

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

28 January 2024

HYMN

127 Holy God we praise your name

545 Shout for Joy

142 Glory be to God the Father



SENTENCE

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.

COLLECT

God of compassion, you have shown us in Christ that your love is never ending: enable us both to love you with all our heart and to love one another as Christ loved us. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

A reading from Deuteronomy:

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak - that prophet shall die.'

Deuteronomy 18.15-20

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

We say the verses of Psalm 111 alternately:

Alleluia. I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the faithful and in the congregation.

The works of the Lord are great, sought out by all who delight in them.

His work is full of majesty and honour and his righteousness endures for ever.

He appointed a memorial for his marvellous deeds; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

He gave food to those who feared him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He showed his people the power of his works in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are truth and justice; all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever; they are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have those who live by it; his praise endures for ever.

Psalm 111

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Christians in Corinth:

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'all of us possess knowledge.' Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that 'no idol in the world really exists', and that 'there is no God but one.' Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth - as in fact there are many gods and many lords - yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 'Food will not bring us close to God.' We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling-block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak

believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

1 Corinthians 8.1-13

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light; a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus went to Capernaum with his disciples; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching - with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Mark 1.21-28

This is the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

PRAYERS

Anglican Church: St Mark's Anglican Church Camberwell (Vaughn Spring, Stephen Hale, Locum, Angus Monro, David Shannon); The Anglican Church of Australia (Primate Abp Geoffrey Smith, General Secretary Anne Hywood, the General Synod & the Standing Committee); Anglican Men's Society; The Anglican Church of Southern Africa (The Abp Thabo Cecil Makgoba); St James & St Peter's Kilsyth and Montrose.

For the Parish: Give thanks for those who support our parish life: the Op Shop team, Maintenance committee, the Parish Treasurer and Bookkeeper and office support, and those who contribute through rostered help at each centre; and pray that they do this all in the name of Jesus, who called people to serve others.

For the sick & in need, and those who have ongoing need for strength, courage and peace of heart, mind and soul in their journey:

Keiran & Paul, Deirdre B, John & Barbara B, Lorraine D, Helen & Geoff D, John F, Nan L, Jane & Peter M, Barbara McN, Janet N, Pauline R, Jenny S, Mary & Ian S, Ray & Marion W, Boris Z and those known to us in need of our prayers.

Year's Mind

2nd Eric Davis (2001), Joan Bruce (2017)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

29th Betsy Newman
30th Pedro & Linda Dwyer (anniv)
1st Helen Clement, Elizabeth Rickey
4th Mary Freijah