

Anglican Parish of Gisborne

**W**

**A L**

**K B Y**

**F A I T**

**H N O T B**

**Y S I G H T**

**E F P T O Z L**

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Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

St John's, Riddells Creek Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup>, 5.30 pm

St Paul's, Gisborne August 11<sup>th</sup>, 9 am

Church of the Resurrection August 11<sup>th</sup>, 10.30 am

*The Parish of Gisborne acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land,  
the peoples of the Kulin Nations,  
and we pay our respects to their elders, living, past and emerging.*

# Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who joins us for worship. Whether you are a visitor or a regular parishioner of the Anglican Church, you are invited to join us in Holy Communion. Please make yourself known to us and if you would like more information about our community and ministry, then please take a copy of our welcome brochure, visit our website or ask one of our sidespersons.

## Today's worship:

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11.1)  
"Give me willing suspension of disbelief for the moment, which constitutes poetic faith."

Coleridge, *Biographica Literaria* 1817

Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:23-24)

Faith is the great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think and evaluate evidence.

Faith is belief in spite of, even perhaps because of, the lack of evidence. (Richard Dawkins)

One of the issues of faith is that it requires a suspension of disbelief and being open to a sense of certainty that something will or could happen. One of the issues in demanding an empirical proof or definition is that the very thing that is being examined is eliminated, something that Dawkins is quick to point out and use.

Conversely, Douglas Adams, in *The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy* had this gem to offer about empirical proof!

"The argument goes something like this: 'I refuse to prove that I exist,' says God, 'for proof denies faith, and without faith I am nothing.'

"'But,' says Man, 'The Babel fish is a dead giveaway, isn't it? It could not have evolved by chance. It proves you exist, and so therefore, by your own arguments, you don't. QED.'

"'Oh dear,' says God, 'I hadn't thought of that,' and promptly vanished in a puff of logic.

In the letter to the Hebrews, the writer gives an interesting explanation beyond empirical or logical proof. There are strong requirements of hope and trust involved, understood by the ancients in terms of love and fear (respect) of God. There are also overtones of hope in the faith that things will work out well for those seeking a new home – something our refugees and asylum seekers embrace as they place themselves at risk to come to the land girt by sea with boundless plains to share.

Faith is not so much a vexed question but rather an understanding spiritually enriched by our gifting of God's grace. We trust that there is God, and see the divine in the world and people around us.

The question for us is "What do we believe?"

I believe we begin with the words "We believe..." in our greatest statement of certainty, the Nicene Creed; and when baptised, we affirm a personal faith with the Apostles' Creed: "I believe". And the scriptures? Our own Articles of Religion are very clear: "...scripture contains all things necessary to salvation so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any one, that it should be believed as an article of the faith." (Article VI, 1662, alt.)

This Sunday: Pentecost 9C

Isaiah 1.1, 10-20

Psalms 50.1-6

Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16

Luke 12.32-40

Next Sunday: Pentecost 10C

Isaiah 5.1-7

Psalms 80.1-2, 8-19

Hebrews 11.29-12.2

Luke 12.49-59

## Gathering of the People

### Hymn

212 Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Blessed be God: ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God's kingdom now and for ever!**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray:

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Confession and Absolution

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,  
welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

*Silence may be kept.*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
with a sincere and a true heart.

You have revealed yourself as the way to the Father.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You have poured upon us the Spirit of truth.  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You are the Shepherd of eternal life:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The Absolution. Standing, the priest says*

Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:  
✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's 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.**

The Collect

Lord God,  
your Son left the riches of heaven  
and became poor for our sake:  
when we prosper save us from pride,  
when we are needy save us from despair,  
that we may trust in you alone;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

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

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 1.1,10-20

*At the end of the reading:*

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

Psalm 50.1-6



***Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!  
Let your glory over all the earth be found.***

The Mighty One, God the Lord,  
speaks and summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,  
God shines forth.

Our God comes, and does not keep silence,  
before whom is a devouring fire,  
round about whom is a mighty storm.  
God calls to the heaven above and to the earth,  
that the people may be judged.

‘Gather to me, my faithful ones,  
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!’  
The heavens declare God’s righteousness,  
for he himself is judge!

*tr. from the USA United Methodist Liturgical Psalter (1989)  
Jane M. Marshall 1924 – 2019  
TiS 30*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16

*At the end of the reading:*

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

## The Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Welcome with meekness the implanted word  
that has the power to save your souls.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Luke 12.32-40

*At the end of the Gospel, the reader says:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Breaking open the Word

Dr Alan Smith

*After a period of reflection, we all stand:*

The Nicene Creed

**W**e 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 of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and the world.

*The response to the bidding is hear our prayer*

*As the intercession folder is placed on the altar, we pray together:*

**Keep us ever vigilant,  
loving and creating God  
that we be alert to those in need around us  
and humbly bring to them through word and deed  
and the gift of your love.  
This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.**

The Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.,**

The peace of the triune God be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*We offer one another a sign of peace and reconciliation.*

## The Offertory

*During the singing of the hymn, the collection is received; and bread and wine are prepared for the communion of all people.*

### Hymn

552 Come, my way, my truth, my life

### The Offertory Prayers

With this bread that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

With this wine that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body,  
wine for his blood,  
gifts from God to his table we bring.

**From our abundance we bring to you  
our hearts, souls and minds  
that you may find within them  
the treasures we need for eternal life in you. Amen**

### The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour, be yours now and always,  
mighty Creator, everliving God.  
We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary  
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross  
and rising to new life,  
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin  
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.  
Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,  
and again giving thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the Mystery of Faith

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

As our Saviour Christ has taught us so we 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.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

As this broken bread was once many grains,  
which have been gathered together and made one bread:  
**so may your Church be gathered  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

*The invitation to communion is given in these words.*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

Come, this is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.  
All are welcome at his supper.

Anthem at the Church of the Resurrection  
Come to me, Margaret Rizza

The Sending out of God's People

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Strengthen for service, Lord,  
the hands that have taken holy things;  
may the ears which have heard your word  
be deaf to clamour and dispute;  
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit;  
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love  
shine with the light of hope;  
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body  
be refreshed with the fullness of your life.

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Send us out by the power of your spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Post Communion Hymn

691 Faith will not grow from words alone.  
(suggested alternative: 440 Christ, from whom all blessings flow)

The Blessing and Dismissal

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 upon you and remain with  
you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.**

Postlude at Church of the Resurrection  
Marziale, Théodore Dubois

## This week in the Parish

### **Sunday August 11<sup>th</sup> Pentecost 9C**

9.00 am	Holy Communion	St Paul's, Gisborne
10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	Church of the Resurrection, Macedon
4.00 pm	EfM	Church of the Resurrection, Macedon

### **Monday August 12<sup>th</sup>**

9.30 am	Play Group	Parish Hall, Gisborne
12.30 am	Play Group	Parish Hall, Gisborne
1.30 pm	Card Group	Parish Centre

### **Tuesday August 13<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	Play Group	Parish Hall, Gisborne
1.30 pm	Bible Study	Parish Centre
7.30 pm	Parish Executive	Vicarage

### **Wednesday August 14<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	Eucharist	St Paul's, Gisborne
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### **Thursday August 15<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	DEADLINE PEW BULLETIN	
6.00 pm	Meeting AA	Parish Centre, Gisborne

### **Friday August 16<sup>th</sup>**

### **Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup>**

9.00am	KYB4M	McDonald's Meeting Room
5.30 pm	Eucharist	St John's, Riddells Creek

### **Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup> Pentecost 10C Vietnam Veteran's Day**

9.00 am	Eucharist	St Paul's, Gisborne
10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	Church of the Resurrection
4.00 pm	EfM	Church of the Resurrection

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Vicar:	Fr Dennis Webster (03) 9012 3365 (will relay to a mobile service)	
Wardens:	Alison Kitching, Tony Woodgate, Mary Duggan	

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**BCA Coin boxes** - Thank-you to those concerned for the 8 boxes returned with proceeds amounting to \$162.50.