

The 17th Sunday after Pentecost 19 September 2021

Acknowledgement of Country. As a community, we recognise that the church is built and our worship is offered on the traditional lands of the Kurna people, and close to Tarntanyangga (Victoria Square), which is still an important meeting place for the Kurna people today. We express our gratitude in the sharing of this land; our sorrow for the personal, spiritual and cultural costs of that sharing; and our hope that we may walk together in harmony, in the spirit of Reconciliation.

The reintroduction of restrictions to public activities to minimise the risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19 mean that there will be no congregational or choral singing in churches while the directions remain in force. A single cantor will offer some music on behalf of the worshipping community, but in the main our worship today will be said.

A ministry of prayer for healing and wholeness will be offered in the Holy Innocents Chapel during the Communion of the People. If you would like to make a note of prayer points or special intentions for prayer, please use the card which is available at the rear of the church.

When the bell rings, all stand. The cantor sings the hymn, and the Entrance Antiphon.

Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove,
With light and comfort from above;
Be thou our guardian, thou our guide,
O'er every thought and step preside.

2 The light of truth to us display,
And make us know and choose thy way;
Plant faith and love in every heart,
That we from God may ne'er depart.

3 Lead us to Christ, the living Way,
Nor let us from our shepherd stray;
Lead us to holiness, the road
That brings us to our home in God.

4 Lead us to heaven, that we may share
Fullness of joy for ever there;
Lead us to God, the heart's true rest,
To dwell with him, for ever blest.

Simon Browne, 1680-1732 (alt.)

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 77.1

I am the saving health of my people, saith the Lord God: out of whatsoever tribulation they shall pray to me, I will surely help them, and I will be their God for ever and ever.

Greeting

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

Amen.

The grace and peace of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Penitential Act

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

A brief pause for silence follows.

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You came to call sinners:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The priest says

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Collect

Let us pray.

God and Father of all,
you have taught us through your Son
that the last shall be first,
and have made a little child the measure of your kingdom:
give us the wisdom from above,
so that we may understand that in your sight
the one who serves is the greatest of all.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Proverbs 31.10-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

A capable wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.
She is like the ships of the merchant,
she brings her food from far away.
She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her servant-girls.
She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
She girds herself with strength,
and makes her arms strong.
She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.
She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.

She opens her hand to the poor,
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.
She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.
Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.
She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
She looks well to the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband too, and he praises her:
'Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.'
Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.
For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm 1

Beatus vir

- 1 Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly,
nor followed the way of sinners, nor sat amongst the scornful.
- 2 But their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on that law they meditate day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
that bring forth their fruit in due season.
- 4 Their leaves also shall not wither:
and look, whatsoever they do, it shall prosper.
- 5 As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:
they are like the chaff, which the wind scatters away.
- 6 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand at the judgement,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- 7 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous;
but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Second Reading

James 3.13 – 4.3, 7–8a

A reading from the letter of James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. 2 Thessalonians 2.14

The cantor sings:

Alleluia!

Through the Good News God called us
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 9.30–37

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, ‘The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.’ But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the way?’ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, ‘Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.’ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Profession of Faith

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**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 for the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pray for the world and for the church. The prayers may conclude

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

God's Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

During the preparation of the gifts, the cantor sings a hymn or anthem. Please note that no Collection will be taken up: offerings of money can be left in the Collection plates at the front and rear of the pews.

When all is prepared, the priest says

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

May the Lord accept our sacrifice

for the praise and glory of God's name,

for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

God of power,
the glory of your works fills us with wonder and awe.
Accept our offering this day,
|and help us to live in peace and harmony
with all your creation,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Wisdom in Creation

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 him thanks and praise.

O God, eternal Wisdom,
all you have made is beautiful and good.
We thank you for darkness and light,
for this earth and for our bodies,
for growth and change
and all that lies beyond our knowledge and imagination.

In every generation you befriend your people.
You gave us your holy Law, sent the prophets,
and called us back to the truth whenever we turned away.

You were vindicated in your servant Jesus
who came with forgiveness, feasting, and stories of your grace.
Though we rejected him,
death on a cross could not quench the fire of his love.
You raised him up for us,
the firstborn from the dead,
to build a new community of hope
where all are honoured as Christ's equal friends.

And so we praise you
with Mary, mother of the living Word,
and with all your faithful friends,
as we join the angels' song:

**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.**

God of the feast, your household is hungry
for the bread of heaven and the cup of life.
Send your Spirit on us and on our celebration,
so that we may eat at this table and be satisfied
with the sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

On the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with the people he loved.
He took the bread, gave you thanks,
broke it to share with them, and said:
"Take and eat this: it is my body."

Then he took a cup of wine.
Again he thanked you and told them:
"Drink this, all of you: it is my blood,
shed for you and for many
so that sins may be forgiven.
Whenever you do this, do it in memory of me."

So we delight to remember Jesus:
the faithfulness of his life,
the victory of his cross,
the glory of his resurrection,
the joy of the Holy Spirit poured out for the Church.

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God, holy Wisdom, merciful and generous,
accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.
Make us good stewards of creation,
with justice in our hearts,
courage in our actions and power in our speech
to bear witness to the truth.
Protect us with your glory,
unite your church in loyalty and love,
and bring us home with Mary Magdalene and all your saints
to feast with you for ever.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
and in the Spirit's grace,
with heart and soul and mind and strength
we love and worship you alone, O God,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the bread, saying

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.

While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is said.

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

Invitation to Communion

The priest says

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

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.

All receive Holy Communion. Communion will be administered in one kind only. Communicants should approach in single file, maintaining physical distance, returning via the side aisles.

Those who are not to receive the Blessed Sacrament are invited to unite themselves with Jesus by making a Spiritual Communion.

Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Healing ministry will be offered in the Holy Innocents chapel. Please enter the chapel one at a time. You may wish to record prayer points or remembrances on a piece of paper prior to Mass.

During Communion, the cantor sings

- | | |
|---|--|
| Faithful Shepherd, feed me
In the pastures green;
Faithful Shepherd, lead me
Where thy steps are seen. | 3 Daily bring me nearer
To the heavenly shore;
May my faith grow clearer,
May I love thee more. |
| 2 Hold me fast, and guide me
In the narrow way;
So, with thee beside me,
I shall never stray. | 4 Hallow every pleasure,
Every gift and pain;
Be thyself my treasure,
Though none else I gain. |
| 5 Day by day prepare me
As thou seest best,
Then let angels bear me
To thy promised rest. | |

Thomas Benson Pollock 1836-96

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 119.4-5

The cantor sings

Thou hast charged that we shall diligently keep thy commandments:
O that my ways were made so direct, that I might keep thy statutes.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Ruler of the universe,
all creation yearns for its fulfilment in your Son.

May we who have shared in holy things
grow into maturity in him.

This we ask in the name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing and Dismissal

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.**

The assistant, or the priest or deacon, says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

NOTICES

Parish Consultation, Sunday 10 October

At the time of Fr Stephan Clark's retirement, the Wardens and Parish Council announced that the Parish would enter an extended period of part-time ministry during which rental revenue (including the Rectory) would be directed to the retirement of debt to the Synod Office, and steps were taken to ensure cash flow is sufficiently settled to enable a mature decision to be made on the options for ministry in the longer term.

We are pleased to announce that we have made excellent progress in addressing both issues, to the extent that the Diocese has advised that we may begin to look in earnest towards making an ongoing ministerial appointment in the first half of 2022.

The Parish Council is now working on a revised Parish Profile, and the wider congregation has its own part to play through participating in a Parish Consultation, to be led by our area Archdeacon, David Bassett. **The format of the day will be for morning tea/brunch to be served after Mass, with the Consultation to begin at around 11.30 am, ending at 1 pm.** There will be more information provided in the coming weeks about our preparations for this important meeting, but in advance, we do well to consider, in our reflections and prayers,

- Who have we – individually and as a community – been?
- Who are we – individually and as a community – now?
- Who is God calling us – individually and as a community – to be?

By knowing ourselves and our mission, we are well equipped to identify a new priest whose gifts and graces complement the strengths of the congregation so that we can all become that vision of what God is calling us to be in this time and place.

PLEASE MARK THE DATE, SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER, IN YOUR DIARIES!

Acrostic Poems in the Bible

Today's first reading from the book of Proverbs is one of the thirteen alphabetical acrostic poems in the Bible, where each line begins with a successive letter in the 22-letter Hebrew alphabet. Eight psalms are constructed in the same way, while Psalm 119 is one of the most complete and extensive examples of a Hebrew alphabetic acrostic psalm, with each Hebrew consonant covering 8 verses across the 22 sections of the Psalm. In chapter 1 and 2 of the Book of Lamentations, each Hebrew consonant covers 1 verse which consists of 3 stanzas. In chapter 3 each consonant covers 3 stanzas/verses, therefore it has 66 verses. Chapter 4 has 22 verses, each consonant consists of 2 stanzas beginning with that letter of the alphabet.

There are many reasons for the composition of acrostics. There is the mnemonic feature, certain sentences, words, or letters used to assist memorising passages for later recitation. It provides the poet with a structure and safeguards against piling up too long a list in a poem, which is often possible in religious literature like laments, petitions, and the like. The acrostic is aesthetically pleasing, appealing to the eye, while the alliterations when they are spoken combine and strengthen the concept of unity, completeness and totality. Few translations attempt to render this aspect of Biblical Hebrew poetry, though there have been some interesting attempts.

New Parish Email

The Parish has a new email address. The email is:

StMMAdeelaide.Parish@outlook.com

There will inevitably be some teething problems with the email being classified as "spam". If you are not noticing communications, please check your trash or spam folders, and mark parish emails as "trusted"!

Fr Gwilym is on leave this week. Fr Steven Ogden will offer the Masses on Thursday and Sunday. In the event of an emergency or other pastoral need, Fr Gwilym can be contacted by phone, or please contact the Churchwardens.

SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

Thursday 12 noon Angelus; 12.10 pm Mass (traditional rite)
Sunday 10 am Sung Mass with children's ministry and choir

Mass is offered at St Peter's Cathedral on Monday to Friday at 7.30 am, and on Wednesday at 10 am.

Inquiries about Baptisms and Weddings to the Locum Priest. Confessions or confidential personal time with a priest are always available on request.

Regular Giving and Donations

Financial support for our mission and ministry through electronic funds transfer (EFT) is an efficient way of making regular contributions to your congregation. Regular giving helps us plan for the future and ensures you continue offering support when you can't make it to Church.

Our Details: Bank: Bankwest, 8 Rundle Mall, Adelaide 5000
BSB 305 122, account no 0324654. Reference: Your name

The Magdalene Centre

*A partnership in mission between St Mary Magdalene's, St John's Halifax Street,
St Peter's Cathedral, and Anglicare SA*

82 Gilbert Street, Adelaide Tel (08) 8305 9389

Non-perishable food for those in need can be left in the baskets at the back of the church or delivered to the Magdalene Centre from 12 noon to 3 pm, Monday to Friday.

Donations of cash are welcome via <https://anglicaresa.com.au/cause/magdalene-centre/>.

The Collective of St Magdalene (Drop-In Centre)

Pray for all those who receive the Collective's weekly support,
and who are seeking meals and companionship at other times during the week.

Directory

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Next Sunday, 26 September, at 10 am – The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Esther 7.1-6, 9-11; 9.20-22 • James 5.12-20 • Mark 9.38-50

For Your Prayers

Pray for responsible leadership among the nations as the Covid-19 pandemic continues; pray for an end to racist violence and oppression; pray for peace and justice, especially for refugees and asylum seekers.

Pray for all those who are troubled in body, mind or spirit, especially Paull, Valerie, Sim, Clarice, Dulcie, Jasmin, Henry, Gary Priest (priest), John Edwards (priest), Peter Garland (priest), Linda, Alex and Fr Samson Asirvatham (priest).

For those who have died. Those who have worked and worshipped in this place before us; those who have died as a result of COVID-19 and in other tragic circumstances; those who have died recently, especially Deva Asirvatham John, Bronte Enjakovic, Iris Craddock, Peter Clifford (priest), and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

Rest ✕ eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.