



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

open doors ... open hearts ... open minds

A celebration of the
Holy Eucharist
for **EARTH SUNDAY**



22 April 2018

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Welcome to the Cathedral Church of Christ the King, commonly referred to as *Christ Church Cathedral*.

Since its dedication on the Feast of St James (25 July) in 1884, the Cathedral has exercised a special role in the City of Grafton and also in the life of the Anglican Diocese of Grafton, whose parishes, schools and other agencies serve communities throughout the Northern Rivers of New South Wales.

The Cathedral stands on the traditional lands of the Bundjalung nation. We acknowledge and pay our respect to their elders past and present, as well as to indigenous people with us today.

You are sharing in worship from *A Prayer Book for Australia*, which stands in the long Anglican tradition of ‘common prayer’ in which people, choir and clergy offer God and each other the best of ourselves (‘our souls and our bodies’) for the common good. We seek the peace and well-being of our nation, and especially our local community.

We are delighted that you are with us for this service: please come and worship with us again.

Whether you are Anglican, from another Christian Church or from another faith tradition, you are warmly welcome to take part in the service. If you want to find out more about the Christian faith, please make yourself known to a member of the clergy after the service.

The service today is a Baptism within a celebration of the Eucharist during which there will be an opportunity for people to receive Holy Communion. Communicant members of other Christian churches are invited to receive the Sacrament here today, as their own conscience allows. Everyone is welcome to come for a blessing, even if not receiving the consecrated Elements.

The Cathedral is open every day. You are always welcome to use the Cathedral and its grounds for prayer and reflection, and we encourage you to make this House of Prayer a place of pilgrimage and prayer for our City.



Visit the Cathedral web site for the latest news and information

GATHERING AND PREPARATION

Celebrant: The Revd Camellia Flanagan, Assistant Priest

Preacher: The Very Revd Dr Gregory C Jenks, Dean of Grafton

Musical setting: *Parish Eucharist* (Michael Dudman)

A small piece of rosemary, eucalyptus leaves or some other fragrant symbol may be given to people when they arrive as a reminder of our personal connection with creation.

Processional Hymn:

Where wide sky rolls down [TIS 188]

**Where wide sky rolls down and touches red sand,
where sun turns to gold the grass of the land,
let spinifex, mulga and waterhole tell
their joy in the One who made everything well.**

**Where rain-forest calm meets reef, tide and storm,
where green things grow lush and oceans are warm,
let every sea-creature and tropical bird
exult in the light of the life-giving Word.**

**Where red gum and creek cross hillside and plain,
where cool tree-ferns rise to welcome the rain,
let bushland, farm, mountain-top, all of their days
delight in the Spirit who formed them for praise.**

**Now people of faith, come gather around
with songs to be shared, for blessings abound!
Australians, whatever your culture or race,
come, lift up your hearts to the Giver of grace.**

Elizabeth J. Smith, 1956–

The priest greets the people.

In the name of God, who creates the planets,
In the name of Christ, born on planet Earth,
and in the name of the Spirit, who fills every corner of our world.

Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with God's presence.

A Sentence of Scripture

Let the heavens be glad and let Earth rejoice.

[Psalm 96:11]

Gathering Prayer

Christ, we gather in your name
to worship in this sanctuary called Earth,
**a planet filled with your presence,
quivering in the forests,
vibrating in the land,
pulsating in the wilderness,
shimmering in the rivers.**

God, reveal yourself to us in this place
and show us your face in all creation.

Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with your presence.

Rite of Reconciliation

A minister says.

As we rub this fragrant symbol in our hands we remember our wonder when we
first saw Earth as a green-blue planet spinning in space.

O God, we thank you for our planet home.

We remember and confess how we have violated and polluted our garden planet.

Christ, born on planet Earth, hear our cry.

Lord, we have treated our planet as disposable, as an endless pool of resources, as
a mere stopping place *en route* to heaven,

**Christ, born on planet Earth,
We have turned our greed into global warming,
We are sorry. We are sorry.**

The priest says

Christ hears your confession forgives your sins against the planet.

**Christ, teach us to love Earth as our home
and the planet as a precious sanctuary.**

I speak for Christ:

I invite you to celebrate Earth as your home
and to revere this planet as God's sanctuary.

Salaam! Shalom! Earth is our home!

The Hymn of Praise, Gloria in excelsis.

**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.

The Collect of the Day.

God our Creator,

as we reflect on the mystery of our fragile planet
help us to discern how we have failed as stewards of creation
and join our sadness with the groaning of creation.

Teach us to sense your presence pulsing through this planet
and to love Earth as our home;
through Christ, your eternal Word,
and the deep life in all creation. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading

[Genesis 2:4–9]

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

[Psalm 33:1–9]

**Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous.
Praise befits the upright.
Praise the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.
Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.
He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.
He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;
he put the deeps in storehouses.
Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.**

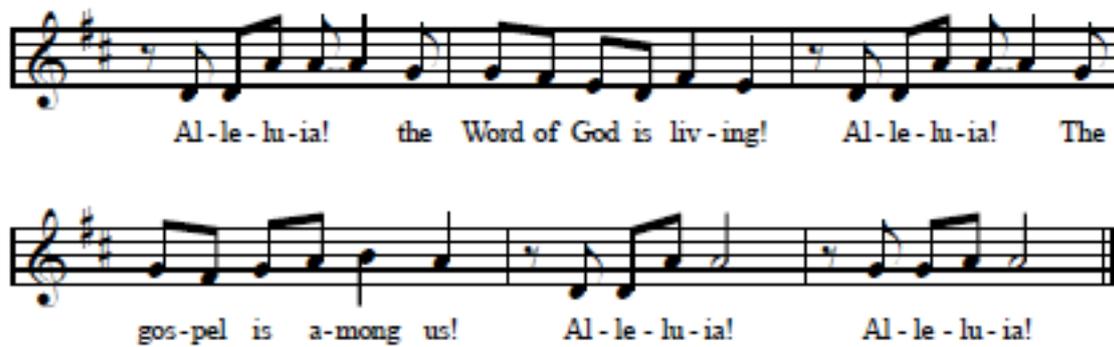
Second Reading

[Romans 1:18–23]

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Gospel

All stand for the Gospel reading, which may be introduced by the following chant.



[©Richard Bruxvoort, 2004. Used with permission of the composer.]

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

[John 1:1–14]

After the Gospel, the reader says

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

The Sermon

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

God creates all things,
renews all things and celebrates all things.

This we believe.

Earth is a sanctuary,
a sacred planet filled with God's presence,
a home for us to share with our kin.

This we believe.

God became flesh and blood,
a piece of Earth,
a human being called Jesus Christ,
who lived and breathed and spoke among us,
suffered and died on a cross
for all human beings and for all creation.

This we believe.

The risen Jesus
is the Christ at the centre of creation,
reconciling all things to God,
renewing all creation and filling the cosmos.

This we believe.

The Holy Spirit renews life in creation,
groans in empathy with a suffering creation
and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

This we believe.

**We believe that with Christ we will rise
and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A minister says

Let us pray for the world and the Church.

Loving God, creator of the Universe, you know every creature and its needs. With great trust we pray in the name of all creation. Creator God, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the beauty and abundance of the earth, our home, which you created for us to enjoy and sustain. We pray for all Clergy and people of faith in our Diocese and everywhere and those charged with responsibility to make decisions which affect us all. As people called into a covenant relationship with you, we pray for grace to live in harmony with your creation, and for wisdom and generosity in our use of its bounty. Creator God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the leaders of nations that they may speak out against exploitation of the resources of the earth. In an environmental catastrophe we pray for those living in poverty, silenced by the realities of global life but suffering the devastating effects of flood, drought, fire and climate change. Creator God, **hear our prayer.**

Give a spirit of concern for the future of our environment to all human beings. Bring an end to war and strife, so that people may no longer mourn and stand upon the rubble of destruction. May we live as responsible stewards and protect and respect the gift of creation God has placed in our hands. We pray that future generations may learn from the present and live simply and in harmony with all creation. Creator God, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the City of Grafton, the fellowship of the community in which we live and for the Clarence Valley Council and all who care for our parks, gardens and trees. We pray for the health of the Clarence River and the land of the valley, which gives abundant life to creatures of water, land and air. Creator God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. We give thanks that you are the God who brings mercy and wholeness. Give us strength and courage to change our ways, so this Earth may flourish under our care. Comfort and heal, we pray, all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other trouble, especially those who have asked for prayer: Roy Ford, Ruth Kingsley, Jan Pitt and Tammy Uren. Give to those who care for them wisdom, patience and gentleness and, to us all, your peace. Creator God, **hear our prayer.**

All creation lives and dies according to the cycle of life and returns to the dust from which we are made, but at the end of all things you will raise us to life to the community of your eternal kingdom. Fill us with your Spirit in our days on this Earth, so we may be fit and ready for the new heaven and new Earth you promise.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Through Jesus Christ, teach us to be at one with Earth.
Make our spirits sensitive to the cries of creation,
cries for justice from the seas, the skies and the land.
Make our souls sensitive to the songs of our kin,
songs of celebration from the sea, the land and the air.
Teach us to care for our planet home. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The Greeting of Peace is introduced with these or other suitable words.

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in Christ's name and share God's peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory hymn

Song of the Earth

**Hail the Earth that first appeared. Alleluia!
When a word from God was heard. Alleluia!
Let the Earth arise and be. Alleluia!
Filled with living mystery. Alleluia!**

**Hail the rainbow flying high. Alleluia!
Spun by God across the sky. Alleluia!
Giving Earth a solemn word. Alleluia!
Never to unleash a flood. Alleluia!**

**Hail the planet blue and green. Alleluia!
Where the face of God is seen. Alleluia!
Glory filling all the Earth. Alleluia!
Celebrating every birth. Alleluia!**

**Hail our body made with clay. Alleluia!
Given breath to praise and pray. Alleluia!
Clay God honoured by God's birth. Alleluia!
As a human life on Earth. Alleluia!**

**Hail the groans of Earth in pain. Alleluia!
From the weight of human sin. Alleluia!
Longing for the Christ who died. Alleluia!
All creation to revive. Alleluia!**

Words: © Norman Habel, 1999

The gifts of the people are brought to the Lord's Table.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer.
Fruit of the vine and work of human hands,
it will become our spiritual drink
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to give you thanks, loving Creator.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Your eternal Word called forth all things to be: for space, stars and stardust to appear, for Earth to emerge from the deep, for life to be born of Earth and for humans to be born of Earth and the Spirit.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Your Spirit is the life impulse in all things, renewing the barren and healing the wounded, groaning in anticipation of a new creation, stirring a new life born of water and the Spirit.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

You chose to be born a human being, to become a part of Earth, to suffer, die and rise from death to redeem humankind, to renew creation and to affirm all born of Earth and the Spirit.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Your presence is the living impulse in all things, the Christ deep among us, filling Earth—land, sea and air—filling every element and place, filling the grain and the grape we share with you this day.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Therefore with angels and archangels, ancient voices in the forest, high voices from the sky, deep voices from the sea and the whole company of creation we proclaim your presence among us, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And now we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine;
may we who receive them,
as Jesus said,
share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread,
and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said,
“Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks.
He shared the cup with them and said,
“This is my blood poured out
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

You have gathered us together
to feed on Christ
and to remember all he has done for us.

Fill us with your Spirit
that we may follow Jesus
in all we do and say,
working for justice and bringing your peace
to this world that you have made.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread.

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:
**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

The priest says

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Holy things for holy people.
Broken things for broken people.

Anyone who would normally receive Holy Communion in their own Christian tradition is welcome to receive the Sacrament with us here today. Those who prefer to receive a personal blessing from the priest rather than Holy Communion are invited to come to the Altar and simply cross their arms in front of them so the priest knows their desire.

Gluten-free wafers are available at the serving point closest to the Altar.

Music during Holy Communion

Pastorale, Psalm XXIII — Percy Whitlock

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The priest says

Bountiful God,
at this table you graciously feed us
with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.
May we who have reached out our hands to receive this sacrament
be strengthened in your service;
we who have sung your praises
tell of your glory and truth in our lives;
we who have seen the greatness of your love
see you face to face in your kingdom
and come to worship you with all your saints for ever.

Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.

Community notices and personal celebrations

Mission hymn

Stars and planets flung into orbit [TIS 186]

**Stars and planets flung into orbit,
galaxies that swirl through space,
powers hidden within the atom,
cells that form an infant's face:
these, O God, in silence praise you;
by your wisdom they are made.**

**Skies adorned with sunset splendour,
silent peaks in calm repose,
golden fields awaiting harvest,
foaming surf and fragrant rose:
earth, its bounty clothed with beauty,
echoes all creation's praise.**

**Life in wondrous, wild profusion,
seed and fruit, each flower and tree,
Eastern fish and swarming insect,
soaring bird, rejoicing, free:
these, your creatures, join in chorus,
praising you in wordless song.**

**Humankind, earth's deepest mystery,
born of dust but touched by grace,
torn apart by tongue and colour,
yet a single, striving race:
we, in whom you trace your image,
add our words to nature's song.**

**Gracious God, we bring before you
gifts of human life alone,
truth that throbs through song and story,
visions caught in paint and stone:
these, O God, we gladly offer,
gifts to praise the Giver's name.**

**Christ, the word before creation
as creation's final goal,
once you came for earth's redemption;
by your Spirit make earth whole:
then, O God, the new creation
will your praise for ever sing.**

Herman Steumpfle, 1923 –

The priest blesses the congregation.

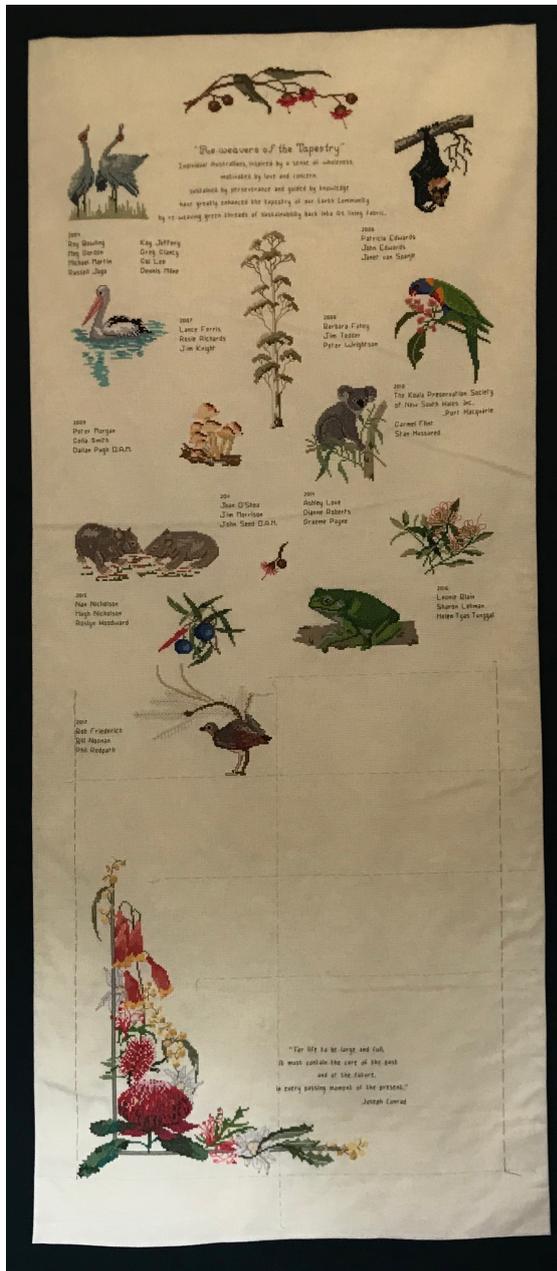
May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all,
fill you with the knowledge of God's presence in Earth
and the pulsing of Christ in creation,
through whom all things are reconciled and renewed;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

A minister may say

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia:
In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia.

Organ Postlude

Grand Choeur — Theodore Dubois



Re-Weavers of the Tapestry

This beautiful tapestry is an on-going community project as 'individual Australians, inspired by a sense of wholeness, motivated by love and concern, sustained by perseverance and guided by knowledge have greatly enhanced the tapestry of our Earth community by re-weaving green threads of sustainability back into its living fabric.'

The order of service is according to A Prayer Book for Australia, copyright 1995, the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation; published under the imprint of Broughton Books, and reproduced with permission, supplemented with resources from the Season of Creation web site. Hymns are from Together in Song, and are reproduced with permission under CCLI Licence No. 1966.

April 2018 @ Christ Church Cathedral



New Sunday Service Times

We are trialling a single Sunday service at **9.00am** during April and May and we hope this will prove to be a good way for the wider Anglican community in Grafton to gather at the Cathedral for worship and for other community celebrations. Our goal is to make this a family-friendly service and—as numbers build up—to add a Sunday School program.



Dean's Forum

Most Sundays each month (except during school vacations) we will now offer an opportunity for people to explore the amazing spiritual wisdom that we have in the Christian tradition. No questions are 'off limits' in these sessions, so we hope you might drop in from time to time and see what is happening in these forums from 10.30am to 12 noon.

Details of upcoming forum topics will be published on the dedicated Dean's Forum page on the Cathedral web site: www.graftoncathedral.org.au/dean-s-forum



Fifth Sundays at Christ Church

A fifth Sunday of the month is a day that invites us to think outside the box, so every fifth Sunday we plan to have a parish seminar after the 9.00am service and then enjoy a bring-and-share lunch. Our next fifth Sunday gathering is on **April 29**, so please join us as we share some exciting plans for future developments at the Cathedral.



Sing a new song!

Have you ever imagined yourself singing in the Cathedral Choir? We welcome new members to the Choir, so please contact our Director of Music, Robert Eather (0458 093 292), if you or your children are interested.



Acolytes Wanted

We are keen to recruit some additional young people to serve as acolytes (altar boys and altar girls in the old language) to assist with our 9.00am Sunday service. If this interests you, please contact Fr Greg (0426 067 344) to find out more about what this involves.



Cathedral Verger

We are seeking to appoint a new Verger. This role ensures all our worship supplies are ready and helps to organise and coordinate Sunday services, as well as assisting with funerals and weddings. It is a part-time role that offers a small fee for each funeral and wedding service. Please contact Fr Greg (0426 067 344) to find out more about what this ministry role involves.