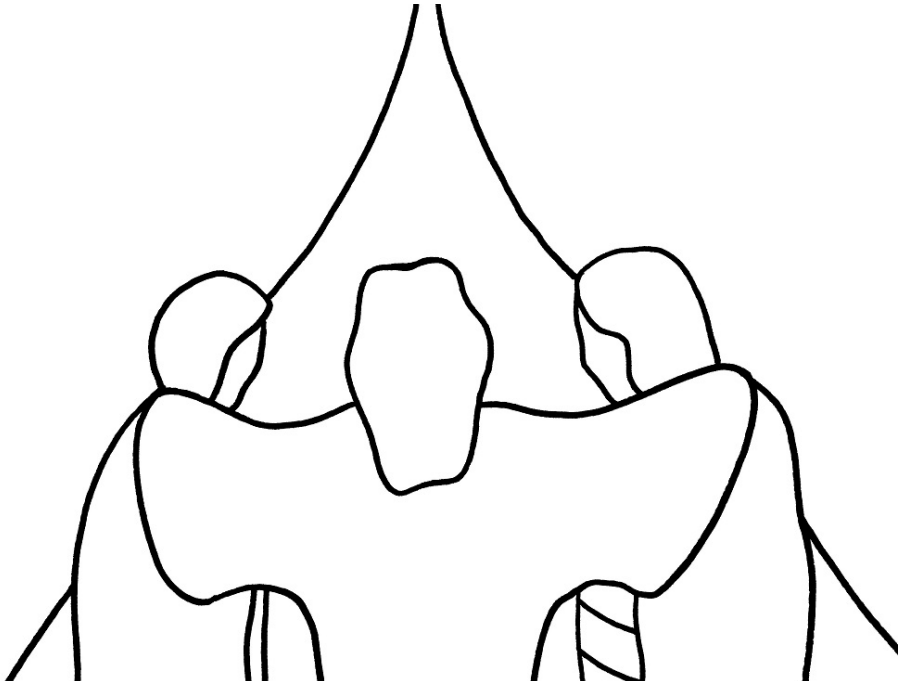


Anglican Parish of Gisborne

Easter 3A
April 26th 2020

A Service of the Word
in Easter



For use privately
or during the video as broadcast on
www.anglicanparishgisborne.org.au

*The Parish of Gisborne would like to acknowledge that we meet on Kulin Nation country.
We pay our respects to Kulin Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to any First
Nations people who are present today.*

We acknowledge that Aboriginal sovereignty has not been ceded.

The Parish of Gisborne is committed to being a Child Safe organisation.

Welcome

A warm welcome to our Parish We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who joins us for worship, alas for now, virtually and in prayers at home. We are committed to maintaining our worship together and acknowledge that our Lord reminds us that when two or three are gathered in his name, he is in the midst of us. Even though our gathering is virtual, our intent is corporate. Please feel free to download the video from the Parish website, www.anglicanparishgisborne.org.au or Facebook/GisborneAnglican, or share this time of prayer with a loved one at home if appropriate.

Two themes run through the readings today: the inclusion into the new Christian community through baptism; and the realisation of the presence of Jesus in the breaking of the bread. At a time when we are unable to gather to break and share the bread, there is for many of us a longing and deep sadness. We long to be gathered as the baptised community. In baptism, we die to sin and share the inheritance of eternal life in Jesus. In the taking, blessing, breaking and sharing of the bread of life and cup of salvation, Christ is revealed to us through our remembrance of all that he has done for us.

There are arguments for and against virtual communion, there is even one priest who has enough faith in the postal service to deliver pre-consecrated bread to those at home (!) This borders on breaking not only Church canon, but calls into question the Articles of Religion – the very thing that binds us together as Anglican.

I feel that this approach misses that communion is a communal meal, shared together. It is in the breaking and sharing of the meal that communion is made. We break the bread to share in the body of Christ.

I too, as your Vicar, long for that day when we can all take the bread, bless it, break it and share it. In the meantime, we stay steadfast in prayer, praying, as St Paul would have us, without ceasing, and in everything giving thanks to the Lord Jesus.

This Sunday: Easter 3A Emmaus	Acts 2.14a, 36-41 I Peter 1.13-25	Psalms 116 Luke 24:13-35
Next Sunday: Easter 4A Good Shepherd	Acts 2.42-47 I Peter 2.19-25	Psalms 23 John 10.1-10

Bible references: NRSV bible.oremus.org

Social Isolation Policy

Please maintain all social distancing and isolation policies currently enforced by both the Commonwealth and State Authorities. We will return to a joyful Easter Celebration at a date to be determined, but wish to do so joyfully, together and well.

If you require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office on 5428 4038 or Fr Dennis on 9012 3365

The Greeting

The minister greets the people and says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Opening Prayer

**Faithful one, whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

If Christ had not been raised, our faith is futile and we are still in our sins... But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead...

Come to a sober and right mind, and sin no more.

1 Corinthians 15:17, 20a, 34a

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.
We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Absolution

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

O God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings

As we prepare to hear God's Holy Words through the scriptures
open our hearts and minds, Lord. Amen.

After each reading

May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

Acts 2.14a, 36-41

¹⁴ Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them:
'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and
listen to what I say.

³⁶ "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made
him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter
and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said
to them, "Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus
Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of
the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all
who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And
he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save
yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his
message were baptised, and that day about three thousand persons were
added.[NRSV]

from Psalm 116

I will take the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

How shall I make a return to the Lord
for all the good he has done for me?
The cup of salvation I will take up,
and I will call upon the name of the Lord.

Precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful one.
I am your servant, the son of your handmaid,
you have loosed my bonds.

To you I will offer sacrifice of thanksgiving
and I will call on the name of the Lord.
My vows to the Lord I will pay
in the presence of all his people.

Sung version Perry Kerry © 2004

I Peter 1.13-25

¹³ Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. ¹⁴ Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. ¹⁵ Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; ¹⁶ for it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For

“All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,

and the flower falls,
²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever.”
That word is the good news that was announced to you.[NRSV]

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus:
in the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Luke 24:13–35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’ He asked them, ‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.’ Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to

each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Breaking Open the Word
Rev'd Alan Smith

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen.**

Hymn

Christ is alive, with joy we sing;
we celebrate our risen Lord,
praising the glory of his name.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He is the grain of wheat that died,
sown in distress and reaped in joy,
yielding a harvest of new life.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He is the sun which brings the dawn:
he is the light of all the world,
setting us free from death and sin.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He is the vine set in the earth,
sharing our life, from birth to death,
that we might share in God's own life.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He is the bread that comes from God,
broken to feed us in our need,
given to bring eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ is alive, with joy we sing;
we celebrate our risen Lord,
praising the glory of his name.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayers of Intercession

This response is:

Given, broken and shared Lord:
in your mercy, hear us.

Let us pray to the Father through the Son who is close to us now and always.

As the risen Christ was made known in the breaking of the bread, give grace to all Christian people longing to receive his Body and Blood in the fullness of time. Forgive us, Loving God, when we are less than perfect in our devotions as we approach your table.

Given, broken and shared Lord:
in your mercy, hear us.

Open the eyes of those who do not understand that Christ is near to them. May the truth of his sacrifice for all people everywhere be known throughout the world. Where people are given, broken and abused, Lord, let your unifying presence bind all of us together to make a wholeness that protects and encourages.

Given, broken and shared Lord:
in your mercy, hear us.

Guide us to discern Christ in all our lives, in our friends and colleagues, in those we find difficult to love. Listening to your unfolding words may we be inspired to share the good news, not only with them, but through our thoughts words and deeds all whom we encounter.

Given, broken and shared Lord:
in your mercy, hear us.

Have mercy on those who are so cast down by sorrow that they cannot feel the divine love. Let those whom you call to the vocation and ministry of nursing, physiotherapy and counselling be your eyes, ears and hands; help all researchers as they seek to find a cure for the current pandemic. We bring to mind the name of those for whom our prayers are requested, and those close to our hearts let those engraved in our hearts be granted wholeness, healing, comfort and strength.

Given, broken and shared Lord:
in your mercy, hear us.

Abide with those whose days on earth are spent and who now rest in Christ. Grant to all who have walked with him the fullness of his presence.

Given, broken and shared Lord:
in your mercy, hear us.

That our eyes may be opened and our hearts warmed with faith, we offer our prayers saying:

**God of our redemption,
look kindly on your Church.
Give true freedom to all who follow Christ
and lead them to the inheritance that lasts for ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praise into one,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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 right hand 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.**

Praise

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Postlude

Virtual Morning Tea Sunday 10.30 am

<http://bit.ly/GisAngVMT>

or simply PHONE in (video not needed) local call 7018 2005
and enter 4583766065 when prompted

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Join EfM via **ZOOM**

The EfM (Exploring Faith Matters) Group of our parish would like to invite parishioners to join us as we consider the book “Fighting with the Bible – Why Scripture Divides Us and How It Can Bring Us Together” by Donn Morgan.

In times of conflict, the Bible is often used as a club to beat those whose opinions differ from one's own. We recoil from such usage, yet the Bible actually represents many diverse and conflicting points of view. It is like a library, full of books that speak to all sides of every question. Like Christians today, the communities and individuals who wrote the biblical texts often strongly disagree with each other. Ruth and Ezra, Isaiah and Ezekiel, Micah and Joel, Deuteronomy and Daniel, Mark and John... what would they say to each other? Do they have anything in common? Each of these voices is firmly committed to his or her specific view of “the truth,” whether it reflects a particular place or community, a prophet, a style of worship, or an “understanding” of who is in and who is out. The author guides us in considering how we can do justice to this welter of disparate voices. What can the Bible teach us about living together? How can we use it as a powerful resource for understanding and for moving beyond conflict?

We will be discussing this book over 2 sessions – **Sunday May 24th** and **Sunday May 31st** from **3.00pm ‘til 5.30pm** via Zoom.

We will give you the joining code and guide you through the process.

If you would like to join us, or read at home, the book can be purchased online through “Amazon”, “Booktopia” or “Book Depository”, priced from approximately \$7.00 - \$35.00. Delivery can take 3-4 weeks. It can also be purchased as an eBook for \$11.00 - \$14.00.

Study notes have been provided to support the discussion and will be copied for those who would like them.



EXPLORING FAITH MATTERS
EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY AUSTRALIA

Please let Debra or Alison know if you are planning on joining the group for this study.

Looking forward to sharing this discussion with you.

Debra and Alison

Envelope and “Open “Plate offertory in the time of isolation (UPDATED)

Parishioners are invited to make their offering via the link on the Parish Website (www.anglicanparishgisborne.org.au) for anonymity or the Parish Bank Account by EFT (Gisborne Anglican; BSB 033-624, Account 120730).

For Parishioners who wish to make their offertory by cash or cheque, they can do so as follows:

1. Drop your offertory donation to the homes of the Treasurer, or your local Treasurer Assistant AT YOUR CONVENIENCE (call and leave in letterbox if no one home):

a. Gisborne : Graham Dickinson , 45 Melbourne Road , Gisborne (0448774058)

b. Macedon. John Lee Tet, Corner Bruce and Elliot Streets, Macedon (0410031518)

c. Ethan Eva, 215 Sutherlands Road, Riddells Creek (0429103122)

2. Drop in to the Parish Centre (Fisher Street , Gisborne) if you are shopping for essentials 10 to 11 AM Tuesday mornings , or 2 to 3 PM Thursday afternoons

3. Call the Treasurer (Graham Dickinson: 0448774058) for a monthly “pick-up” from home (4th Sunday of the month or by arrangement). For offertory made by all of the above ways, Father Dennis will give thanks and blessing for these gifts to our Parish ministry during private and remote services.

With the Opp shops closed it is vital that the Parish giving continue with the same generosity as in the months preceding the current circumstances

Father Dennis Webster
Vicar
2nd April 2020

Graham Dickinson
Treasurer

HE **BREATHED** ON THEM?
IS THAT EVEN **SAFE**?



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

IT IS... IF IT'S
THE **BREATH OF GOD!**



JOHN 20:19-31

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