

Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday 7am: Holy Communion
(Hymns: TIS 373, TIS 448, TIS 517, MP 744)

Sunday 9am: Family Communion (also streamed via ZOOM*)
(Hymns: MP 162, TIS 129, TIS 595, TIS 537)

* <https://zoom.us/j/7210725462> or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).

Jesus prayed, 'Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

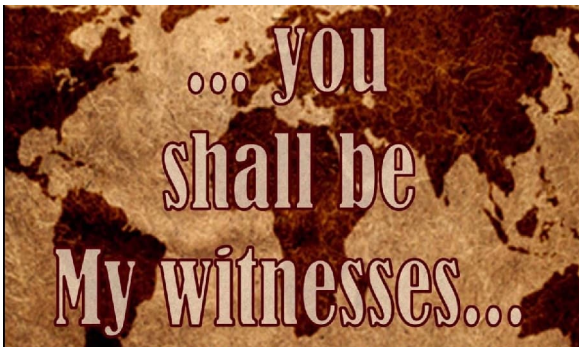
Rev'd Timothy writes...

This Sunday is the seventh Sunday of Easter, a season when we remember especially Jesus' resurrection. Next week is the Day of Pentecost; a day to remember the coming of the Spirit to the disciples in Jerusalem. So in one sense we can see the season of Easter as a time of preparation for Peter and his colleagues as they moved from being disciples of Jesus to apostles of the nascent church.



Towards the end of this period, last Thursday, we celebrate Ascension Day. This is the last chapter in the story of Jesus on earth. In the Apostles Creed, we remember that Jesus was born, died, rose again and ascended. So in our theology, this is an important event and in many countries it is a public holiday.

Why is this? Luke, who is the only one of the gospel writers to write a second volume describing the growth of the early church, puts the ascension of Jesus as the connection between the two. He describes it twice, once in Luke 24:44-53 and the other in Acts 1:6-11. In the first, the ascension marks the end of Jesus ministry, and acts to vindicate all that he had done in fulfillment of the scriptures. Jesus tells his disciples that they are "witnesses to all these things" (Luke 24:48). When the account is told again in Acts, the purpose is to show that the mantle of proclamation of coming Kingdom has been passed to the apostles and they are authorised to do this work. Jesus tells his to-be-apostles that they "will be [his] witnesses" (Acts 1:8).



Thus the ascension is a necessary precursor to all that the church does and is. It gives space for the birth of the church, for the coming of the Spirit, the promise of Jesus' presence with us through that Spirit, as well as our commission to be apostles.

Combined Church Service for Pentecost

You are invited to the next Ecumenical service organised by the Annerley Minister Fraternal.

6.30pm Sunday 19th May

Fairfield Christian Family
51 Cross Street, Fairfield



Readings for Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Reading (7am & 9am)

A reading from the book of Acts

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, ¹⁶ 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷ for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'

²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' ²³ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Acts 1:15-17,21-26

Psalm 1

¹ Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly: nor followed the way of sinners, nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.

² But their delight is in the law of the

Lord:

and on that law will they ponder day and night.

³ They are like trees planted beside streams of water: that yield their fruit in due season.

⁴ Their leaves also shall not wither: and look, whatever 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.

⁶ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement: nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

⁷ For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Second reading (7am only)

A reading from the first letter of John

⁹ If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰ Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³ I write these things to you who believe

in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:9-13

The Gospel

A reading from the gospel of John

⁶ 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so

that they may be one, as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

John 17:6-19

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Join the Witness

The Easter message means going forward, letting go of the past and embracing the future. Today's texts reflect empowering relationships with God in Christ through the Holy Spirit, through prayer, and the study of scripture. How are we witnesses today?

Acts 1:15–17, 21–26 Writing in the second half of the first century, the author of Luke-Acts shows that God's purpose is accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of faithful followers. The first chapter sets the stage for Pentecost, as believers witness Jesus' ascension and gather to wait and pray.

Thinking that Jesus would restore the kingdom of Israel, they moved to replace Judas with another apostle – which means "sent out" or "sending." Peter announces

the qualifications for apostleship that become the bedrock of testimony about Jesus: must have been with Jesus since Jesus' baptism by John and witnessed the Resurrection.

They proceeded through prayer to invite God to choose between two qualified men by casting lots (maybe by putting names in a vessel and shaking it until one fell out).

"The lot fell on Matthias" (1:26). Interestingly, there is no mention of Matthias after this event. The Christian message quickly expanded beyond the original witnesses, but always referred to the events of Jesus' life.

Psalms 1 is a wisdom psalm and establishes the importance of knowing and observing scripture in the way our lives speak. The tree image (see also Jeremiah 17:8, Psalm 92:13–15, and Psalm 52:10) compares the righteous to the trees planted in the temple precincts. The godly who meditate on and observe the law will thrive.

1 John 5:9–13 Writing around the end of the second century CE, the elder means to establish norms for faith, conduct, and fellowship among new Christians. Particularly disturbing was the tendency (especially in John's gospel) among some Christians to focus on Jesus' divinity while denying Jesus' humanity and the importance of his death and resurrection. Logic and reason are not enough to bring persons into the final truth of the incarnation. The concluding verses of the letter establish faith through the Holy Spirit as the means to truth. "And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in Christ" (v. 11). John 17:6–19 Recorded during the late first century, the prayer reinforced the relationship between the disciples, Jesus, and God. God has chosen them; they are worthy and not abandoned.

Jesus prays for them to be one, unified with God in Christ, and with each other. He prays that they will have joy; and third, he prays that God will protect them as he sends them into an unwelcoming world.

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The Jesus story continues in the lives of his followers who are sustained by the indwelling Holy Spirit, the instruction of scripture within the community of faith, and through a prayerful relationship with God. In what ways are you sustained in your life of faith

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If you would like a number of people in our parish to pray for you, or a family member, we have a 'Prayer Circle'.

This is usually coordinated by Judy Jones, but for the next few weeks David Fraricciardi will be deputising. Email: Davidf@fastmail.com.au

Safety reminders

Please take a look at the safety poster in the entrance to the church for the location of First Aid Kit, Defibrillator (AED), Fire Extinguishers and Emergency Evacuation Point.



Working Bee in Rectory garden

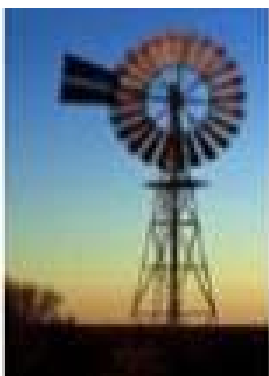
Rev'd Timothy and June would appreciate help in tidying up the Rectory garden. In particular someone with a ute/trailer to take green waste to the tip is sought.

Next Saturday 18th May from 9am.



Bush Ministry Stall

The bush ministry stall is on today Sunday 12th May, after both services.



Ascension Day

"When Christ went up to Heaven the Apostles stayed"
Gazing at Heaven with souls and wills on fire,
Their hearts on flight along the track He made,
Winged by desire.

Their silence spake: "Lord, why not follow Thee?
Home is not home without Thy Blessed Face,
Life is not life. Remember, Lord, and see,
Look back, embrace.

"Earth is one desert waste of banishment,
Life is one long-drawn anguish of decay.
Where Thou wert wont to go we also went:
Why not today?"

Nevertheless a cloud cut off their gaze:
They tarry to build up Jerusalem,
Watching for Him, while thro' the appointed days
He watches them.

They do His Will, and doing it rejoice,
Patiently glad to spend and to be spent:
Still He speaks to them, still they hear His Voice
And are content.

For as a cloud received Him from their sight,
So with a cloud will He return ere long:
Therefore they stand on guard by day, by night,
Strenuous and strong.

They do, they dare, they beyond seven times seven
Forgive, they cry God's mighty word aloud:
Yet sometimes haply lift tired eyes to Heaven—
"Is that His cloud?"

Christina Georgina Rossetti

Parish Camp: coordinator sought

Our Parish Camp for 2024 has been booked for 3-4 August back at Glengarry, Mt Tarampa.

In order for this to go ahead we need a coordinator. If you are able to help, please speak to Rev'd Timothy.



For our Prayers

Prayer for the day

Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth until the end of time; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The World

Pray that humanitarian aid will be able to reach those in need in Gaza, and for those seeking to broker a ceasefire in the conflict.

Anglican Communion

The Anglican Church of Burundi

The Diocese of Grafton: †Murray Harvey; Clergy and People

The Parish of Sunnybank: Scott Windred, Simon Tang

Bush Ministry Fund

St Luke's Anglican School, Bundaberg: Principal – Matthew Hughes; Chaplain – Erika Williams; Chair of School Council – Darren Hart; members of School Council; staff & students

Our missionary partners

Leichhardt Chinchilla Anglican Mission Area (supported by the Bush Ministry Fund)

Our parish

Pray for the ongoing work by our builders, for safety and security on our site.

Local Schools & Colleges

St Elizabeths Primary, St Agnes Primary, Red Hill Special School

Those who are sick, frail or emotionally stressed

Ryan, Jocelyn Hawes, Peter F, Peter Pressdee, David F., Jan Moody, Robyn McElnea, Maxine McElnea, June McNicol, Cathy, Rita Johnson, Sharon L., Margaret Sheehan, Don Rennie, Georgina Crawford, Glenda, Sue, Rev'd Shane Hubner.

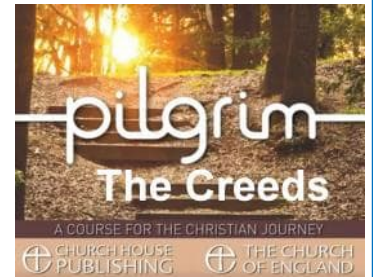
From the Parish Book of Remembrance

13 May: Keith Alfred March; 14 May: Olive Illingworth, Norma Mary, McKenna, Brenda Desmond Shields; 15 May: Margaret Frances Priscilla O'Brien; 17 May: George Charles Croydon; 18 May: Constance Sacre, Maureen Shirley Meier.

Parish Study: The Creeds

Our current Parish Study is a six week course looking at the Creeds, using material from the Church of England 'Pilgrim'. This course will help us unpack the meaning of the Creeds, and how they can resource our Christian life.

The course runs fortnightly. Session Two is this week 14th May at 10am or 16th May at 7.30pm. A course booklet is available, cost \$15.



Children's Church
continues weekly for
term 2



Church News

It's that time again!
Please send any
contributions for the
June issue to Honor no
later than 14th May:
phlawler@optusnet.com.au



Services This Week:

Tuesday-Friday

6pm: Evening Prayer on Zoom

Tuesday 14th May

1.30pm: Holy Communion at Regis,
Salisbury

Sunday 19th May

(Day of Pentecost)

7am: Holy Communion (St Luke's)

9am: Family Communion
(St Luke's / Zoom)
with Children's Church

6.30pm: Ecumenical service at
Fairfield Christian Family

*Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 104:26-36,
Acts 2:1-21, John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15*

Keep in touch:

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-  admin@stlukesekibin.org.au (Office)
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-  P.O. Box 79, Wellers Hill, QLD 4121
-  www.stlukesekibin.org.au
-  @stlukesekibin
-  Parish Wardens:
Brian Wood (0466 656 149)
Alison Lampe (0408 183 701)
Lynn Mitchell (0409 150 861)

Offerings:

Bank details (internet banking):
Ekibin Anglican Parish

A/C 0000 7820

BSB 704 901

Or scan the QR
code to give
online:



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