

# St Saviour's Cathedral

## Goulburn

### Fourth Sunday in Lent 2020

#### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*In Lent and on other penitential occasions*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,  
**whose mercy endures for ever.**

*The Greeting.*

*The priest greets the people*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The Prayer of Preparation*

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,**  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleans 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.**

*A deacon or other minister introduces the Confession*

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,  
though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

*Silence is kept.*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
confident in God's forgiveness.

**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.**

*The Absolution.*

*Standing, the Bishop says*

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 Collect of the Day*

*The priest says*

Let us pray.

Gracious God,  
in order that we children of earth  
might discern good from evil  
you sent your Son to be the light of the world:  
as the light of Christ shines upon us,  
may we learn what pleases you,  
and live in truth and goodness;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*Please sit for the readings.*

**Psalm 23**

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd:  
**therefore can I lack nothing.**
- 2 He will make me lie down in green pastures:  
**and lead me beside still waters.**
- 3 He will refresh my soul:  
**and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.**
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil:  
**for you are with me,  
your rod and your staff comfort me.**

5 You spread a table before me  
in the face of those who trouble me:  
**you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup shall be full.**

6 Surely your goodness and loving-kindness  
will follow me all the days of my life:  
**and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

*The Reading from the New Testament.*

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Ephesians,  
chapter 4 beginning at the 8th verse.

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,  
'Sleeper, awake!  
Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.'

Ephesians 4:8-14

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

## *HYMN*

All my hope on God is founded,  
All my trust he will renew,  
Through all change and chance he guides me,  
Only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
He alone  
Calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,  
Sword and crown betray our trust;  
All we build with care and labour,  
Tower and temple fall to dust.  
But God's power,  
Hour by hour,  
Is my temple and my tower.

Daily the almighty giver  
Will his bounteous gifts bestow;  
In his will our souls find pleasure?  
Leading us wherever we go.  
Love will stand  
At his hand,  
Joy will wait for his command. Robert Bridges 1844-1930 *alt*

*The deacon or other reader says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The reader says*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
chapter nine beginning at the first verse.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.'

Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?'

Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.' He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind, are we?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.

John 9.1-41

*After the Gospel, the reader says*  
For the Gospel of the Lord,  
**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*The Sermon* Bishop Mark

*Silence follows.*

*The Nicene Creed is said, all standing.*

*The minister 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 Intercessions*

*The minister says*

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*The prayers conclude with*

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.**

*HYMN*

O worship the King all-glorious above,  
O gratefully sing his power and his love:  
our shield and defender, the ancient of days,  
pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;  
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder-clouds form,  
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, your power has founded of old,  
established it fast by a changeless decree,  
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail:  
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
our maker, defender, redeemer and friend.

Robert Grant 1779-1838 *alt.* based on Psalm 104 and Psalm 18

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.**

*The Bishop pronounces the Blessing.*

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself,  
that you may find in him crucified  
a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sin forgiven  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the  
Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The deacon may say*

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