

**ALL SAINTS**

**LAWRENCE**

**1868 — 2022**



**A LITURGY OF THANKSGIVING**

**24 April 2022**



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
LOLA ANNE KELSALL  
& STUART JAMES KELSALL

## Welcome

## Introduction

## Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling [TIS 217]

**Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown:  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave:  
thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be,  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee:  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.**

*Charles Wesley 1707–1788 alt.*

## Call to Worship

God, whose creative glory we see in the rushing wind  
and the swirling waters,  
**and whose love is revealed in the smile of a child,  
will remain with us.**

God, whom we have discovered in the scriptures,  
and who has discovered us,  
**and who comes clear to us in Jesus and in the lives of the saints,  
will remain with us.**

God, whom we encounter in the worship and service of faith communities,  
**whose Spirit is within the pastoral caring and the justice-seeking of this  
church, will remain with us.**

God, gracefully known in the hard places of our earthly life's journey,  
**and who laughs and celebrates joyfully with us here,  
will remain with us.**

God, who will be with us as this life ends,  
**who is with us in time and beyond time,  
will remain with us.**

Let us worship our loving and faithful God.

## Prayer of the Day

Bountiful God,  
to whose glory this building is dedicated:  
we praise you for the many blessings  
you have given to those who have worshiped here,  
and we pray that all who have sought you in this place may find you,  
and being filled with the Holy Spirit  
may become a living temple acceptable to you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



## **A reading from The Gospel of John chapter 20 verse 19 to 31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

For the Gospel of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord is King [*TIS* 216]

Rejoice, the Lord is King;  
your Lord and King adore;  
let all give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore;

*Refrain:*

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.*

*Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Jesus the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above: [*Refrain*]

His kingdom cannot fail,  
he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given: [*Refrain*]

He sits at God's right hand,  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet: [*Refrain*]

Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus the judge shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home:

*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound, Rejoice!*

*Charles Wesley 1707–1788 alt.*

## Reflections on 154 years of ministry

### A Litany of Thanksgiving

*The Dean moves to various locations around the Church as we remember with thanksgiving the ministry offered here over the past 154 years.*

#### *The Font*

At the baptismal font, which was a gift from The Ahrens and Harrison families, we remember with thanks the families who brought their children to this church for baptism. We give thanks for a long legacy of faith nurtured in our homes and shared across generations.

*Silence follows.*

For this sacred font, loving God,  
**We give you thanks.**

#### *The Pews*

These pews and the worshippers here today are reminders of the congregations who have gathered over the years for the Sunday services, funerals, weddings, and other celebrations that have taken place here.

*Silence follows.*

For worshippers over the years, loving God,  
**We give you thanks.**

#### *The Honour Boards*

These Honour Boards recognise service to country, courage in danger and a readiness even to lay down one's own life for friends. We give thanks for the men and women whose service has been honoured in this church over the past 100 years.

*Silence follows.*

For this memorial to valour, loving God,  
**We give you thanks.**

#### *The Lectern*

Here the Word of God has been read to the gathered people.

*Silence follows.*

For the gift of Scripture, loving God,  
**We give you thanks.**

### *The Bishop's Chair*

"In Memory of Lance Corporal E R Pullen killed in action in France

August 1916. Donated by his parents" We remember with thanks the Bishops of Grafton and Armidale who have faithfully exercised their role as shepherds of the faithful, and we pray especially for Bishop Murray our current Bishop.

*Silence follows.*

For those Bishops who have overseen ministry here, loving God,

**We give you thanks.**

### *The Altar*

This generous table has welcomed all the children of our Father. "The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?" (1 Cor 10:16)

*Silence follows.*

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.,

**We give you thanks.**

### *The Window*

A beautiful memorial to various members of the Kelsall family over the generations.

*Silence follows.*

We give thanks to the light that shone through the window into our hearts and minds

**We give you thanks.**

### *The Organ*

This organ and these hymn boards remind us of the congregation, the choir members, the organists, and all the other musicians who have proclaimed their faith here in hymns and songs.

*Silence follows.*

For voices in harmony, for voices united, loving God,

**We give you thanks.**

For all the gifts that have been generously donated from many different families over the years and have been used in our worship services.

**We give you thanks.**



## **Hymn**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation [TIS 111]

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation.  
Come all who hear,  
brothers and sisters draw near,  
praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord who in all things is wondrously reigning  
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining:  
have you not seen  
all that is needed has been  
sent by his gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work and defend us;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us:  
ponder anew  
what the Almighty can do  
as with his love he befriends us.**

**Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding,  
who, when the godless do triumph, our best hopes confounding.  
sheds forth his light,  
scatters the horrors of night,  
saints with his mercy surrounding.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.  
Let the Amen  
sound from his people again:  
gladly for ever adore him.**

## **A Prayer of Letting Go**

Loving God,  
We offer you our memories of this place, so dear to our hearts.  
We offer you the memories that we have heard.  
We offer you the memories that we keep deep within ourselves.  
Bless us as we bring these memories to mind  
and as we share our stories in the coming days.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who shared wonderful stories. **Amen.**

## **Sending out prayer**

God remains with us, though we let go of our cherished place. God remains with us, though we sing new songs and worship in new ways. God remains with us, though we serve in different ways and pursue different causes. God's love remains with us, God's justice will inspire us, God's realm will call us to action. God is eternally for us and with us.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Hymn**

To God be the glory, great things he has done! [*TIS* 147]

**To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life in atonement for sin  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in,**

*Refrain*

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!*

*Let the earth hear his voice!*

*Let the people rejoice!*

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory! great things he has done!*

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!*

**O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God!  
and every offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.**

*Refrain*

**Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.**

*Refrain*

*Frances Jane van Alstyne 1820–1915 alt.*

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH LAWRENCE

In 1865 Lawrence grew at a more rapid rate than Grafton. A church was built and opened on 8 December 1868. Only six weeks later the biggest cyclone to ever hit the town blew the church over and totally destroyed it.

Nine months later the church was up and running again.

The Reverend Charles Curry was the first full time clergyman of Lawrence Parish and a parsonage with five rooms and a verandah was built at the Eastern end of High Street overlooking the river in 1873.

Macleon Town gradually outgrew Lawrence and the All Saints church fell into disrepair, the parsonage was sold and church life was at a low ebb. In 1900 a new Parish called the Mid-Clarence was formed and was to last for 74 years embracing Lawrence, Ulmarra and Brushgrove.

In 1903 the new church of All Saints was built at the other end of High Street and land was set aside next to it for a parsonage and a school. These proposed buildings never eventuated.

In 1974 the parochial district of Mid Clarence was dissolved, and the Ulmarra Church was closed. This meant that Lawrence became part of the Maclean Parish. In 1979 a cyclone hit the town and All Saints was twisted off its stumps, the vestry, porch and sanctuary were detached from the nave and all the original coloured glass windows smashed. The Church was repaired and rededicated on 12 November 1980.

A review of the Maclean Parish which had five small centres was held in 2012 as congregations dwindled and the All Saints church was later added to the Grafton parish on a trial basis. The church continued under the Grafton Parish for a further decade, with The Dean or Associate Priest traveling there, from Grafton twice a month.



