



Community News
17th September 2023
Sixteenth Sunday
after Pentecost



Church Services

Batemans Bay

8.00am Holy Communion

9.25am 2 EAR FM

10.00am Holy Communion

6.30pm Worship

Thursday: 10am Holy Communion

Readings:

Exodus 14:19-31 (Page 53)

Psalm 114 (Page 491)

Romans 14:1-14 (Page 923)

Matthew 18:21-35 (Page 800)

Readings

Monday: Psalm 28; Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday: Psalm 101:1-7; Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday: Psalm 111:1-6; Luke 7:31-35

Thursday: Psalm 111:7-10; Luke 7:36-50

Friday: Psalm 49:5-9; Luke 8:1-3

Saturday: Psalm 100; Luke 8:4-15

Sunday: Psalm 105:37-45; Philippians 1:1-30;
Matthew 20:1-16

O God, without you we are not able to please you: mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

CHURCH: The church office is open Wednesday and Thursday mornings 9am-1pm and Fridays 9am-3pm.

PARISH CONTACTS:

RECTOR: Doug Newman 0428 907200 drnewman1956@gmail.com

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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.

BCA: It is box opening time in September, please bring in your boxes for Robin.

WOMEN'S WELLNESS ART GROUP: Friday September 22nd, and 29th. In the Church Hall from 10am to 12pm. Phone Belinda for further information on 0434102480.

MARKET STALL: Arts and Crafts Stall. Saturday 7th October. 8.00am to 1.00pm. Sausage Sandwiches and Cold drinks will be available for sale. Supporting our School Breakfast Clubs. Phone Belinda for further information on 0434102480.

CHRISTMAS CHILD: It is good to see the boxes coming into the office, please get your boxes in this month remembering they are now \$12.50 a box for postage. Also the office is still collecting 10c bottles and cans to help fund OCC postage.

WELFARE CUPBOARD: Please when you are shopping could you add an extra item for our welfare cupboard please. Thank you to those that contribute.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS: Happy 80th birthday to Lorraine Petzl.

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

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, John Wilkinson, Dave Brown.

Bible Study Answers: Exodus 14: 13 -31. What are the people afraid of? What are you afraid of and what gives it power over you? What does God promise? The people are afraid of being free and of change, they look back on the certainty of slavery and others being responsible for them. There was food provided for them in Egypt and they forget the cost. God promises to deliver them from the Egyptians, to protect them and to guide them – to fight for them.

Where does God place himself to protect the Israelites, and what do they see to show this? Until this time God has gone before the people – leading them with a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night. God has been visibly present since they have left Egypt. Indeed, reading 14: 1-4, God has intentionally caused the Israelites to travel back towards Egypt to specifically provoke Pharaoh, to harden his heart so that he will pursue the Israelites. God does this so that his glory may be seen. When Pharaoh's army draws close God moves himself from in front to behind the Israelites and positions himself between them and Pharaoh to screen and protect them.

How does the Lord part the sea? Are all miracles of God instantaneous? When has God taken time to answer your needs but has still done it miraculously? Water bodies in that part of the world run largely North-South, God use an East wind to blow a path across the sea. This is a supernatural miracle but it takes all night. God can take his time to affect a miraculous provision - e.g. the manna and the quail are provided for 40 years.

Why does God destroy the Egyptian army so visibly before the people? In their future this will be important. What does God expect as their response to his salvation? God is making a statement about his capacity to protect and provide for his people; he is also completing his victory over the little “gods” of Egypt that have conspired to stand against him. Remember that the Pharaoh was considered the human embodiment as the son of the divine Sun god Ra. God expects his people to witness his absolute power over Egypt and to put their trust in God and in Moses.

Sunday 17 September - Forgive as you are forgiven

Hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Traditional: Amazing Grace https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LF_55-PE-Pw

Contemporary: Amazing Grace [Amazing Grace \(My Chains are Gone\) - Chris Tomlin \(with lyrics\) - YouTube](#)

Read. Matthew 18: 21 – 35 ²¹ Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” ²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. ²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold^[h] was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. ²⁶ “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷ The servant’s master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go. ²⁸ “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.^[i] He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded. ²⁹ “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ ³⁰ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. ³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. ³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Thoughts. All cultures need a means of enacting judgment in response to offense; most default to some version of an eye for and eye, i.e. retributive justice where the power of the state inflicts punishment on behalf of the weaker victims. This is the process that gave us the death penalty and which Christian argument helped us move beyond. These measures may provide temporary redress by enforcing penalties but in the long term they just embed conflict – a classic example of this is the historical conflict between Serbs and Croats in Kosovo. This form of justice does nothing to restore and rebuild relationships, to repair damage done to the Spirit. Jesus calls us to a much more radical way of judgement – forgiveness and the accompanying abrogation of our rights of judgement to God. We are to forgive because we are a forgiven people. Justice comes when we voluntarily enter restoring our relationships through the power of God’s Holy Spirit – special encounters with God. I encourage you to watch this powerful short word on real forgiveness: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wl3torV5BdE>

Prayers: Jesus, Prince of Peace, we pray for Ukraine today. We pray for the laying down of weapons. We pray for those with power over war, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. We pray for those who fear for tomorrow, that your Holy Spirit would draw near to them. Above all, we pray for your precious children, at-risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray for those impacted by floods in Libya and earthquakes in Morocco and by violence in Kenya. We give thanks for God’s sovereignty and we pray for breakthrough and healing for our land in line with God’s Heart, Will and Prophetic Word for Australia. In the name of Jesus, we pray all contrary spirits be silenced. **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: Guide me <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wT4n1hGjDDg>

Contemporary: Way Maker https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZRwn_Thg2Q

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 Philippians 1. Watch Philippians <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oE9ggW1-BkU>
We will look at Philippians across the next 4 weeks – one chapter a week. All of the letter revolves around chapter 2: 5 -11 and addresses our participation in Jesus story. **Paul thanks the Philippians for their support for him, how has another Christian or church community supported you? How did this enable you? What does Paul hope for the Philippians?**

Paul thanks the Philippians for their financial support – what is this support a visible sign of. What does Paul pray that the Philippians will receive from God – and what should it lead to?

What constrains Paul's ministry? What is Paul's attitude to his imprisonment? What constrains your ministry?

