



Anglican Parish of Hamilton

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

11th October 2026

TODAY'S HYMNS

125 529 272 361

Sentence: Isaiah 25.9

This is our God for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Collect

Saving and healing God, you have promised that those who have died with Christ shall live with him: grant us grace to be continually thankful for all you have done for us, and in that thankfulness to be eager to serve and live for others, so that we and all your children may rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Website: www.hamiltonanglican.org.au

Parish Facebook: facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton

Diocesan Website: ballaratanglican.org.au

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0429 724 545

Claire Hilsdon-Peoples Warden

0488 529 303

Ian Hartley-Peoples Warden

0407 095 410

If you would like to give to the parish by the direct debit option,
the parish bank details are as follows:- NAB BSB 083-663 the account No. 51580-7866
Even if you miss coming you are still giving. This also helps with budgeting for our future

Christ Church-Hamilton

St Peter's Glenthompson

St Mark's Cavendish

All Saints' Peshurst

¹ When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, ‘Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ ² Aaron said to them, ‘Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.’ ³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.’ ⁶ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel. ⁷ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”’ ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’ ¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, ‘O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them

from the face of the earth”?’ Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.”’ ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 106.1-6; 106.20-24

1. Praise the Lord; O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good: and his mercy endures for ever.
2. **Who can express the mighty acts of the Lord: or fully voice his praise?**
3. Blessed are those who act according to justice: who at all times do the right.
4. **Remember me, O Lord, when you visit your people with your favour: and come to me also with your salvation,**
5. That I may see the prosperity of your chosen: that I may rejoice with the rejoicing of your people, and exult with those who are your own.
6. **We have sinned like our ancestors: we have acted perversely and done wrong.**
20. At Horeb they made themselves a calf: and bowed down in worship to an image.
21. **And so they exchanged the glory of God: for the likeness of an ox that eats hay.**
22. They forgot God who was their saviour: that had done such great things in Egypt,
23. **Who had worked his wonders in the land of Ham: and his terrible deeds at the Red Sea.**

24. Therefore he thought to destroy them: had not Moses his servant stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath from destroying them.

2nd Reading Philippians 4.1-9

¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of your heart, so you may know what is the hope to which he has called you.

Alleluia

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 22.1-14

The Lord be with you

And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

According to St Matthew

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ ‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.’

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Intercessions for the Eucharist and for you to say at home

The response to the bidding:

Dear Lord..... is....Please listen to and answer our prayers.

Dear Lord.....**Please listen to and answer our prayers**

We pray for all the people and animals in the world who are being affected by war and all the natural disasters in the world that you Lord help them and protect them from harm.

*Dear Lord.....**Please listen to and answer our prayers***

We pray for Bishop Scott, Fr David, Jannie Ryan and everyone in the Diocese of Ballarat that you Lord Jesus keep everyone safe from harm and keep everyone healthy.

*Dear Lord.....**Please listen to and answer our prayers***

We pray for the recently departed and their families and friends that you Lord help them overcome their grief.

*Dear Lord.....**Please listen to and answer our prayers***

We pray for our families and friends who are suffering ill health that you Lord help them overcome their illness.

*Dear Lord.....**Please listen to and answer our prayers***

We pray for everyone in Hamilton and surrounding areas that they and their animals are kept safe. We especially pray for the congregation in Christ Church Hamilton and their animals at today's Pet Blessing service that you Lord keep them all healthy and safe.

*Dear Lord.....**Please listen to and answer our prayers***

Lord Jesus please help and guide us to do the right thing in our lives. Amen

For Your Prayers This Week

For the sick and in need and those who are preparing for surgery:

Bishop Garry, Vivian McKellar, Bishop Scott & his family, Lorraine, Sharon, Judy Trompf, Linda

For Those Who Have Died

Years Mind

Muriel Stapleton, Elizabeth Cameron, Georgina Rosinson, Evelyn Austin, Roy Hurrell, Pamela Pickett, George Lines, Charles Lyons, Dorothy Robinon, Hazel Norris, Albert White, Phyllis Riddle, Ellizabeth Vaughan, Margaret Newsome, Joyce McRae, Margaret Sanders, Eileen Gaskin, Francis Jakobi, Magdalene Dickie, Elizabeth Haeusler, Robert Francis, Helen Lanyon, Mavis White, George Yorston

For The Wider Church and Its Ministry

- The Church of Bangladesh
- All those involved in Police Chaplaincy throughout the Diocese.
All those involved in Chaplaincy for the CFA & the SES throughout the Diocese.
- Togban
- Those involved in IVF technology.
- Members of medical ethical committees.

Today's Homily

All dogs go to heaven... or do they?

Today's little reflection came to me from the internet thingy they have nowadays. Two churches in an unnamed town got to arguing. And it was a very public argument, played out on the large signs in front of their buildings—The kind of sign with movable letters that can be arranged to spell out a sermon title or a

thought for the week.

Maybe the Feast of St. Francis was coming up. Maybe it was their way of promoting the annual Blessing of Animals. I don't know. But right there, plain as day, on the large sign in front of the Holy Rollers it said:

All dogs go to heaven

Well, before you knew it, the Callithumpian Church used its sign to reply:

Read the Bible. Only humans go to heaven

And . . . they were off and arguing. Next, the Holy Rollers Church's sign said:

God loves all creation, Dogs included

The Calathumpians, having none of it, replied:

DOGS DON'T HAVE SOULS. THIS IS NOT OPEN FOR DEBATE

Well, maybe the Holy Rollers were just having a good time at the Calathumpians' expense. The next week their sign said:

Callithumpian DOGS GO TO HEAVEN. Holy Roller DOGS CAN TALK TO THEIR PASTOR

But the Calathumpians were not amused. Their next sign read: CONVERTING TO the Holy Roller Faith DOES NOT MAGICALLY GRANT YOUR DOG A SOUL

At which point the Holy Roller Church sign advertised:

FREE DOG SOULS WITH CONVERSION

Well, this of course gave the Calathumpians fits. The next week, their sign all but huffed:

DOGS ARE ANIMALS. THERE AREN'T ANY ROCKS IN HEAVEN EITHER

And that, apparently, is when the Holy Rollers and the Calathumpians stopped talking to each other.

Now I don't know where in the Bible these (probably fictional) Holy Rollers thought it says that only humans go to heaven. And it is

true, the Bible doesn't say much about dogs – or about any animal going to heaven. In fact, scripture doesn't say anything at all! But, the Bible does say a lot about love. And so, given what we know about the unconditional love our animal companions freely offer to us, then perhaps the Bible does talk about dogs a lot more than we realise.

Remember the bit where it says God created the “waters teeming with living creatures, and birds to fly across the vault of the sky”.

Creation stories are full of creatures: cattle and creeping things, every living creature that moves or flies or swims God created them. And, Scriptures tell us; God saw that they were good, and blessed them.

Scriptures also give us some sense of where these creatures fit into God's scheme of things and therefore calls us to be good stewards of it all. God makes the covenant with Noah and his family saying, “I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth.” (Genesis 9:9-10)

All too often, however, we fail to see the divine in other creatures and living things. Living our specialised, sophisticated, materialistic, technological and hyper-functional lives, we forget that our lives are made richer by the creatures that surround us.

Who can spot the tiny hummingbird flitting around the garden and not wonder about the miracle of flight? Who can see a flock of geese tearing a v across the pale winter sky and not feel a shiver of alone-ness? Indeed, our very survival is dependent on the lowly and ordinary creatures beneath our feet.

A study concluded that in dry climates, ants and termites increased wheat crop yields by a whopping 36 percent.

Ants have also been essential to production of coffee and chocolate. Okay, so we certainly don't need coffee or chocolate to survive, but there are people who believe they do...

Dogs never lie about love. They are the model of pure joy, pure disappointment and pure devotion. Who do we rely upon to lead our blind, herd out flocks and guard our house?

We often laugh at the exuberant greeting our dogs give us after a brief absence. We tend to explain it by assuming a kind of dumbness on the part of our pet: The dog thought I was gone forever. Dogs, we say, have no sense of time. Yet a lover is entranced to see the beloved again after even a brief absence—and dogs are all about love. And who, other than God, loves us unconditionally?

So let us open our hearts to all God's creatures, that we might all be more faithful to our real work, that of loving God and letting God love us.

Let me close with a thought-provoking reflection from a vet's office:

If you can start your day without caffeine,

If you can be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,

If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,

If you can understand when loved ones are too busy to give you time,

If you can overlook it when people take things out on you

If you can face the world without lies and deceit,

If you can eat the same food, day-after-day, and be grateful for it,

If you can do ALL these things, then, you are probably the FAMILY DOG.

Next Weeks Homily

This guy called St Luke

dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews.

The answers from last week's quiz were:

Easy quiz: All of the above

Hard quiz: The moment Bishop Garry lays his staff on the altar

Cuppa and chatter

Cuppa and chatter is on and happening on Thursdays. Ladies to Lemon Myrtle from 2.15pm until 3.00pm and Gents to Thommo's Tavern at 3:00pm. All are welcome.

It's time to sign up for a lectionary. A lectionary will be supplied for each of our parish centres but if you would like your own take home copy please sign up at the back of Christ Church Hamilton or see Fr. David.

Dates for your diary

- ❖ Our Annual Pet Blessing October 11th
- ❖ Trivia Night October 16th
- ❖ Synod October 23/24
- ❖ Clergy Retreat November 2nd - 6th
- ❖ Our Parish Fete November 7th
- ❖ Glenthompson Christmass Carols and market December 6th 6:30pm

So next time you're at the Supermarket... Think about what you would like to win in the raffle at the Fete and slip that delicious thing into your trolley and leave n the kitchen.

Thursday October 15th

is significant and exciting

Parish Council meets at 5:30pm and the Outreach Committee meets at 1:30pm

Roster

New rosters are at the back of Christ Church

St Peter’s Anglican Church News

Firstly, you may have noticed that the roof of St Peter’s is being replaced and that at night there is a spotlight on the beautiful Lemon Scented Gum tree in the grounds of the church. We hope that you like our improvements. And now I draw your attention to a few more occasions on our calendar.

On November 14th and 15th we will have a Christmas stall in combination with the “Created Works of Art” which this year will be held in the Memorial Hall opposite St Peter’s. There will be cakes, puddings, jams, jellys and other items suitable for Christmas presents as well as delicious Devonshire Cream teas. Held over two days, this is an annual fair and always proves to be popular.

The next is advance notice of “The Glen Christmas Carols”. This year the service will be on December 6th at 6:30 pm. We will have a twilight barbeque with a celebratory drink and a very special Children’s Christmas Stall after the carols. This is to be a nothing over \$5 stall to encourage children to buy suitable little Christmas gifts for their parents and siblings. We can also supervise “gift wrapping” if required by the children. We hope you and your families can attend both occasions and will be delighted to welcome everyone.

These numbers are calculated after quarantining a recent bequest of \$27,000. Projecting these numbers forward indicates a potential deficit of around \$55,000 for the financial year. To put this into context, the deficit could be negated if 60 parishioners each increased their giving by \$18 per week OR \$9 per week if we returned the above

bequest to general revenue. Also, there will be some fund-raising activity during this financial year.

We are keeping All Souls

day this year on **Saturday 31st of October and November 1st** We seek your help in compiling the list of those who we are to pray for. Please **print clearly** the names of people that you would like remembered on this special day on the clipboard at the back of the Church or see Fr. David

TRIVIA NIGHT

On Friday October 16th in the Church Hall – starting at 7pm.
Tables of 10- \$10 per head.
Please bring your own nibbles/ drinks and supper.
Bookings to Susan Mason. If you cannot fill a table with friends etc just let me know and I will place you on a table.
This is always a fun night!!- emphasis is on a good night out and not the actual Trivia.
Susan Mason 0408528781

Your local trusty clergy people are on retreat from Monday 2nd of November until Friday 6th of November. No Wednesday Eucharist on November 4th.

TREASURER’S REPORT	September	August	July
Income	9,371	7,728	11,107
Expenditure	14,200	13,599	14,238
Deficit	4,829	5,871	3,131

Socks and other S things for Synod.

This year Anglicare is collecting Socks, Shampoo, Soap and Soup. We will be taking your donation up to Synod on Friday October 23rd. Please use the specially designated basket for your donation or give them to Fr. David.

Relocation

The date for our final Sunday has been relocated from November 22nd to November 15th. The Eucharist starts at 10:30am and is the only service in the parish for that weekend. Then we will be relocating to Miners Rest. Everyone is very welcome. Jeanine and Fr. David

Thought for the week from Mothers Union Australia

Sunday 11th October 2026

Losing the chains

‘If you abide in my word...you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’
(John 8:31-32)

When we play tennis, we find that the freedom to play the game involves keeping the rules. It is not tennis if we play without a net and disregard the lines on the court. Jesus tells us that if we want to experience true freedom it is not through merely doing whatever we want. It is by abiding in his word. When we do that, we live as we were designed to live and find the joy of freedom. Part of this freedom is to put Jesus first in our lives and to look after others.

It is good to think of the needs of the most vulnerable and deprived, such as prisoners in gaol. The word of Jesus is truth, and the truth will set you free. That is where joy and peace is to be found.

Question for thought: Am I abiding in the Word of the Lord?

Gracious Lord, our hearts are deeply troubled by the constant persecution against Christians in Nigeria. We do pray for our members in the Dioceses of Jos and Akoko. May they have courage as they continue to stand firm for the truth. Pray for members as they visit in hospitals and prisons, care for children and comfort them with your Word. Amen.

A PRAYER AT THE TIME OF CHOOSING A BISHOP

Eternal God, shepherd and guide,
in your mercy give your Church in
this diocese a shepherd after
your own heart
who will walk in your ways,
and with loving care watch over
your people.
Give us a leader of vision and a
teacher of your truth.
So may your Church be built up
and your name glorified;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Services for this week

Wednesday	7th October	Holy Communion 10.00am	Christ Church Hamilton
Saturday	10th October	Vigil 6.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton
Sunday	11th October	Eucharist 9.00am	St Peter's Glenthompson
		Eucharist 10.30am	Christ Church Hamilton
<i>Reader 1: Gladys Reader 2: David B Intercessor: Meredith Sidesmen: Judy & Ken</i>			
<i>Eucharist Assistant: Susan</i>			