

## BALLINA & LENNOX HEAD ANGLICANS

An inclusive Christ-centred community, growing in our relationship with God and the wider community

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Bundjalung nation, and pay respects to their elders past and present.

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 14 JUNE 2020

#### Pastoral message from the Rector

Jesus used a lot of agricultural imagery when he was talking to people. In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about harvests and sheep. He says that the people are like sheep and are lost because there is no shepherd to guide and teach them and he likens this to a bountiful crop, ready to be harvested but there are not enough labourers to gather in the harvest.

I remember in my early working career when I was studying business management and marketing, we were told about the 80/20 rule. This rule was a general guide that said that in many situations, 80% of the profit came from 20% of the stock. Basic bread and butter lines were the main profit earners and many other items were stocked as add on or luxury items. Corner stores knew that they must keep a good supply of milk, bread, newspapers, soft drinks and confectionery as these were the main things that people came looking for. The shelves were also stocked with lots of other items which made up the total inventory, but usually these had a slower turnover. Items like more expensive glossy magazines were necessary as some people came in each month to get these, but newspapers attracted people every day. So, 80% of their sales and profit came from 20% of their stock.

I have discovered that this 80/20 rule can also apply in the church. How often do we see 80% of the parish work being done by 20% of the parishioners? Why is it so hard to fill positions like Treasurer and Parish Council Secretary and others? Often it is a small, dedicated, and sometimes overworked minority who carry the workload for the majority. I think the 80/20 rule is alive and well in the churches I have served in over the past thirty years.

Today's Gospel is a call to think about what roles we are being called to in gathering in the harvest. As we will now need to rethink being church, we may also see new roles emerging. We will certainly need people who have skills in technology to allow on-line services to continue. We will also need people to become COVIDSafe Wardens to help keep things in order in our church services as and when they resume. We will not be able to rely on the old regulars to do everything, so we need to "ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

Please take some time to ask God how you may be able to help as we emerge from COVID-19 restrictions and explore new ways of being Church.

Every blessing

Matthew

Birthdays: Dawn Browne, and Pat Kerr.

#### **News: SPECIAL COVID-19 APPEAL**

To help maintain Parish ministry and the jobs of paid churchworkers through this crisis, the Diocese has opened a special appeal. Contributions to this fund will go first to maintaining paid roles of churchworkers across the Diocese, whether located in Parishes, the Registry or special ministries such as chaplaincies. Click here to find out more and learn about ways to donate: The Anglican Diocese of Grafton COVID-19 Support Fund

<u>COVID Safe App:</u> Matthew and Cathy encourage all parishioners with a Smart Phone to download the government's COVID Safe App. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy who is happy to help.

<u>Compassionate Community's monthly Coffee & Conversation is starting up again</u>: 24 June from 10-12 at the Proper Cafe, corner Cherry and Fox Streets. Numbers are limited so you must RSVP to Jane Elliott 0438 814 552.

#### PACT Prayer: -

Lord, help us to stay vigilant and keep the health and welfare of others foremost in our minds as Governments relax restrictions in the current pandemic. Keep us alert to the dangers of slipping into poor habits and remind us that even one lapse in behaviour could have a life-changing impact on an innocent bystander...perhaps many innocent bystanders. Strengthen the resolve of researchers to develop a vaccine and keep frontline health workers safe. We ask this in your name. Amen.

#### **ABM Reflection:**

Jesus tells the disciples that being sent out for the sake of God's mission is not without its costs. Remember all those medical workers who have contracted the Coronavirus – especially those who have died – in their work to help others. May their unstinting example inspire and encourage us to look after others as much as we can, not counting the cost. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends (John 15.13).

- Pray that God will turn our hearts towards kindness and compassion.
- Give thanks for those who engage in medical mission in God's name, both here and overseas.

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## Financial Giving to the Parish

During this difficult time we continue to minister to our people and our community, although in different ways. Expenses still need to be met. To cover these expenses we will shortly be drawing cash from long term deposits. Our major sources of income to cover expenses are normally provided by the giving of Parishioners and the Op Shop. The Op Shop has ceased operating and giving by Parishioners has been by the various electronic transfer methods only. A small amount of cash has been received but this method is now not to be used. You are encouraged to support the Parish through regular giving in the following ways: Direct deposits through AfGD (Anglican funds Grafton Diocese) known as Parish Provider: Application Form is attached. Print, complete and scan it for return as an attachment to AfGD email address: <a href="mailto:office@afgd.com.au">office@afgd.com.au</a>. Alternatively, you can complete the Application Form attached, photo it with your smartphone and send the photo to AfGD email address: office@afgd.com.au.

To minimise exposure to COVID-19 please do not use the postal system to deliver the form.

**Direct deposit to the Parish of Ballina Working Account:** this method enables you to use your bank to electronically direct transfer funds into the following account.

Account: Parish of Ballina Working Account: BSB: 705-077 Account Number: 00040134. Use Reference: Offering.

This system enables users to make regular weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments.

Many of you may be unable to use either of these methods in which case we encourage you to make a catchup donation at some time in the future when current restrictions are lifted and you can afford the outlay.

Hugh McIntosh Parish Treasurer 3 April'20

**CONTACT US** 

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# "COUCH CHURCH": WORSHIPPING GOD AT HOME 14 JUNE 2020 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Ctrl+Click or Click on the <u>Couch Church</u> to watch the service online.

#### Call to Worship:

Worship God with gladness. Come into his presence and sing his praises. Amen.

#### **Hymn: Here in this Place**

Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away, see in this space, our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery; we are the old, who yearn for your face; we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away, but here in this space, the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in, and hold us forever; gather us in, and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Marty Haugen (1950 - ) TiS 474

## **Gathering Prayer:**

Loving Lord, your grace draws us to your presence; your peace unites us in your love; your hope inspires us to praise your glory.

May our worship be worthy of you.

Amen

#### Sentence:

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; ask therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.

Matthew 9.37-38

#### Prayer of the Day:

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life, and defeat into victory: increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over evil, in the strength of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Readings:**

#### Psalm 100

Serve you the Lord, heart filled with gladness.

Come into his presence singing with joy!

All sing: All the earth proclaim the Lord, sing your praise to God.

Know that the Lord is our creator.

Yes he is our Father and we are his.

All sing: All the earth proclaim the Lord, sing your praise to God.

We are the sheep of his green pasture,

for we are his people; he is our God.

All sing: All the earth proclaim the Lord, sing your praise to God.

Enter his gates bringing thanksgiving,

O enter his courts while singing his praise.

All sing: All the earth proclaim the Lord, sing your praise to God.

Our Lord is good, his love enduring,

his word is abiding now with us all.

All sing: All the earth proclaim the Lord, sing your praise to God.

Honour and praise be to the Father,

the Son, and the Spirit, world without end.

All sing: All the earth proclaim the Lord, sing your praise to God.

#### **Romans 5: 1-11**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.

For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

#### Hymn: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

#### Refrain:

Here I am Lord, is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night; I will go Lord, if you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain; I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

#### Refrain:

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them. my hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hears are satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Daniel L. Schutte (1947 - )

TIS 658

#### The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first,

Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

Matthew 9:35 – 10:8 (NRSV)

#### Sermon

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in one God, who made and loves all that is. We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was born, lived, died and rose again and is coming to call all to account. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who calls, equips and sends out God's people, and brings all things to their true end. This is our faith, the faith of the Church: We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### **Intercessions:**

Lord you have compassion on all who come to you for help. Hear the prayers we bring to you for ourselves and for others.

We pray for the nations that are experiencing racial conflict, and oppression, for those who live in poverty and deprivation; for leaders of nations as they grapple with the issues of COVID-19 and the fallout from mass rallies of the past few weeks, and other issues that their countries face. Give them wisdom and discernment to overcome their issues. Equip us for your service, that we may work for a world of righteousness and peace.

Jesus, friend of the helpless, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the worldwide church: for the leaders of all denominations, for missionaries, evangelists, and chaplains. We pray for the Parish of Lower Macleay, and for the Diocesan Vocations Panel, that your Spirit would give them clear guidance in their direction for the coming months. Equip us for your service, that we may help to proclaim to our community the good news of your reign.

Jesus, friend of the broken, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We bring to you our community and all whom we love, praying especially for those without food; for those with nowhere to live; and for those without work. We give thanks to our federal, state and local governments, for their insight and support towards all in our community for whom COVID-19 has impacted on their everyday situation. Equip us for your service, that we may work to create a more just and compassionate society.

Jesus, friend of the outcast, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We bring to you all who are in trouble or distress: for those without the support of friends or family; for the sick, and the dying, and for those who mourn; for medical staff, and our hospital visitors, who care for the suffering. Equip us for your service, that we may bring comfort to the sad, healing to the sick and new hope to those in despair. We pray for those in need of healing, especially those who have asked to be remembered in our bulletin:

Ria Mars, Joy Swinbourne, Lucy van Eck, Neil Maclean, Norma Meehan, Malcolm Streher, Josh Stanley, Fran Shepherd, Bonnie Kerkenezov, Anne Marie Troutman, Margaret Leadbeatter,

Margaret Waller, Maureen Colburt, Lynda Garde, Sue Hurford, Rachael Hampton, Alton Rowe, Ros Rowe, Elaine Frederiksen, Karen and Ben Shaw, Pauline Suffolk, Marj Roder, and Rose Fox.

Jesus, friend of the sick, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for your martyrs and missionaries, evangelists and teachers, and for all of every generation who have laboured faithfully to bring in your harvest, remembering especially your good and faithful servant, David Johnston. Equip us for your service, and bring us home, with all the saints, to share in the glory of your everlasting reign.

Jesus, friend, and intercessor, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us 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.

#### **Confession:**

Lord, you have called us to the privilege of service, but we have failed to serve.
You have given us the blessing of peace, but we have chosen discord.
You have loved us as a shepherd tends his sheep, but we have strayed from your way.
Forgive us, and show us the path of obedience and faithfulness that your Son trod.
In his name, we pray.
Amen.

#### **Absolution**

## Hymn: I Danced in the Morning.

I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun.; and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth, at Bethlehem I had my birth:

#### Refrain:

Dance then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the dance, said he;; and I'll lead you all wherever you may, and I'll lead you all in the dance said he.

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee, but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me. I danced for the fishermen, for James and John, they came with me and the dance went on:

#### Refrain:

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame: the holy people said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and they left me there on a cross to die:

#### Refrain:

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone; but I am the dance and I still go on:

#### Refrain:

They cut me down and I leap up high, I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you as you live in me: I am the Lord of the dance, said he:

#### Refrain:

Sydney Carter (1915 - 2004) TIS 242

#### **Sending Out Prayer:**

You are called to serve; so serve with love, bring peace and healing; in the strength of the Father; in the power of Jesus; in the unity of the Spirit. Amen.

#### **Blessing**

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