

Beethoven's Sixth Symphony

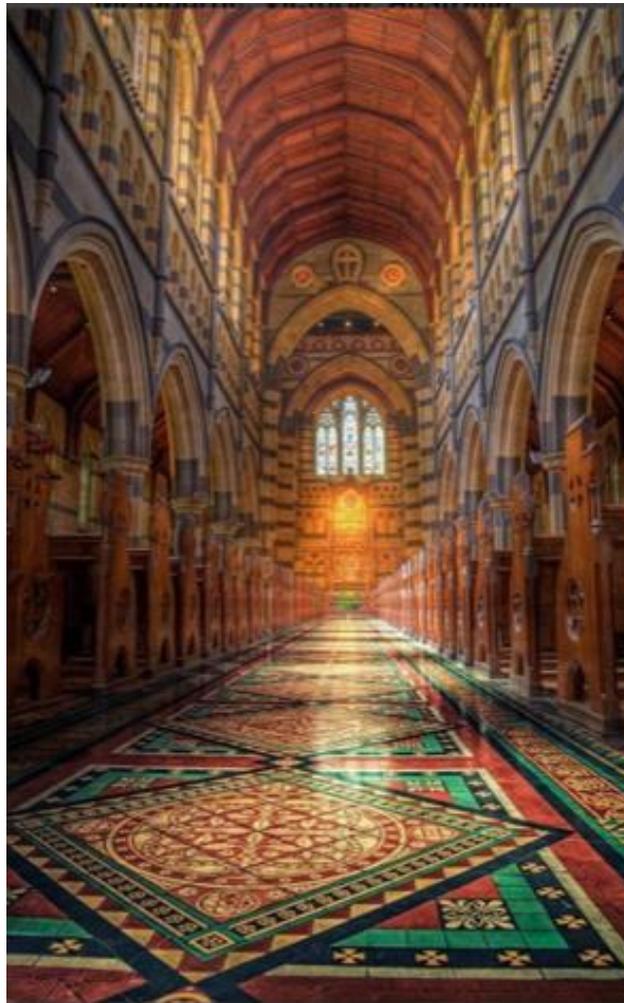
<https://youtu.be/bXQ4zK6TU7E>

A Pilgrim Liturgy (Readapted)

All Saints' Anglican Parish Newtown & Geelong West

Holy Communion in Stage 3 restrictions

Sunday 6 September 2020



St. Paul's Cathedral (image from Open House)

The Liturgy begins at home.

Hymn- "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

<https://youtu.be/GenHMi5B7>

The Greeting

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Prayer of Preparation

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

The Two Great Commandments.

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

J.S. Bach - Cantata BWV 191 Gloria in Excelsis

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eChEWK_4B3Q&feature=youtu.be



Our Spring garden- +Philip

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.

Collect and The Ministry of the Word

Readings for the day (separate sheet)

Hymn-"Lead, Kindly Light"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fNjEgbsNml&feature=youtu.be>

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.**

The Reflection

REFLECTION ON UNITY BASED ON MATTHEW 18:20 "JESUS IN OUR MIDST"

A charism of love, which creates unity in the human family! Isn't this our call today, as disciples of Jesus ?

During WW2, when everything seemed to have collapsed , a young woman in N. Italy made the God of love the ideal of her life. With some others, Chiara Lubich began to live the Gospel in daily life - trusting in God's providence and presence. "Jesus in our midst "was her phrase for today's Gospel sentence and promise:" Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them".(Mt18:20)

This is so counter-cultural. Jesus in our midst not just at big epic events, but also in our small Church and home gatherings. Jesus in our midst in these new

circumstances, when the pandemic prevents us gathering but, through our shared Liturgies, we worship together, even whilst at home .(We have had to be innovative. A benefit might be that we have dissolved a little of the customary split between the active Worship Leader and the more passive congregant. Now more engagement is needed. Our Liturgies only live as worship, through our prayerfulness in our home “chapels”..)

The disruptions to the physical community caused by the pandemic are what they are. Jesus is in our midst, as ever. Chiara Lubich called her pilgrimage a “divine adventure”, convinced that the Gospel lived out is the solution to every personal and social problem.

Jesus prayer, “May they all be one,” (John 17:21) , became the reason for her life. .. “ We were born for unity , to contribute to its realisation in the world”, said Chiara as a spirituality of unity evolved from post WW2 Italy across the world ,becoming progressively more ecumenical and interfaith as the Focolare movement, now a movement influencing millions.

Synchronistically, I have heard these same sentiments whilst listening to our First Nation Christian leaders, these past days: A charism of agape love , trusting Jesus in our midst who is calling us into deeper unity . To this end , those I have listened to , grateful as they are for much , nevertheless clearly articulate the journey ahead, through repentance to reconciliation: Repentance for those times of inter - tribal violence before white settlement; for residual bitterness and hatred about the diseases and dispossession caused by white settlement; for family violence .

These are such searching , honest conversations as we prepare for our National Days of Prayer on September 26-27 in Solemn Assembly.(Remembering our context is also vividly the suffering of our First Nation people caused by dispossession, racism and much more which requires repentance on the path to reconciliation.)

These leaders of deep faith can say some things others of us cannot say. One leader, speaking of God’s sovereignty, reminded us that everything we have is a gift . Including the land. Hence, one Elder offers the Aaronic blessing when asked to do a “Welcome to country”.

Behind our praying on September 26-27 is the understanding: “This land belongs to God...who is taking it back. ”.Texts of significance include “Jesus is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow “. (Hebrews 13:8).

On the basis of this, some Elders speak of asking Jesus to go back into the past to provide healing. An Elder who had struggled with a hatred for his father who had abandoned the family and therefore had not been there for his son , including to teach him the traditional ways , asked Jesus to go back and heal that past.. So he, here and now, has been able to let go of that hate, in the grace of Jesus.

The healing power of our Risen Lord Jesus knows no barriers of time and space. Says one beloved sister, " Jesus can heal the ancestral binds when we pray, that need to be lifted and let go of, for us to know and find peace."

The leadership of our First Nation Christian leaders opens up new possibilities for our reconciliation, thus for our unity as disciples of Jesus, in service of our nation. Our conversations have drawn us to Jesus' prayer in John17." May they all be one." The pathway involves repentance by all of us .."We have got to get rid of the junk in us ," said one who was describing why she and others have gone to isolated sites of former sadness to pray for healing.

Our beautiful Indigenous leaders that I have been listening to, speak with such intimate knowing of Jesus. "Jesus stopped for the individual " , one reminded us as she recounted those Gospel instances. Jesus stopped for the individual, as Jesus stops for each of us, in spirit and in truth.

My friend, +Stephen Pickard has written a beautiful article on how we break the cycles of violence, taking account of Mahatma Gandhi's example. In it he quotes what our recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature, novelist Patrick White, had to say about the example for us of Mahatma Gandhi: "Humility and simplicity are imperative for our survival and meaningful relationships."

With humility and simplicity, Gandhi tried to do what we are trying to do in our Australia - cultivate a deeper unity through truthful living in a spirit of generous and sacrificial service.

This week, I was asked to contribute to a Wellness Retreat for folk in our 112 providers of settlement support to newly arrived vulnerable migrants and refugees. In discussing this with the organisers , my topic is "A Compassionate Heart for a Compassionate Continent".

Those of us involved in preparing the Solemn Assembly have a shared prompting that our God wants us to have a high view of Australia 's potential and

responsibility. Our call is to be unified hope - bearers in a world that is so conflicted.

For us to be a Compassionate Continent, the inner work must be done. A Compassionate Heart evolves by grace and by our best efforts to live in the way of Jesus. As I have listened to our Indigenous Christian leaders, these past days , their humility and sincerity in truth- seeking is so ennobling . Even the naming of matters which require repentance, as summarised above, takes us towards new possibilities for deeper unity.

A “compassionate heart “evolves as we humbly seek to be truthful with ourselves and one another, giving and forgiving, as we pray to be in the oneness of Jesus prayer (John17.) A compassionate heart evolves as we remain open to learning from others in our pursuit of truthful living. This has its own authority. As Gandhi once said to some Christian missionaries: “A rose does not need to preach. It simply spreads its fragrance. The fragrance is its own sermon”.

Breaking the cycles of violence, both in attitude and deed, is the greatest challenge to a deeper unity based on agape love. Currently we are observing American cities exploding after single acts of violence, notwithstanding the pleas for only peaceful protest by the victims’ families . Unless we keep doing our unifying work here, in the spirit of Jesus humble love , we know the same potential also sits close to our surface . We know too that there are extremist groups, like parasites , feeding off stereotypes of hateful attitudes , to fuel further division.

+Stephen reminds us that John Henry Newman’s hymn, “ Lead, Kindly Light” was a favourite of Gandhi ‘s as it contained “ the quintessence of all philosophy”. He meditated daily on the prayer for sufficient divine light to fall upon the next step, as we also do now, in preparation for this Solemn Assembly, September 26-27.

“Lead ,kindly light, amid the encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on, The night is dark and I am far from home ,
Lead Thou me on; Keep thou my feet, I do not ask to see
The distant scene, - one step enough for me.” May it be so .
Yes,” Lead kindly light”, as we pray to live with agape love and build the unity for which Jesus prays.

BLESSINGS OF AGAPE LOVE,+Philip Huggins.

Nobel Peace Prize Concert

<https://youtu.be/Dv5hdYNiPLU>

Hasta la Raíz- Song Across Latin America

<https://youtu.be/cUaKBGnn2DQ>

But the God we worship in Christ is universal, and the hope he offers is good news for us all. Here are some of my favourites images of Christ from around the world.

What are yours?



From Archbishop Justin Welby

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sun 6 Pray for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa (Abp Thabo Makgoba); Diocese of Sydney, Brighton Grammar, St Oswald's Glen Iris, St Paul's Kew East.

Years Mind 7- 13 Sept

Malcolm Forster, Florence Rudolph, Neil McDonald, Lorna Fletcher, Lilian Philips, Francis Lunn, Charles Oakley, Janet Brown, Stuart Hill, Isobel Hands, Graeme Williams, Marie Brooke-Ward and John McClelland

We pray for the peace of the world.

We pray for the welfare of your holy Church.

We pray for seasonable weather.

We pray for children, all God's children.

We pray for those in need.

We pray for ourselves and for each other.

We praise you, Lord God, for the communion of saints and for the glorious hope of the resurrection to eternal life.

Our prayer in support of our Incumbency Committee.

“ Bountiful God ,give to our All Saints Parish a faithful pastor
 who will faithfully speak your word
 and minister your sacraments;
 an encourager who will equip your people for ministry
 and enable us to fulfil our calling with warm and generous hearts.
 Give your discerning wisdom to those who will choose: our John, Dinah and
 Peter along with+ Kate. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

Psalms 104- sung in Ancient Hebrew

<https://youtu.be/--UABwqW9Sg>

**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.**

Confession and Kyrie

Lord, we have sinned in thought, word and deed:
 Lord have mercy
 Lord have mercy
 We are truly sorry and we ask you to forgive us:
 Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy

Help us by your Spirit to live in newness of life:

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Hebrews 7:25- "Jesus is able for all time to save those who draw near to God through Him, since Jesus always lives to make intercessions for them". (ABPA Pg. 39)

For those able the Pilgrimage continues at All Saint's Church Hall driveway for the sacrament from 10am-11am.

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.

Hymn- "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

<https://youtu.be/dHMYwvGMLoI>

Reception of Holy Communion in Hall Driveway

The Sending out of God's people

Living God, in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.

May the power of your love,

which we have known in word and sacrament,

continue your saving work among us,

give us courage for our pilgrimage,

and bring us to the joys you promise.

All say together

Father, we offer ourselves to you

as a living sacrifice

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Blessing

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 among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

In the name of Christ. Amen

We Pilgrimage on together in the grace of Jesus- praying a blessing on our Australia.

“All Things Bright and Beautiful.”

<https://youtu.be/bjbktnTuV30>

Parish News

For Your Prayers

Hassan and family, Clive S, Rev'd Jill McCoy and Rev'd Carlie. Please continue to keep in your prayers those who are elderly and frail including Anne S, Shirley P, Joy, Clarice, Dot W and Jean. Prayers for those on our parish phone communication list.

The trolley with jams, masks and Helen's vegetable bags will be in the driveway again from 10-11am on Sunday. Nearly our own Farmer's market!

Family Safety Champion- All Saints' has a new Champion! Thank you Carolynne Etulain.

Parish AGM- Sunday 29th November at 11.30am (after Church)

Orders for 2021 Lectionaries are being taken- please advice Christine if you would like one ordered- cost remains at \$15.



To keep us connected, this section will be for what you might like to share- a story, a photo, poem, painting??

A message from Dinah- Mercy Health where I work, has a set of values/terms they adhere to and Stewardship is one of them (S being the fifth letter in the word CHRIST). I think from memory the others are Compassion, Hospitality, Respect, Innovation, Stewardship and Teamwork.

This month Mercy Health is celebrating Stewardship and thanking their team and reminding all of the importance of taking care of us.

STEWARDSHIP 'the act of protecting and being responsible for something worth caring for, preserving and growing'.

