Audio Visual Operator					
1st Bible reader - OT		Alistair D	Rebecca P	Shane W	
2nd Bible reader - NT		Alison D	Julianne S	Shane W	
Celebrant		Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Scott	Rev'd Colin	
Preacher (if different to Celebrant)					
Sidespeople & Welcomer		Helen & Hardy	Jeannette M, Laura W	Sally A & Richard G	
Liturgical Assistant	0am	Rebecca K (Lit assistant)		Philippa W (Lit assistant)	10am
Audio Visual Operator	Ö	•			am
Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist		Colin F	Colin F	Colin F	
1st Bible reader - OT		Lyn P	Laura W	Liz D	
2nd Bible reader - NT	1	Tim G	Ann M	Ashton R	
Morning Tea		Janene B	Liz D & Ann M	Helen P	
Additional details/notes					

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 9 August 7pm Parish Council

Fri 8 - Sun 10 Sept Diocesan Synod Canberra, Girls Grammar School

Sunday 1 October ANU Choral Society concert @ St Philip's