

*As a Christian community, meeting together to worship God, we affirm our commitment 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, open to change and growing as a community by the love and grace of Christ.*

### DIARY THIS WEEK

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION - 27th. May to 3rd. June

Wednesday 29th. May 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

Thursday 30th. May  
**ASCENSION DAY**

Friday 31st. May 10.45 am. Reserved Sacrament at Craigcare Aged Care Facility  
11.00 am. Gospel Reflection group at St. Matthew's

Saturday 1st. June 9.00 am. Garage Sale,  
10.00 am. New Craft & Bric-a-Brac, Secondhand Books at St. Matthew's

Sunday 2nd. June 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'  
**ASCENSION** 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's,

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Saturday 1st. June - GARAGE SALE, New Craft / Bric-a-Brac and Second-hand Books at St. Matthew's**

Sunday 9th. June - DAY of PENTECOST

Wednesday 12th. June - Eucharist at St. Matthew's and Mothers' Union Deanery/  
Northern Region gathering - M U Executive speakers -  
11am.-noon & 1.15 pm.-2.15 pm.  
Listening, Observing, Acting  
**All Welcome - BYO Lunch - Tea & Coffee supplied**

Saturday 15th. June - Working Bee at St. Matthew's  
- Card Making Workshop in Wiseman House

### Pew Leaflet Notices:

Please give to, or phone Glenda Owen,  
or e-mail: - gonana7@bigpond.com - by 8 pm. Tuesday

## The Anglican Parish of Glenroy / Hadfield / Merlynston



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

St. Linus'  
Cnr. Glyndon &  
Delta Aves.  
Merlynston



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: 0419 390 650 Email: pjnewman2@bigpond.com

PARISH WEBSITE - [www.matthewlinus.com](http://www.matthewlinus.com)

Honorary Lay Pastoral Minister  
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

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



**Sixth Sunday  
of  
Easter**

**26th. May  
2019**

**PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE BEFORE THE SERVICE COMMENCES. THANK YOU**

### WELCOME

*Our service begins on page 119 of 'A Prayer Book for Australia' (green book)  
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.  
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.

**PLEASE OBSERVE SILENCE  
PRIOR TO OUR SERVICE, DURING HOLY COMMUNION  
AND AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SERVICE**

**Catch up with one another in the Narthex or at Morning Tea**

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:** 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you,' says the Lord. 'Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid' John 14. 27;

**Collect:** Great and loving God, your will for us in your Son Jesus, is the peace which the world cannot give, your abiding gift, the Advocate he promised. Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear, and keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Readings**

**Acts 16. 9–15;**

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

**Psalms 67;**

- 1 Let God be gracious to us and bless us;  
**And make his face shine upon us.**
- 2 That your ways be known on earth,  
**your liberating power among all nations.**
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
**let all the peoples praise you.**

**PLEASE COME AND HELP  
WITH THIS FUNDRAISER**

**GARAGE  
SALE**

**RUMMAGE  
SALE**

**SATURDAY 1st. June**

**9.00 am. to Noon**

**in Wiseman House & Church Grounds  
cnr. Widford St. & Melbourne Ave.  
Glenroy**

**COME BROWSE**

**COME BUY**

**Secondhand Books**

**New Craft  
& Bric-a-Brac**

**If you have any fresh ideas for fundraising,  
please speak with the Churchwardens,  
Bev. Lacock, Beryl Davis, Tom Bowery**

## NOTICES

### FREE FORUM

to explore implications of  
**LEGALISED ASSISTED DYING ACT**

St. Thomas' Anglican Church 44 Station St. Burwood

7.30 pm. Wednesday 19th. June 2019

For more information please speak with Marie Brennan

A young friend of Marie Brennan is collecting empty Aluminium drink cans.  
The money raised from selling the cans he gives to a charity.

PLEASE SAVE EMPTY ALUMINIUM CANS  
**DO NOT CRUSH THE CANS**

There will be a collection bag or box in Narthex at St. Matthew's

### News and views on faith from Australia and around the world

The latest issue of **The NewsStand**, *TMA Online's* selection of the week's news and views on faith, is online. We'd be grateful if you could share it through your networks using the link <http://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/newsstand>

#### In this week's edition:

- Don't denigrate rational regional Queensland
- Farewell Bob Hawke, son of the manse
- Sydney Anglican leaders stand with Israel Folau and religious freedom
- What I wish I could have said as a Christian to Folau before he took to Instagram
- Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's royal wedding sermon lands UK religious broadcasting award
- This Side of the Wall
- UK inquiry's criticism of Church in Peter Ball case well deserved, says bishop whom Ball 'manipulated'
- Bishop of Lincoln 'bewildered' by his safeguarding suspension
- Discomfort Zone
- On first reading Boochani on Manus

- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing:  
**for you judge the peoples with integrity,  
and govern the nations upon earth.**
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
**let all the peoples praise you.**
- 6 Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness;  
**and God, our God, will bless us.**
- 7 God shall bless us;  
**and all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

#### Revelation 21. 10, 22 – 22.5;

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day – and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

#### GOSPEL John 14. 23–29;

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.'



## SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER

26th. May 2019

### WELCOMED NEWS

**Acts 16:9–15** depicts how a plea that welcomes help spurs the proclaiming of good news – and how that proclamation then finds eager and hospitable welcome from Lydia. Such welcomed news embodies the psalmist’s blessing and anticipates Revelation’s inclusive vision of healing waters. Its Sabbath setting underscores John’s promises of new life emboldened by the Spirit’s gift of peace.

### Focus Scripture

Acts 16:9–15 Until this point, the narratives of Acts in general and Paul’s journeys in particular have been third person plural (“they”). Verse 10 now begins the first of several “we” narratives. Does this mean the author (traditionally, Luke) joins Paul on his journey? The question is unresolved. The effect of “we” does heighten the sense of immediacy – and “welcomes” the reader/listener into the story. Geographical details provide location and surprise. Acts 16:6–8 relates that God’s Spirit bars Paul and his companions from further ministry in Asia Minor (present-day Turkey). Paul’s vision in verse 9 summons a journey to Macedonia, a region of the Balkan Peninsula in Europe. Yet, the central character of this story, besides Paul, is Lydia, who comes from the city of Thyatira (today, Akhisar) in Asia Minor. Thus the first convert to the early church in Europe is an Asian woman. Who is Lydia? She is a “dealer in purple cloth,” a profession that may explain her being the head of her own household. The original dye for purple cloth came from a painstaking process using large quantities of shellfish called murex. The resulting expense made purple cloth a luxury reserved for the wealthy or royalty. But artisans from Thyatira, Lydia’s hometown, discovered how to create purple dye from the root of common shrubs known as madder. They could have produced purple cloth at less cost, thus increasing the profit and/or market for dealers such as Lydia. Lydia is also revealed to be a “worshipper of God.” The term references Gentiles who worshipped at synagogues. Cornelius was such an individual (Acts 10:1–8), as seems to be the centurion in Luke 7:1–10. Paul normally went to a town’s synagogue to preach or teach. Here, Paul goes to a riverside “place of prayer” on the Sabbath. This detail may indicate Philippi did not have a synagogue (ten men were required to convene a synagogue). The text does not explain why only women gathered here. It may hint at Lydia’s influence in hosting community. That detail comes to the fore at story’s end, where Lydia “urges” (the same Greek verb used in verse 9’s “pleading”) Paul to accept her offer of hospitality. The consequence of that offer is lasting. The final verse of Acts 16 indicates that Lydia’s home serves as the gathering place for the Philippian Christian community. Psalm 67’s call to praise extends far beyond Israel, summoning all nations and peoples of the world. Creation imagery provides another detail of the song’s expansive vision in the linkage of Earth’s fruitfulness as sign of God’s blessing, a blessing pronounced in the first verse by using a portion of the Aaronic blessing (Numbers 6:24–26). Revelation 21:10, 22–22:5 contains a portion of the vision of the heavenly Jerusalem. God’s presence in the city will shed such light that dispatches night and removes the necessity of a temple to symbolize holy encounter. Drawing on the imagery of Genesis 2:8–10, a river will run through the city, whose waters are life, nurturing a tree that brings healing to the nations. John 14:23–29 narrates Jesus’ promise of the Spirit to dwell with the disciples. On the eve of his death, the words blend comfort and the gift of peace along with the urging of faith expressed in love. John 5:1–9 relates the Sabbath healing of an invalid beside the pool of Bethzatha (Bethesda) in Jerusalem. New life finally comes to one who had been unable to find healing here before.

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Welcoming – and welcomed – news permeates today’s readings. A woman of Asia opens her heart and then her home. A psalmist of Israel evokes a song of blessing that seeks a chorus of voices as diverse as all the world’s peoples. Jesus invites disciples to trust in promised news, and heals a man whose life had been paralyzed in time. A prophetic seer pronounces news that the future is a place of holy welcome. What of faith’s news do you most welcome – and by what practices do you extend its welcome to others .

### REFLECTION

God of all nations and peoples, may our gatherings in your name be marked with the wideness of your embrace, with the welcome of your love, and with our eager receptiveness to your ways.  
Send your Holy Spirit to flow among us as a life-giving river, granting us and all creation your peace. **Amen.**



### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION 27th. May to 3rd. June

As we pray for Reconciliation may we remember that May 27 and June 3 are important dates in Australia’s history. May 27 marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. June 3 marks the historic 1992 Mabo decision in which the High Court of Australia recognised native title—the recognition that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ rights over their lands did survive British colonisation; and so we acknowledge that we gather today on the land of (WURUNDJERI people of the Kulin nation - and pay our respects to their elders both past and present, for they hold the memories, the culture and the wisdom upon which our nation’s future will be built.

### Prayers

Lord, open up our hearts so that we may hear the message you teach of a world in which the wrongs of the past are recognised - a world in which a reconciled people walk and talk together sharing stories; a world in which all burn with the desire to have your peace and justice reign. We ask this in Jesus’ name. **AMEN**

Lord, we pray for Reconciliation:  
That the wrongs of the past may be recognized,  
That our awareness of the journey so far be awakened,  
And that the Spirit move us to walk the talk and see through what has been started.  
We ask this in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

Lord, God, bring us together as one, reconciled with you and reconciled with each other. You made us in your likeness, you gave us your Son, Jesus Christ. He has given us forgiveness from sin. Lord, God, bring us together as one, different in culture, but given new life in Jesus Christ, together as your body, your Church, your people. Lord God, bring us together as one, reconciled, healed, forgiven, sharing you with others as you have called us to do. In Jesus Christ, let us be together as one. **AMEN.**