



Vincent van Gogh (1853 - 1890), *The Sower*. Arles, November 1888

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

16 July 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.stphilipsoconnor.org.au

email: comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au

Rector: The Rev'd Martin Johnson



[@stphilipsoconnor](https://www.facebook.com/stphilipsoconnor)

0478 619 911

From the Rector

Dear Friends

Thank you to those of you who have offered ideas and suggestions regarding the 10am Sunday Eucharist. We are looking through the responses to the survey now. Without wishing to pre-empt too much, many of you mention music, which is an important part of that offering. The screen, whilst it is a departure from our tradition (we of the Prayer Book!) it does offer us the opportunity to experiment without the cost of purchasing a new hymn book or other resources, we simply need to ensure our copyright licenses are up to date and fit for purpose. There is now a supplement to our hymn book – called 'Songs of Grace' which is worth considering.

We have settled into a routine with the reception of Communion – via either in one kind, the common cup or intinction; this is working well. We are also well aware of the ongoing issues regarding COVID19 and other respiratory illnesses and what we need to do to limit transmission. With that in mind we have been considering introducing the laying on of hands for those who wish to seek prayer for healing or any other issue - another way in which we can help bear one another's burdens. Again, the screen will help us with some words without the need for extra printing. This can also be conducted in such a way that we are comfortable given the ongoing issues of COVID, flu etc. Just a couple of things from the initial review of your responses, I look forward to hearing more to enable us to ensure our 10am Sunday Eucharist, is inspiring and life giving.

Thank you again.

Blessings to you all, *Martin*

Eucharist for the seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Introit Hymn 130 (TiS) (10am)

We plough the fields, and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand;
he sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain:

*All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
for such abounding love.*

We glorify the maker
of everything that is,
who gives to us to care for
the earth, the air, the seas,
who wills that all the peoples
might have their daily bread,
that we might share our plenty

as channels of God's love. *Refrain*

We thank you, gracious giver
of all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
Help us in our thanksgiving
to use your gifts with care,
to serve as friends and neighbors
your children everywhere. *Refrain*

Matthias Claudius 1740-1815

Entrance Antiphon

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

John 6.6

In the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

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's whole creation groans. The land produces thorns and thistles and longs to be set free. Our sin affects all around us. We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**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:
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.

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: Bountiful God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word:

by your Holy Spirit, help us receive it with joy, and to live according to it, that we may grow in faith and hope and love; 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 book of the prophet Isaiah (55:10-13)

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.
For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65:8-13

You tend the earth and water it:
you make it rich and fertile.

**The river of God is full of water:
and so providing for the earth,
you provide grain for us all.**

You drench its furrows, you level the ridges between:
you soften it with showers and bless its early growth.

**You crown the year with your goodness:
and the tracks where you have passed
drip with fatness.**

The pastures of the wilderness run over:
and the hills are girded with joy.

**The meadows are clothed with sheep:
and the valleys stand so thick with corn,
they shout for joy and sing.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8:1-11)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot,⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn 253(TiS) (10am)

O Lord Jesus Marrkapmirr,

All the power belongs to you.
Hold me by this power, O Lord,
You alone are king.

Now we praise you for your Word,
Living, true, and full of light.
Yours the hands that rest on me:
Hold me for all time.

Aboriginal people of Arnhem Land

Gradual (8am)

Alleluia,

Alleluia!

As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit.

Matthew 13:23

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (13:1-9, 18-23)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus went out and sat beside the sea.²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow.⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!'

¹⁸'Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When 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. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet 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. ²²As 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. ²³But 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.'

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.

We look for the resurrection of the dead ✕ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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, David & Margot, those unable to gather with us, those in hospital or care.

We commend to God the departed, those whose anniversaries fall at this time Jim McCaskie (16/7/2000), Carola Parke (19/7/2012), Dot Mayo (22/7/2002), Mervyn McInnes (22/7/2011), the victims of war, disease and tragedy, those whose memories are dear to us and those remembered only by God.

The Greeting of Peace

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of Peace

Offertory Hymn 658 (TiS) (10am)

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry;
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go, Lord,

If You lead me;

I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain;
I have wept for love of them –
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone;
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them –
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts are satisfied;
I will give My life to them.
Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

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.

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now united on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

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 and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

Through him you have created us in your own image,
and made us stewards of your good creation.

Through him you teach us to exult in the birds of the air,
the lilies of the field, the precious and life-giving crops of the earth.

Through him you free us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to die upon the cross
and to rise again for our salvation.

Through him, you begin your work of new creation,
as we look for a new heaven and a new earth
in which your righteousness dwells.

Therefore, we join with angels and archangels,
and give voice to every creature under heaven,
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.**

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood,
and be made one with him and with each other
in peace and love.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do, this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.'

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
Proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

As we eat and drink this holy sacrament
renew us by your Spirit,
that we may be united in the body of your Son
and serve you as a royal priesthood
in the joy of your eternal kingdom;

Receive our praises, Father,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
we worship you,
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

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase, and God, our own God, will bless us.

The sending out of God's people

Let us pray: Lord of the harvest, you have fed your people in this sacrament with the fruits of creation made holy by your Spirit:

by your grace raise up among us faithful labourers to sow your word and reap the harvest of souls; 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 755(TiS) (10am)

You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace,
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth in singing.
There'll be shouts of joy, and the trees of the field shall clap,
shall clap their hands.

And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.

Steffi Geiser Rubin 1950-

Reflection

Parables are based on metaphors, comparing two things and finding meaning in the overall subject. This one invites us to think from multiple perspectives.

If the sower is Jesus (God) and the seeds God's words (vision and action), then the parable speaks of spreading of the word of God. We, people, become the soil; at times not very receptive or momentarily receptive: hearing God's word but then letting it die off or be choked out with competing interests.

At another level though, we could be the sower. Is Jesus telling his disciples that in God's kingdom they must be him? From this perspective we are invited to think about what we say and do – what we sow.

Yet again, we could be the seed, thrown by God into circumstances of varying possibility. Facing defeat at times, finding fertile ground at other times.

However you may interpret it, the parable contains lessons to be learned: do not be deterred; expect challenge; choose what to sow carefully; don't stop planting! The parable of the sower is an invitation to hope.

Today the world is changing far more rapidly than Jesus' could have ever imagined. We must find innovative and new solutions for the challenges of our times. Tradition is not enough, we must live with creativity. We live in a much more secular society than ever before and the traditional methods for sharing the stories of Jesus; evangelising, are less effective. This does not mean that what we sow does not have value but that the method of sharing must use the best biblical knowledge with imagination, creativity and boldness. This parable itself challenges us to move into new ways of living with God.

The parable is often interpreted and understood to make the point that despite some failure opposition and indifference, Jesus' message about the coming of the kingdom will be enormously successful. The time this occurs in however, may not be our own.

From the website of the National Catholic Education Commission

News

Pandora's will celebrate Christmas in July next Saturday 29 July from 10am-1pm. Come along and browse and enjoy some warming treats!

The final seminar in our series **An introduction to a missional spirituality** will take place on Saturday 5 August at 1pm. We'll break for afternoon tea during the session to enable us to chat and engage with one another.

For those of you who are interested in the debate surrounding the **Indigenous Voice to the Parliament**, two books have recently come to my attention which have been helpful. The first by Fr Frank Brennan SJ called *Considering a Constitutional Bridge*, offers a balanced view of both the yes and no cases. The second is a series of essays called *Statements from the Soul*, edited by Shireen Morris and Damien Freeman.

St John's Care is seeking the following for its pantry: Small packets of sultanas, school lunch snacks, sweet biscuits, cooking oil, breakfast cereal, shampoo and conditioner The website: <https://www.stjohnscare.org.au/> provides information on how we can help.

Key points from July Parish Council meeting

Kim Fitt, Director of St Philip's Kindergarten, Early Learning Centre, met with Parish Council to strengthen ties and to discuss upcoming termite treatment. Our relationship with SPK goes back some 35 years to when St Philip's Kindergarten commenced operations in the church hall.

Pandoras. Council noted that Pandoras raised \$1000 for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

10am congregation survey. Parish Council noted the pleasing number of survey completions. The online survey will remain open until Friday 28 July.

New EFTPOS terminals. Square® contactless EFTPOS terminals have been installed in the church, Lamerton Centre & Pandora's. This will save on transaction fees and parishioners will find the new terminals easier to use.

Building valuations. Council is participating in a Diocesan initiative that provides cost effective desktop insurance valuations for our buildings.

Courtyard seat. Council agreed to replace the courtyard seat which rot has made unsafe.

Rectory Tree. A tree surgeon pruned the liquidambar tree in the rectory front yard to remove limbs at risk of dropping on the rectory and the neighbour's deck.

Church garden. Ian and Russell devoted a day to maintaining the church garden, which included mid-winter pruning and seasonal leaf removal.

Monthly prayer point: We pray for the renewal of our Parish and the Church in every land.

This week @ St Philip's

Today **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

8am

Eucharist

9am

Parish Breakfast

10am

Eucharist with hymns (followed by Morning tea)

Tuesday 18 July *Feria*

10am-Noon

Men's Group

2pm

Eucharist – Sir Leslie Morshead Manor

Weds 19 July *Feria*

10am-noon

Pandora's Sorting & Preparation

Thursday 20 July *Feria*

10am

Eucharist (followed by morning tea)

Saturday 22 July *Mary Magdalene*

10am-1pm

Pandora's - OPEN

11am

Morning Prayer - Canberra Aged Care

Sunday 23 July ***Eighth Sunday after Pentecost***

8am

Eucharist

9am

Parish Breakfast

10am

Eucharist with hymns (followed by Morning tea)

Readings: Isaiah 46:6-8, Psalm 86:11-17, Romans 8:12-25, Matthew:13:24-30, 36-43

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 29 July 10am – 1pm Pandora’s *Christmas in July*

Saturday 5 August 1pm – 4pm Missional Spirituality - Seminar 5

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

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

Rosters

		16-Jul-23	23-Jul-23	30-Jul-23	
Sunday of Month		3rd	4th	5th	
Liturgical Season		7th Sunday after Pentecost	8th Sunday after Pentecost	9th Sunday after Pentecost	
Flowers		Flower team	Flower team	Flower team	
Celebrant	8am	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	8am
Preacher (if different to Celebrant)		Rev'd Scott			
Sidespeople		Rhonda & Susan	Shane & Tim	volunteers	
Liturgical Assistant			Brian M (Lit assistant)		
Audio Visual Operator					
1st Bible reader - OT		volunteer	Shane W	Susan J	
2nd Bible reader - NT		Rebecca P	Shane W	volunteer	
Celebrant	10am	Rev'd Scott	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	10am
Preacher (if different to Celebrant)					
Sidespeople & Welcomer		Jeannette M, Laura W	Sally A & Richard G	volunteers	
Liturgical Assistant		Rev'd Martin (Lit assistant)	Philippa W (Lit assistant)		
Audio Visual Operator					
Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist		Colin F	Colin F	Colin F	
1st Bible reader - OT		Ann M	Tim G	Ashton R	
2nd Bible reader - NT		Fred A	Jeanette D	Jos G	
Morning Tea		Liz D & Ann M	Jan G	Helen P	
<i>Additional details/notes</i>		<i>School holidays</i>			