

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

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



Sixth Sunday of Easter 5 May 2024

GATHERING AND PREPARATION

Setting: A Community Mass – Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

Introit: Cantáte Dómino - Plainsong

Entrance Hymn

This is my will, my one command TIS 641

This is my will, my one command, that love should dwell among you all. This is my will, that you should love as I have shown that I love you.

No greater love cane be than this: to choose to die to save one's friends. You are my friends if you obey what I command that you should do.

I call you now no longer slaves; no slave knows all his master does. I call you friends, for all I hear my Father say you hear from me.

You chose not me, but I chose you, that you should go and bear much fruit. I chose you out that you in me should bear much fruit that will abide.

All that you ask my Father dear for my name's sake you shall receive. This is my will, my one command, that love should dwell in each, in all.'

James Quinn (1919-2010)

Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country – The Dean

The priest greets the people in these words:

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Scripture Sentence

Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.'

John 15.16

Christ is Risen Alleluia!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Deacon says

Confession

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Silence may be kept.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

The Absolution

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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, receive, 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, Amen.

Collect

Loving God,
your Son has chosen us
and called us to be his friends:
give us grace to keep his commandments,
to love one another,
and to bear fruit which will abide;
through him who is the true vine,
the source of all our life,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading Acts 10.44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

- 1 O sing to the Lord a new song: for he has done marvellous things;
- 2 His right hand and his holy arm: they have got him the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his salvation: he has revealed his just deliverance in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of Israel:
 and all the ends of the earth
 have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth: break into singing and make melody.
- 6 Make melody to the Lord upon the harp: upon the harp and with the sounds of praise.
- 7 With trumpets and with horns: cry out in triumph before the Lord, the king.
- 8 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it: the good earth and those who live upon it.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands: and let the mountains ring out together before the Lord;
- 10 For he comes to judge the earth:

 he shall judge the world with righteousness,
 and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading

1 John 5.1-12

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has

testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.

All stand for the Gospel reading.

The Gospel - The Deacon

John 15.9-17

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

The Creed

The Deacon says

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures: he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead. and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the world and for the Church, Prayers are offered

The prayers conclude with

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

All stand

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Greeting of Peace is exchanged in a safe way.

Offertory Hymn

O for a closer walk with God TIS 576

O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame, a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb.

Where is the blessedness I knew when first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view of Jesus and his word?

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed, how sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void the world can never fill.

Return, O holy dove, return, sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known, whate'er that idol be, help me to tear it from thy throne and worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame; so purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

William Cowper (1731-1800)

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 priest says

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.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God. We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us. By his death on the cross, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin, and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people. And now we give you thanks that you raised him to life triumphant, and exalted him in glory. By his victory over death, the reign of sin is ended, a new day has dawned, a broken world is restored and we are made whole once more. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

> 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

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

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

The Lord's Prayer

The priest says: 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 THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread and says:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

All the children of God have a place at God's Table.

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 forward and simply cross their arms in front of them so the clergy know their desire. Gluten-free wafers are available on request.

Communion Anthem

Tantum Ergo – Gabriel Faure (1845-1924)

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The priest says:

Eternal God, giver of life, in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord. May we who celebrate this holy feast walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.

All say together:

Father,

we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit

Notices – The Dean

Mission Hymn

Joyful, joyful, we adore you TIS 152

Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, God of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

All your works with joy surround you, earth and heav'n reflect your rays, stars and angels sing around you, centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, singing bird and flowing fountain call to praise you joyfully.

You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest.
You our Father, Christ our brother, all are yours who live in love; teach us how to love each other, lift us to your joy above.

Henry Van Dyke 1852-1933 alt.

THE BLESSING

All stand

The priest then blesses the congregation:

Almighty God, who redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ, and has brought us out of slavery into everlasting freedom, give you joy and peace in faith and bring you to your eternal inheritance; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you this day and always. **Amen**.

The Deacon says:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude

Grand Chorus in Gregorian Tonality — Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

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Dean	The Very Reverend Naomi Cooke dean@graftoncathedral.org.au	0404 137 149	
Canon Pastor	The Revd Canon Camellia Flanagan priest@graftoncathedral.org.au	0417 928 914	
Deacon	The Reverend Grant Sparks deacon@graftoncathedral.org.au	0418 995 535	
Director of Music	Mr Robert Eather music@graftoncathedral.org.au	0458 093 292	
Parish Office	Ms Linda Butler parishoffice@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 2844	
Cathedral Bookshop	bookshop@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 3958	
Cathedral OpShop	Ms Linda Butler	02 6642 2844	
Prayers for those in need			
Joy Baldwin Sue Cotter Gail Gilmore Allen Madden Margaret Kay	Ruth Kingsley John McAnally Elaine Stephenson Roy Ford Joyce Clague	Kay Metcalfe Mervyn Kingsley Aneta Jones Grace Clague Kahla Clague	

Remembering those who have died

Year's Mind: Pearl Inwood, Laurie Pocock, Kathleen Wheatley, Maxwell Denton, Allan Schafer, Zoe Schmutter, Ollie Layton, Iris Sanders, Graham Lentfer & Edna Murray

Cathedral Prayer

Living and eternal Christ bless the ministry of this Cathedral as a place of pilgrimage, prayer and discovery. May our doors always be open to pilgrims, may our hearts always be open to one another, and may our minds always be open to new truth. Draw us deeply into the mystery of your life, your death and your resurrection, now and always. Amen.

Around the Parish this Week			
Today	Sixth Sunday of Easter 9.00am – Cathedral Live & Online: www.graftoncathedral.org.au		
Birthdays this week	Evette Clague, Rev'd Grant Sparks & Colin Clague		
Weekdays	Morning Prayer 8.30am Wed, Thurs & Fri at the Cathedral & via Zoom		
	Evening Prayer 5.15 Wed, Thurs & Fri Zoom only Simply use the link on the Cathedral web page CALENDAR to access via Zoom		
	Cathedral Office	9.00am-5.00pm(9-3 Fri)	
	Cathedral Bookshop	9.30am-3.30pm(Tues-Fri)	
	Cathedral OpShop	10.00am-4.00pm (Mon – Fri) 9.00-12.00 (Sat)	
	Wednesday Worship	10.00am	
	Please ensure that we have your email address and mobile number so we can reach out to you with information, news and pastoral support. If you need pastoral care or other support, please call either Dean Naomi, Canon Camellia or Deacon Grant.		
Next Sunday	Seventh Sunday of Easter 9.00am – Cathedral Live & Online: www.graftoncathedral.org.au		



RSVP for refreshments on Saturday 18 May by scanning QR code

Or by calling 66422844 or emailing parishoffice@graftoncathedral.org.au