

As a Christian community, meeting together to worship God, we affirm to ensuring the safety of each child who interacts with our community.

Our statement of commitment for Child Safety is available on our website or in the Narthex of each Parish Centre.

Mission Statement: To live as disciples of Christ Embracing his teaching of love and service to all.

Vision Statement: To be known as God's people of prayer, to be welcoming of all our sisters and brothers by being inclusive and sensitive to diversity,

DIARY THIS WEEK

Monday 25th. November ANGLICARE collecting donated Christmas Gifts
James Noble, pioneer Aboriginal deacon (d.1941)

Tuesday 26th. November
Ember Day

Wednesday 27th. November 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's
Ember Day

Thursday 28th. November 10.00 am. Playgroup at St. Linus'
Ember Day

Friday 29th. November 10.45 am. Reserved Sacrament at Craigcare Aged Care Facility
11.00 am. Gospel Reflection group at St. Matthew's

Saturday 30th. November 10.00 am. Parish Council at St. Matthew's
ANDREW, APOSTLE and MARTYR

Sunday 1st. December 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'
ADVENT SUNDAY 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

CHRISTMAS in the PARISH

Dates and times available next week

Pew Leaflet Notices:

Please give to, or phone Glenda Owen,
or e-mail: please use - gonana7@bigpond.com - by 7 pm. Wednesday

The Anglican Parish of Glenroy / Hadfield / Merlynston



St Matthew's
cnr Widford St. &
Melbourne Ave.
Glenroy 3046

with

St Linus'
cnr Glyndon Ave. &
Delta Ave.
Merlynston 3058



PARISH PRIEST: The Reverend Jo-Anne Wells
Phone: 9306 9528
Mobile 0414 822 095
Email: priest@matthewlinus.org.au

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST: The Venerable Philip Newman OAM
Mobile 0491 390 650 Email: pjnewman2@bigpond.com

PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.com

Honorary Lay Minister
Glenda Owen: 9306 9092

Honorary Lay Parish Readers
Bev. Lacock: 9309 2775
Lois Erickson 0421 327 159
Kerryn Pratchett 0409 306 818



CHRIST the KING

Last Sunday
after Pentecost

24th. November
2019

WELCOME

Our service begins on page 119 of 'A Prayer Book for Australia' (green book)
and hymns are found in 'Together in Song' (Red book).
The number of each hymn is clearly displayed in the church.
At St. Matthew's the service can be followed on the screens.
Please join us for morning tea, following the service.

During the 10.30 am. Service at St. Matthew's each Sunday,
Opportunity will be available to receive one-on-one prayer
for any personal needs.
Please go to the Chapel area after you have received Communion.

Acknowledgement of Land

(An act towards reconciliation by the Parish of Glenroy / Hadfield / Merlynston)

For thousands of years indigenous people have walked in this land, on their own country.
Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives .
We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation,
for their stewardship throughout the ages.

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION WAFERS ARE AVAILABLE

If you require Gluten free wafer,
Please speak to the Lay Assistant or a Welcomer, BEFORE the Service.

Sentence: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion ! Shout aloud, O daughter of 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. Zechariah 9. 9;

Collect: Eternal God, you exalted Jesus Christ to rule over all things, and have made us instruments of his kingdom; by your Spirit empower us to love the unloved, and to minister to all in need, then at the last bring us to your eternal realm, where we may be welcomed into your everlasting joy, and may worship and adore you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings

Jeremiah 23. 1-6;

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

For the PSALM - The Song of Zechariah - page 10 - APBA;

Blessèd be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant, David.
Through his holy prophets, God promised of old,
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us.
To show mercy to our forebears;
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,



GLENROY CAROLS

14th. December 2019

WISEMAN HOUSE GARDEN

7.00 pm. - 9.00 pm.
All Welcome

Carol Singing

Moreland City
SALVATION ARMY BAND

**Come join us for this
Community event**

**Coffee Van Sausage Sizzle
Face Painting**

BYO Chairs, Rugs, Picnic, Esky

Songsheet available at the event or
on website
www.imatthewlinus.com

MERLYNSTON CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Saturday 21st. December 2019

BAIN RESERVE Merlyn St. 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm.



ALL WELCOME

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PAGEANT

See Mary and Joseph arrive with their Donkey to the stable surrounded by Angels, Shepherds and the Three Wise Men

Local children will participate in the Nativity story

CAROL SINGING SALVATION ARMY BAND

A VISIT FROM SANTA

Come join us for this community event

BYO chairs, rug, esky

Organised by St. Linus' Anglican Church
& The Salvation Army



Christmas Challenge

Beginning on 1st. December,
Each evening, read one chapter of
The Gospel according to Luke in the Bible.

There are 24 chapters.

On Christmas Eve, you will have read the whole
account of Jesus's life
and wake up on Christmas Morning
knowing Who and Why we Celebrate Christmas



Free to worship him without fear;

holy and righteous before him, all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.

To give his people knowledge of salvation;

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God;

the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death;

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;

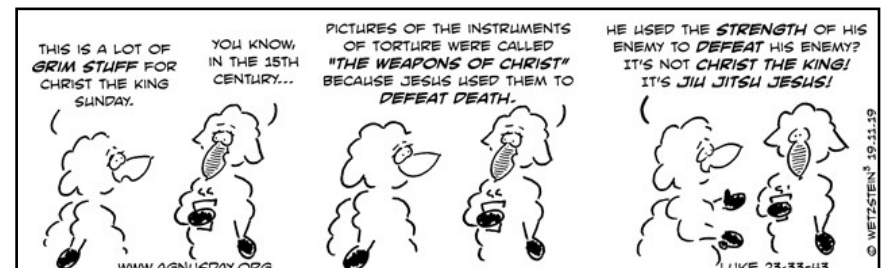
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

Colossians 1. 11–20;

Brothers and sisters: May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL Luke 23. 33–43;

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'



**CHRIST the KING
24th, November 2019**

REIGN of CHRIST

What images of God do we find in the scriptures? The letter to the Colossians offers an ancient hymn that refers to Jesus, in extravagantly theological language, as “the image of the invisible God.” The prophet Jeremiah refers to God as a shepherd, distressed by human rulers who have “scattered my flock.” In the first reading from Luke, Zechariah sings of a God who has been actively involved throughout human history. At the end of the gospel of Luke, Jesus is shown on the cross, asking God’s forgiveness for his persecutors. How do we see God and how can we speak of God? Today’s scriptures provide several different images by which the faithful have come to know God and testified to God’s nature.

Focus scripture

Colossians 1:11–20 How does Christ’s kingship differ from earthly kingship? When the letter was written to the church in Colossae, images of Caesar, head of the Roman Empire and widely proclaimed to be divine, abounded in statues and on coins. In this passage, the writer, identified as Paul, boldly claims that God dwells not in Caesar but in Jesus. Whereas Rome maintained peace, Pax Romana, through brute force, such as the frequent execution of political trouble-makers, Jesus brings peace through self-sacrifice (the blood of the cross). Jesus is no mere cult hero, Paul claims, but the embodiment of the wisdom involved in creating the universe. Caesar may provide an image of a political empire, but Jesus offers an image of the invisible God. Considered one of the earliest Christian hymns, this passage provides an alternative vision to Pax Romana, proclaiming that Christ fully embodies God’s benevolence, wisdom, and peace. Jeremiah witnessed the final years before Jerusalem fell to Nebuchadnezzar in 597 BCE.

In Jeremiah 23:1–6, he calls earlier kings of Israel to account, holding them responsible for the fact that the people of Judah are now being scattered into exile. His message of “woe” to the leaders who have misused their powers for personal gain, at the expense of the well-being of God’s children, speaks to his compassion for the victims, the “sheep.” The image of shepherd is often used in scripture to refer to kings, defining their roles as those meant to keep peace, defend people from attack, and hold the community together. Jeremiah indicts leaders for not only failing to gather the sheep together, but scattering them – the epitome of a bad shepherd. In response, Jeremiah proclaims, God will assume the role of shepherd, gathering the scattered sheep from exile, and providing a new ruler who will govern according to God’s plan. “The Song of Zechariah,” in Luke 1:68–79 sometimes known as the Benedictus, is the second of three Lucan psalms, collectively known as the “Odes.” Mary offers the first, the Magnificat, upon hearing that she is to bear the Christ, and Simeon offers the third, when he sees the baby Jesus in the temple. Zechariah, the father of John the baptizer, has been mute since learning of his impending fatherhood. Now, presenting his eight-day old son John in the temple, Zechariah offers this song of praise, proclaiming that God has been active throughout history and continues to be active here and now. In his song, Zechariah previews several themes of Luke’s gospel: God remains faithful, God’s way is salvation, God’s path is peace. At the time that Luke’s gospel is being written, the Romans have destroyed the Jerusalem temple. Luke presents the life story of two men born into Pax Romana, John and Jesus, both of whom were executed under Roman rule. Zechariah’s song not only proclaims a message of peace into a world familiar with war, but offers a vision of a God far more powerful than the political forces responsible for these and many more executions, a God who proclaims forgiveness, salvation, and peace.

Jesus’ execution reported in **Luke 23:33–43** demonstrates Rome’s sovereignty and power. Soldiers mock Jesus as a powerless king, as he suffers the most degrading form of execution, designed to publicly humiliate “enemies of the Roman order.” While being crucified, Jesus prays to God on behalf of his torturers and persecutors. Through this imagery from Jesus’ life, Luke offers two contrasting views on peace; the political way of maintaining Pax Romana, and Jesus’ way: forgiveness of one’s enemies.

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While throughout the ages, powerful people, like the Roman Emperors, have made claims for themselves of being godlike, or divine, the images of God provided in this week’s readings contest those claims. Through prophecy, song, and story, the scriptures offer images of God that notably contrast with images of those currently in positions of power

REFLECTION

**Gracious God, our shepherd, our guide, our sovereign,
you reach out to gather us to you in so many different ways,
showing us over and over how your realm of grace and love
differs from the powers and principalities of our own age,
which we witness in our daily lives.**

Open our eyes, that we may see you more clearly. Amen.



Gifts *Handmade Cards*

Saturday 7th. December
10.00 am. to 2.00 pm.

**CHRISTMAS
MARKET**

**In the grounds of Wiseman House
cnr. Widford St. & Melbourne Ave.
Glenroy**

Secondhand Books *Sausage Sizzle*
Craft & Bric-a-Brac