



Community News

9 July 2023

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.

Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me,
for I am gentle and lowly in heart,
you will find rest for your souls.

For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

Matthew 28:28-30 (New King James Version)

Church Services

Sunday:

8am Nelligen Holy Communion

8am Batemans Bay Holy Communion

9.25am 2 EAR FM

10am Batemans Bay Holy Communion

6.30pm Soaking

Readings:

Zechariah 9:9-12 (Page 773)

Psalms 145:8-14 (Page 506)

Romans 7:14-25 (Page 918)

Matthew 11:20-30 (Page 792)

Readings

Monday: Psalm 91:1-6; Matthew 9:18-26

Tuesday: Psalm 17:1-7; Matthew 9:32-38

Wednesday: Psalm 33:13-21; Matthew 10:1-7

Thursday: Psalm 105:16-22; Matthew 10:7-15

Friday: Psalm 37:18-26; Matthew 10:16-23

Saturday: Psalm 105:1-7; Matthew 10:24-33

Sunday: Psalm 65:8-13; Romans 8:1-11;

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you, that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

EMAIL: anglicanbbay@gmail.com

PHONE: 44725822 (Thursday and Friday) or contact Doug on 0428 907200.

DIRECT DEPOSIT: Anglican Investment & Development Fund. BSB: 702 389 Account: 05202562 Ref: AnglicanBBay2562

CHURCH: The church office is open Thursday mornings 9am-12pm and Fridays 9am-3pm.

PARISH CONTACTS:

RECTOR: Doug Newman 0428 907200 dnewman1956@gmail.com

CHAIR: Dennis Hughes 0410 915409

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WEBSITE: <https://www.anglicanchurchbbay.org.au/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/batemansbayanglican/>

ANGLICAN NEWS:

2023: A year to Stand! Please extend this newsletter to someone to encourage them.

HOUSEKEEPING: Books are available for worship – to avoid multiple people handling them they will remain in the back of the pews. The Common Cup is available for our Communion Worship. We offer individual cups for those who do not wish to use the Common Cup.

Masks: There is no requirement to wear a mask to attend church but you are invited to wear a mask to reduce community risk.

Hand Sanitizing: COVID and Flu– please sanitize your hands and be mindful of each other's space.

OFFICE: Gayleane is on leave for the month of July. Please use the parish email for routine matters or contact Doug directly for more urgent issues.

GLEAN: No Glean during the school holidays

WORKING BEES: It will take several Working Bees to clean up inside Hope House. The first of these will be Saturday 15 July from 9am -12pm. All help gratefully received.

WOMENS COLOURFUL MIND ART: Continuing each Thursday afternoon in July; 12.30 -2.30pm in the hall.

VOLUNTEERS: A big thank you to those who have volunteered to mow the lawns, clean the hall and to vacuum the church. A few extra volunteers would be helpful to spread the load in cleaning and vacuuming and the occasional weeding/ gardening around the church.

COMBINED SERVICE: Sunday 30 July will be the fifth Sunday in July. We will have one service that day, a combined service using third order communion with carols and to be held at 10am. It will be at 10am (not the usual 9am) because it will be followed by a roast Christmas in July fellowship meal in the hall. There will be a clipboard in the office to indicate attendance for catering.

ENCOURAGEMENT GOD AT WORK: Rev. Dan Evers is the Anglican chaplain. [God is Transforming Lives for Good in Goulburn Correctional Centre - Australian Prayer Network \(ausprayernet.org.au\)](http://ausprayernet.org.au)

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER: For support ring Elizabeth Dean 44724330.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS: Please take time to read our prayer list and ask God for one or two people on it to pray for, not necessarily people you know: Phillipa Shepherd, Veronica Newson, Dora Coma, Harry Lewis, Wendy and Chris Berger, Jay Stewart, Helen Plumb, Marina Vander-Burgh, Keith Sutherland, Iain Ritchie, Rodney Hay, Susan Dean, Robin Hay, Rebecca Coughran, Bob Day, Annette Stewart, Judy Stewart, Tommy King, Jonathon and Leticia, Bronwyn Lithgow, Lisa Brookes, Chris Black, Ruby Brown, Jane Wilkinson, Susan Bateman, Richard Austin, Eric Strachan, Roger Hacker.

Bible Study Answers: Matthew 11:25 -30. How might verse 25 link this section back to the preceding text [hint start at verse 18]. God has revealed the true nature of Jesus as both son and messiah through first the witness of John the Baptist and then through Jesus own miracles and preaching but the wise and learned have failed to exercise understanding and wisdom – they have missed the revelation of the Kingdom of God. They are neither humble or gentle. Given the context in verse 18 -9 and 12: 1-8 it is reasonable to assume that the emphasis in our passage is on the wise and learned as being the scribes and Pharisees, the ruling religious elite.

Have you ever experienced God revealing wisdom to you that was hidden, not expressed by the elders and authorities around you? Share. Not often, I have been blessed to be in churches with leadership alert to the voice of God and the move of the Spirit so in general revelation has been seen and shared by more than person. I have sometimes experienced this while training at University; when I was horrified by one students skewed view of Christ and his ability to save God gave me a vision of her past life (that led to her current belief/ behaviour) **AND** a clear warning to not get involved - my task was to love her and be compassionate – not to defend God. **What might we understand by little children here?** Those who are willing to trust and follow God without a fully realized revelation and knowledge of the way ahead, those who will behave with the nature of Jesus, meek, gentle and humble.

Having thanked God for his revelation to those who have the faith to see Jesus explains to whom God reveals himself. To whom and how does God reveal himself? See also John 17: 25-26, John 3:34-35. God reveals himself through Jesus. Our relationship with Jesus is critical to seeing and knowing God. Indeed John 17 tells us that we know God by being in Jesus and he in us, John 3 warns us that to reject Jesus is to reject God and to be subject to his wrath just as it will be for Capernaum, Bethsaida and Chorazin.

Verses 28- 30 are an invitation. What does Jesus reveal of his nature (and by the inference of verse 27 of the nature of God) in these passages. What additional characteristics does psalm 145: 8-14 add to this.

Jesus is gentle, humble, he gives rest for our souls, his yoke can be carried, the burden of faith is light compared to the law. Psalm 145 adds: good, gracious, compassionate, loving, mighty, faithful, slow to anger and lifting up the bowed down.

Are you tired and weary? Pray and ask Jesus to come and lift your burden – to show you that this promise is for you and for now. God has answered this prayer for me, I trust that he will for you.

Sunday 9 July – Come to the Lord.

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Today is a day of invitation, not simply an invitation to salvation but more so an invitation to those who follow Jesus to a discipleship set free from performance anxiety and religious burden.

Traditional: Father I place <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6T8759Wdg3U>

Contemporary: I come broken <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrNfaqZa8PI>

Read. Matthew 11:20 -30. ²⁰ Then Jesus began to denounce the towns in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent. ²¹ “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²² But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you. ²³ And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day. ²⁴ But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you.” The Father Revealed in the Son. ²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do. ²⁷ “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Thoughts. This passage builds on the earlier text referring to the rejection of John the Baptist and his message of repentance. The disciples Peter, Andrew and Phillip were born in Bethsaida, Jesus lived and based his ministry in Capernaum, and with Chorazin they formed the focal area for Jesus earthly ministry. Most of Jesus teaching and miracles were done here, this is where the Kingdom of God came near and was most proclaimed. Yet they knew him not and did not acknowledge him as Messiah. Hence the woe to them, they have seen and rejected God and it will be worse for them than for the sinful exemplars of antiquity, Sodom and Gomorrah, who had not had the revelation of God’s kingdom. This challenges us, for we too have had the revelation of Christ laid before us. The wise and the learned of verse 25 are those who place their hope in their knowledge, self-sufficiency and self-righteous adherence to the rules of the Law. The law is understood in the Old Testament as a yoke and a burden to be carried, the yoke is also portrayed as the yoke of foreign oppression e.g. slavery in Egypt or exile in Babylon. Here Matthew is primarily using it to refer to the Jewish Law, the Law cannot save and it weighs heavily but Jesus has shown them a better way, he knows the Father and the Father is revealed through him, slaves to Satan are set free and Jesus fulfills the law, making it possible to bear it because he is yoked with us and the Holy Spirit enables us to bear the load.

Song: My God is all I need <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-fBeckPieds>

Prayers: Almighty God, accept our gratitude for your love and mercy towards us. Hear the cry of our hearts for the people of Ukraine and Russia, as they confront aggression and invasion. Open the eyes of those

who have been overtaken by a spirit of deception and violence, that they be horrified by their works. Grant visible victory over the powers of evil that have arisen. Bless Ukraine with your gifts of presence, liberty and peace.

Sunday is the Independence Day of **South Sudan**. This nation has been much troubled but faithful with several large Sudanese Anglican congregations in Canberra. Please pray for the people of South Sudan, the Mission Aviation Fellowship team and the people they serve and for those who have made a home in the Anglican church with us in Australia.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you, that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises. We pray for the school break and for the safety of all who visit us at this time. Give rest and restoration for teachers and students.

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 forever. Amen

Traditional: It is well https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbNm_Kdez8o

Contemporary: No longer slaves <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8TkUMJtK5k>

Blessing: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord, and may the blessing of God the father, God the son and God the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you now and forever **Shalom**

Bible Study: Read Matthew 13: 1-23. There are about 30 parables in scripture, this is one of the better-known ones. Why is teaching in parables a powerful way of conveying the message.

Who is the sower, what is the seed. Why does the sower spread his seed on unproductive soils?

What are each of the soils? What prevents the seed from bearing fruit? How is abundance achieved in this view of the Kingdom.

What does the parable mean for our ministry in Batemans Bay?