

Anglican Parish of  
Gisborne



## THE PARABLE OF THE



ONLINE RESOURCE  
FOR  
Wheat and Tares

## MORNING PRAYER

*Pentecost 7A*

July 19<sup>th</sup> 2020

*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.*

Today's worship:  
Things that make you say "hmm..."

Jerome, 4th century bishop

"The words the Lord spoke--'Lest gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them'--leave room for repentance. We are advised not to be quick in cutting off a fellow believer...."

Thomas Long, 21st century

"The simple fact that the church always has its share of hypocrites does not make the gospel hypocritical, nor does it destroy the integrity of God."

Georgia Harkness, 20th century

"The tendency to turn human judgments into divine commands makes religion one of the most dangerous forces in the world."

Mother Teresa, 20th century

"If you judge people, you have no time to love them."

Henry Ward Beecher, 19th century

"We should not judge people by their peak of excellence; but by the distance they have travelled from the point where they started."

Sarah Owens, Sourdough: Recipes for Rustic Fermented Breads, Sweets, Savories, and More, 21st century

"If weeds constantly overrun your garden rows, ask yourself what those are and why they are growing there. Put down the hoe long enough to consider what the weeds are telling you."

Seth Adam Smith, Rip Van Winkle and the Pumpkin Lantern, 21st century

"Perhaps we are not really sinners in the hands of an angry God, after all. Perhaps we are all more like seedlings in the hands of a wise gardener."

This Sunday: Pentecost 7A

Romans 8.12-25

Psalms 139.1-11,23,24

Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

Next Sunday: Pentecost 8A

Romans 8.26-39

Psalms 128

Matthew 13.44-58

Bible references: NRSV bible.oremus.org

Social Distancing Protocols apply at all times.

VIRTUAL MORNING TEA

Sunday 10.30 am

[www.bit.ly/GisAngVMT](http://www.bit.ly/GisAngVMT)

Morning Prayer Wednesday: [www.bit.ly/GisAngWedMorn](http://www.bit.ly/GisAngWedMorn)

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Morning Prayer  
(Second Order: APBA p19)

Gathering in God's Name

Through Christ let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God,  
the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Hebrews 13.15

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1.3

*These or similar responses are used.*

Open our lips, O Lord,  
**and we shall declare your praise.**  
This is the day that the Lord has made,  
**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

*The minister continues in these or similar words.*

Friends in Christ,  
we come together to meet with God,  
and to take our part in the building up of his Church.  
We will lift up our hearts in thanks and praise,  
hear from God's holy word,  
and pray for this world, and for ourselves.  
The Bible tells us to approach God confidently,  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
As we do so, we must confess our sins,  
seeking forgiveness through God's boundless goodness and mercy.

Let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, and pray together:

**God of all mercy,  
we humbly admit that we need your help.  
We have wandered from your way.  
We have sinned in thought, word and deed,  
and have failed to do what is right.  
You alone can save us.  
Have mercy on us,  
wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.  
Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit  
that we may live the new life to your glory.  
This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.**

*The minister declares God's forgiveness.*

God desires that none should perish,  
but that all should turn to Christ, and live.  
In response to his call we acknowledge our sins.  
God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel.  
Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*and/or*

*The minister may read one of these sentences of Scripture.*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2.1–2

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.38–39

*The minister says*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.  
**His steadfast love endures for ever!**

*The minister greets the people, who may greet one another.*

Grace and peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

*A hymn or song of praise and thanksgiving follows, or one of the following forms may be used.*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord,  
shout to the rock of our salvation.  
Serve the Lord with gladness,  
come before his face with songs of joy.**

## The Ministry of the Word

*The minister offers this prayer, or a suitable alternative, in preparation for the reading and teaching of the Scriptures.*

Heavenly Father,  
give us wisdom and understanding.  
As we listen to your Word,  
may we know you better, love you more,  
and learn to please you in all we do;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The first Reading, as appointed.*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Romans 8.12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

May your word live in us

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

Psalm 139.1-11, 23-24

*Search me out, O God and know my heart.*

O Lord, you have searched me out and known me;  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.  
You mark out my journeys and my resting place  
and are acquainted with all my ways. *Response*

For there is not a word on my tongue,  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.  
You encompass me behind and before  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
so high that I cannot attain it. *Response*

Where can I go then from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?  
If I climb up to heaven, you are there;  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also. *Response*

If I take the wings of the morning  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
Even there your hand shall lead me,  
your right hand hold me fast. *Response*

If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me  
and the light around me turn to night,'  
Even darkness is no darkness with you;  
the night is as clear as the day;  
darkness and light to you are both alike. *Response*

Search me out, O God, and know my heart;  
try me and examine my thoughts.  
See if there is any way of wickedness in me  
and lead me in the way everlasting. *Response*

Glory to God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit;  
**as in the beginning, so now and for ever. Amen.**

*Search me out, O God and know my heart.*

A Reading from the New Testament.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

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

Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

Jesus put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

For the Gospel of the Lord:

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

Breaking Open the Word

*Music may be played after the reflection.*

## The Ministry of Prayer

*The minister says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus gave 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.**

**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 minister continues*

Be exalted, Lord, above the heavens,

**let your glory cover the earth.**

Keep our nation under your care,

**and guide us in justice and truth.**

Let your way be known on earth,

**your saving power among all nations.**

Send out your light and your truth,

**that we may tell of your saving works.**

Have mercy on the poor and oppressed.

**Hear the cry of those in need.**

Hear our prayers, O Lord,

**for we put our trust in you.**

### The Collect of the Day

God, whose care is for all people,

you show forbearance to your children,

because you give repentance for sins.

Let that mercy not leave us complacent,

but eager to learn patience and compassion;

and as you have made us righteous,

teach us also to be kind.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



## The Intercessions

Our gracious, eternal God, we come before you with gratitude this day.

We are grateful that we are a part of a long and struggling, yet hopeful community.

We are grateful that the upward path of your realm, always beset with obstacles and difficulties, nonetheless remains our vision.

We are grateful that life, while stained with imperfections, yet can be ennobled by those who persist and persevere.

And we are grateful that we have received a spirit of freedom and grace to know that we are indeed your children.

Open our ears, Lord, that we may listen to your voice, and in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**

We pray that you will continue to provide correction for us when we miss the mark. We pray that we may be stretched to learn and to grow.

We pray that we might be enabled to grow bigger, more generous, more inclusive, and more loving hearts.

Help us to affirm one another and to build up and embrace the gifts among us.

Open our ears, Lord, that we may listen to your voice, and in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**

We also pray for our world. Beset with wars, conflicts, famine, corruption, domination by the powerful, suffering of the weak, there hardly seems a time in which your creation has been groaning with such travail as it is now.

Where there is conflict, bring peace. Where there is suffering bring healing and compassion. Where there is uncertainty and anxiousness bring inner peace. Where there is hatred and enmity bring understanding and unity and love.

Open our ears, Lord, that we may listen to your voice, and in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**

We lift up in our hearts to you, gracious God, those for whom our prayers have been particularly asked. We pray for those whose names are on our Parish Prayer Request sheet, and lay them before your altar of mercy.

Send your healing touch on all in need; give strength for those who are caring for those who are terminally ill; inspire the minds and vision of those who are seeking new ways of bringing your wholeness and healing to our pandemic stricken world.

Open our ears, Lord, that we may listen to your voice, and in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**

In gratitude we look back at the saints of all ages who have helped to shape and guide your people. Inspired by their faithfulness, failings, redemption and witness, may we look to our own duties of care for this world, and all people.

We bring to mind those whose year's mind occurs around this time.

Open our ears, Lord, that we may listen to your voice, and in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

In a moment of quiet, let us still our hearts and be open to hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Open our ears, Lord, that we may listen to your voice, and in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

We offer our prayers together as we pray:

**Listen, O God,  
to the prayers of your people,  
as we commit ourselves to your care  
and seek your blessing.  
Protect and sustain us in this life  
and make us ready for your eternal gifts.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

From the Liturgy of St John Chrysostom

Lord, you have given us grace to agree in these our prayers,  
and you have promised that when two or three gather in your name  
you will grant their requests.

Fulfill now, Lord, our desires and prayers as may be best for us.

Grant us, in this life, knowledge of your truth and in the age to come,  
life eternal. **Amen.**

Eternal God and Father,  
by whose power we are created,  
and by whose love we are redeemed:  
Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,  
that we may give ourselves to your service,  
and live this day in love to one another and to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

Postlude:

More “hmm...”

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *The Gulag Archipelago* 1918–1956

“If only it were all so simple! If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy a piece of his own heart?”

Charles Dickens, 19th century

“I hope that real love and truth are stronger in the end than any evil or misfortune in the world.”

Blaise Pascal, 17th century

“There are only two kinds of [people]: the righteous who believe they are sinners, the sinners who believe they are righteous.”

A.A. Milne

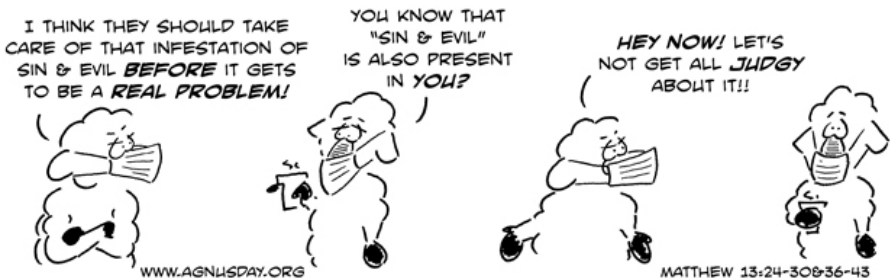
“Weeds are flowers too, once you get to know them.”

Thank you from M.A.A.W. :

Mount Alexander Animal Welfare Shelter (Castlemaine) expresses grateful thanks to the Parish for the recent generous donations of blankets, towels, petfood etc. as per the Parish Annual Winter Blanket Appeal. Janine Mc Dougall & Rosemary Homewood, Co-convenors, Parish Animal Welfare Group.

Vale Fr Don Edgar OAM OGS

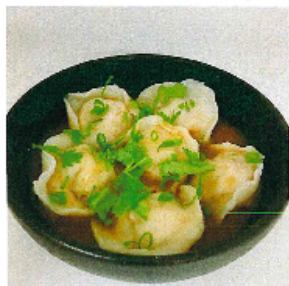
Fr Don Edgar, former Vicar of West Footscray, Senior Chaplain at the Brotherhood, a man of prayer and pioneer of the Sudanese community at Footscray died peaceably surrounded by family on Thursday. We thank God for Don's pioneering ministry and prayerful approach to all whom he met. Please surround Don's 4 boys and their families, and Don's close friends in prayer.



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## Dumpling Fundraiser for Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy @ Flying Pigeon



**Come and learn how to make northern Chinese dumplings from scratch and raise money for Chaplaincy**

**on Saturday 25th July or 22nd August  
from 10.30am-12.30.**

**\$80 per person includes a complimentary beverage.  
Bring your friends or family, let's have some fun together,  
and take home delicious dumplings for dinner.**

**100% of profit made after covering costs will be  
donated back to Chaplaincy. You can secure your spot by  
Emailing Bronwyn on [sbtacey@bigpond.com](mailto:sbtacey@bigpond.com)**

**For any enquiries please call Bronwyn 0417 028 605  
Maximum 10-12 people.**



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