

The Anglican Parish of Gisborne

*April 5th, 2020*

**Entering the  
Abiding Peace of God\*  
in a time  
of  
Solace**

Away with sorrow and care

*Maddy Prior and the Carnival Band*

*When all are gathered, the Presider begins:*

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

**Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

It is written in the book of the Prophet Isaiah, :  
Look on Zion, the city of our appointed festivals!  
Your eyes will see Jerusalem,  
a quiet habitation, an immovable tent,  
whose stakes will never be pulled up,  
and none of whose ropes will be broken.

*Isaiah 33.20*

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**for his steadfast love endures for ever.**

‘Save us, O God of our salvation,  
and gather and rescue us from among the nations,  
**that we may give thanks to your holy name,  
and glory in your praise.**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
**from everlasting to everlasting.**

*1 Chronicles 16.24ff*

This is the day which the Lord has made.  
**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Psalm 118.24*

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

*Zechariah 9.9-12*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the warhorse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle-bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.  
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

*At the end of the reading, the reader should say*

May your word live in us

**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

Psalm 31

Father, Father I put my life in your hands

**Father, Father I put my life in your hands**

You O God are my refuge,  
in you I shall not be put to shame.  
Rescue me because you are just,  
into hands I commend my soul  
Save me, save me my God:

By my foes I am hated  
and all those that see me laugh at me -  
everyone runs away from my face.  
I am neglected like the dead in the grave  
broken, forgotten, my life:

All my life I will trust you  
for you are the God of my heart.  
Rescue me from the hands of my foes,  
guard me from those who seek to harm my life.  
You Lord, hold me in your hands.

*Psalm 31: · Randall DeBruyn*

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians

*Philippians 2.5-11*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

*At the end of the reading, the reader should say*

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

*The Presider addresses the people in these words.*

Dear friends in Christ,  
our Lenten work is drawing to a close.  
In this day when our own dwellings are indeed a quiet habitation,  
our immovable sanctuary of God-with-us, Immanuel  
is in our midst.  
We are not able to journey with him  
on this commemoration of his triumphant entry into Jerusalem  
that Abiding Peace of God\*  
but not there, but in this place, *locus iste*.

On this day Christ entered his holy City  
where he was to suffer, die and rise again.  
As we remember his coming  
in humble triumph, riding on a donkey,  
let us remember also his future advent  
upon the clouds of heaven  
to do justice for the living and the dead  
and to unite us, his members,  
in joy and glory with himself.

Today, in the absence of palm crosses,  
banners, musicians and celebration outdoors,  
I invite you, as those at the time of Jesus did  
to take a branch from your garden to wave from our own place where  
we are now  
and together, let us give thanks as we recall that moment of triumph.

*We hold up our branches, or flowers*

Bless us, O God,  
as we acclaim the coming of Christ your Son;

bless our virtual gathering and open our hearts to that great day  
when Christ will gather us to himself  
in the new and heavenly Jerusalem.  
For he is alive, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 21,  
beginning at the first verse.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached  
Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,  
saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and  
immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with  
her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says  
anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And  
he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil  
what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,  
'Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they  
brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on  
them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their  
cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees  
and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead  
of him and that followed were shouting,  
'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil,  
asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the  
prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

*At the end of the Gospel:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Palm Sunday Procession

*The Presider invites the people to the procession, saying*

As we meditate on the journey of God-with-us  
to the place that is the Abiding Peace of God,  
Jerusalem

we bring to mind the path from the Mount of Olives into the Holy City  
and all the drama that is about to unfold.

Video: modern day Jerusalem

Music: Hosanna to the Son of David

## Breaking Open the Word

### The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father;**

**from there he will come to judge**

**the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*The Intercessor prays:*

With faith and love and in union with Christ,

let us offer our prayer before the throne of grace.

Have mercy on your people,

for whom your Son laid down his life:

**Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and Immortal one:  
have mercy on us.**

*The Presider says:*

O Christ our God,  
when you raised Lazarus from the dead,  
before the time of your passion,  
you confirmed the future resurrection of all.  
We too, like the children of old,  
carry before you these symbols of your triumph and victory  
and cry out to you, the conqueror of death:  
**“Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”**

*The Intercessor prays:*

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations,  
and have pity on those torn apart by division:  
Strengthen all who are persecuted for your name's sake,  
and deliver them from evil:  
**Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and Immortal one:  
have mercy on us.**

*The Presider says:*

O Christ our God,  
we have been buried with you in baptism:  
wherefore we have gained eternal life in your resurrection.  
We cry out to you singing a hymn of praise:  
**“Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”**

*The Intercessor prays:*

Look in mercy upon all who suffer,  
and hear those who cry out in pain and desolation.  
Bring comfort to the dying,  
and gladden their hearts with the vision of your glory.  
**Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and Immortal one:  
have mercy on us.**

*The Presider says:*

Christ, our hope,  
today we cannot gather and sing our hymns of praise,  
echoing those who hailed you as Messiah and king.  
Accept our time of prayer as we honour you always  
bringing to the world works of love and justice  
your Spirit inspires in us,  
so that when you come in glory  
you may recognize us as those  
who truly belong to you:  
for you are the living One, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**“Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”**

*The Intercessor continues:*

Give rest to the departed  
and bring them, with your saints, to glory everlasting:  
as we commend the world, for which Christ died,  
to the mercy and protection of God.

*The Presider leads the Prayer of the Day:*

Grant to us, we pray, almighty God,  
the forgiveness of our sins by your mercy,  
so that we may worthily prepare the way  
for Christ as he approaches,  
and through good works done by your grace  
may obtain the palm of victory.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**When his time was over the palms lay where they fell.  
As they ate together he told his friends farewell.  
Jesus, though you cried out for some other end,  
love could only choose a cross  
when our life began again.**

**Secretly they planned it, with money changing hands;  
in the quiet garden a kiss betrayed their man.  
Priests and elders tried him. Soldiers crowned him king.  
We were in the crowd that day  
when our life began again.**

**Women wept to see him; he said, 'Don't weep for me.'  
Many laughed and mocked him:  
'Forgive them, they don't see.'  
Jesus, please forgive me, you know what I am;  
I was one who nailed your hands,  
when our life began again.**

**There was one who asked you, 'Remember me this day'  
Jesus, when I'm dying, remember me that way;  
when my life is over, be with me, my friend,  
like the thief upon the cross,  
when our life began again.**

*Robin Mann 1949-*

## MEDITATION

We are called to go into the world to *love and serve the Lord*.  
Each day, we are challenged by the changing nature of the COVID-19 response,  
and how it is impacting on our wider community.  
How do we *love and serve the Lord* when we are told to remain indoors?  
How long will this Sabbath restriction that holds us on Easter Eve last?  
What will we find as the new day dawns and we can once again gather?  
They are all good questions to which we are told to be still, patient and wait.  
The Marys who went to the tomb of Jesus on that great first day knew already  
what it was like to wait.  
They had witnessed the week that is opening up before us.  
They had accompanied Jesus to the sepulchre and watched him being sealed  
from the world.  
They had to endure another 36 hours of waiting as the Sabbath was observed.  
We are Easter people.  
We already know what is on the other side of the darkness.  
Patiently, we wait.  
Hopefully, we look in hope to what is to be.  
Together, we lift our hearts and souls as we move into Holy Week.

Lead us into Holy Week

**We tell your story**

We follow in your footsteps

**Lead us into Holy Week.**

We walk towards the city

We wait in the garden

**Lead us onto Holy Ground**

We journey towards death

We hope for resurrection

**Lead us to Holy Joy.**

*Ruth Burgess  
Iona Community*

*The Presider prays a prayer over the people in place of the blessing during Lent.*

Grant, merciful Lord,

to your faithful people pardon and peace,

that they may be cleansed from all their sins

and serve you with a quiet mind;

through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Loving God,**

**in this time of anxiety and uncertainty,**

**help us to focus on your presence with us**

**knowing that when two or three are gathered**

**you are in our midst.**

**Settle the sense of panic in our community**

**and bind us together as your body**

**to reach out in faith, hope and love.**

**Thank you for the gift of medical science:**

**bless all who are working on both relief and protection.**

**Heal the sick, and guide the eyes, ears and hands**

**of all who are caring.**

**Above all,**

**thank you for your blessings to us**

**as we continue to be your people in adversity,**

**providing leadership and compassion as required.**

**This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the souls of the faithful departed  
through the love and mercy of God  
rest in peace:

**and rise again in glory.**

**You are welcome to join us at 10.30 am on Sunday for a ZOOM catch up.**

**BYO tea and coffee!**

Join Zoom Meeting

You may need to cut and paste the link below:

<https://bit.ly/2UuFZ8f>

Meeting ID: 499 479 175

Password: 043437

or

CLICK THE LINK ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE PARISH WEBSITE

[www.anglicanparishgisborne.org.au](http://www.anglicanparishgisborne.org.au)

To join by phone:

**Dial by your location (audio only, local call)**

**Phone: (03) 7018 2005**

**then follow the prompts to enter the Meeting ID**

**Meeting ID: 499 479 175**

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

Holy Monday	7.30 pm	Evening Prayer and Meditation
Holy Tuesday	7.30 pm	Evening Prayer and Meditation
Holy Wednesday	7.30 pm	Evening Prayer and Meditation
Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm	Evening Prayer and Meditation
Good Friday	10 am	Devotions
Easter Dawn	6 am	Morning Prayer
Easter Day	9 am	Morning Prayer

ALL LINKS WILL BE ON THE WEBSITE



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 24<sup>th</sup>** and **Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>** 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.

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.



EXPLORING FAITH MATTERS  
EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY AUSTRALIA

Debra and Alison