



**Who then is this,
that even the wind and the sea obey him?**
Mark 4:41

Weekly Church Services

Batemans Bay
8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Prayer and Praise
2.30pm **NO RADIO TODAY**
6.30pm Worship
Thursday: 10am Holy Communion
Readings:
Psalm 133 (Page 501)
Isaiah 43:1-21 (Page 585)
Mark 4:35-41 (Page 816)

Readings:

Monday: Psalm 60; Matthew 7:1-5
Tuesday: Psalm 48:1-8; Matthew 7:6-14
Wednesday: Psalm 119:33-40; Matthew 7:15-20
Thursday: Psalm 79:1-9; Matthew 7:21-29
Friday: Psalm 137:1-6; Matthew 8:1-4
Saturday: Psalm 74:1-11; Matthew 8:5-17
Sunday: Psalm 130; 2Corinthians 8:1-15;
Mark 5:21-43

O God our defender, storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid: rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us all from unbelief; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

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

PARISH CONTACTS:

RECTOR: Doug Newman 0428 907200 dnewman1956@gmail.com
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WEBSITE: <https://www.anglicanchurchbbay.org.au/>
FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/batemansbayangican/>
ANGLICAN NEWS:

2024: Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

HOUSEKEEPING: Books are available for worship –they 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. COVID and Flu– please sanitize your hands and be mindful of each other’s space.

CELEBRATIONS:

- Happy 95th Birthday to Bert Dolstra.
- Congratulations Tom and Muriel on your 54th Wedding Anniversary.

KAIROS: The Women’s KAIROS Weekend is this weekend (Friday evening to Sunday Evening)– please pray for those attending and that God’s spirit of love will restore, refresh and release into a new season all who are there.

GOOD MENTAL HEALTH ART CLASSES FOR WOMEN: Thursday 27th June 12.30pm to 2.30pm in the Anglican Church Hall. Contact Ruth Halverston for information.

BAY THEATRE PLAYERS PRODUCTION: From 26th June to 7th July Bay Players are presenting the production War Crimes. Anjelica Ward is in the production so please all go and purchase a ticket to support her and the amazing young cast. Tickets are available at trybooking.

BBECET PRAYER MEETING: will be held on Monday 1st July at 5 pm in the Anglican Church hall.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL VOLUNTEERS: Can you assist as a volunteer with the Vinnies team helping clients apply for assistance? For details speak to Robin Hay.

COMBINED SERVICE: On Sunday 30 June we will have a single Combined service **at 10am** and that will move straight to a “bring and share” fellowship lunch from 11.30am in the church hall. All are welcome, friends and partners are welcome to come just to lunch as well if they would prefer. If you are able to bring a plate to share or will be bringing guests please leave details on the clipboard.

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, Lisa Brookes, Chris Black, Ruby Brown, Jane Wilkinson, Susan Bateman, Richard Austin, Eric Strachan, John Wilkinson, Marjorie Duns, Ken Ormston, Katrina Nicolls, Kerry-Lee Smith, Judy and Jane Chapman, Amanda Lloyd, Matais Harpley, Alisha & Jess, Ken Griffiths, Lyn Hughes, Harold.

Bible Study: What are the characteristics of the Kingdom of God?

The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, ²⁴ nor will people say, ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is in your midst.” (Luke 17:20 – 21) No one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again. no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water **and** the Spirit. (John 3:3- 5). The kingdom of God has come with power (Mark 9:1); the power of God through the Holy Spirit.

The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you (Mark 4:11), repent and believe the good news (Mark 1:15) and proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God (Luke 4:43). The kingdom of God belongs to such as these: Receive it like a little child. (Mark 10:14 – 15). Those who are last now will be first, and the first will be last. People will come from everywhere (Paul will say every tribe and nation) east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. (Luke 13:18-30) People will come because they hear and believe - the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you (the religious leaders) because they repented and believed John (Matthew 21:31). There is no barrier to the Kingdom of God except belief.

But to those on the outside it remains hidden - everything is in parables. (Mark 4:11) How hard it is for the rich (the self-sufficient – Luke 18:18 on) to enter ! (Mark 10:14 – 15). The self-righteous (e.g. the religious

people) are also not going to make it (Matthew 21:31) The Kingdom requires complete, not half-hearted, commitment: No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God. (Luke 9:60-62). The Kingdom requires growth and fruit: I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. (Matthew 21:43). The Kingdom is abundant and fertile: seed sown on good soil, those who hear the word, accept it, will produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.” When it grows it becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.

Out of what you listed what most caught your attention? The Kingdom is hidden in plain sight. The Kingdom is therefore present and active and can be seen by those who have the holy spirit but in Jesus time it could not be seen by the religious leaders and teachers of the law – those who had a religious spirit. It makes me wonder what has changed. It also reminds me that the kingdom grows organically – kingdom growth is the action and responsibility of the spirit and my part is to proclaim (I.e testify and point to) the actions of God and the word of God.

Sunday 23 June

Who is this then?

Traditional: I will sing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jk8J3VTd1w>

Contemporary: Still <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=abDzMnlybqs>

Reading: Mark 4:35-41 and Isaiah 43: 1- 19. But now, this is what the LORD says he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. ³For I am the LORD your God, he Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. ⁴Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.

This is what the LORD says your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: “For your sake I will send to Babylon and bring down as fugitives all the Babylonians, in the ships in which they took pride. ¹⁵I am the LORD, your Holy One, Israel’s Creator, your King.” ¹⁶This is what the LORD says he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, ¹⁷who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: ¹⁸“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. ¹⁹See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Thoughts. Our gospel reading this week is the story of Jesus calming the storm. We also looked at that last week. It is a powerful miracle story that questions the disciples faith and more importantly points to Jesus as the son of God – the effective object of faith. Look at the parallels with the reading of Isaiah 43. Jesus has called each disciple by name; Jesus is with them (even if he is asleep in the boat) – as God is with his people and as he has named each one. Isaiah’s God takes the people through the waters, through the storm and protects them in this time. Indeed, God created them and all the world and he has chosen them and redeems them. He declares that he is doing a new thing and warns them not to look back on the past. Back in the boat with Jesus - Jesus has just fed the 5000 (see Matthews account) and is leaving the people he has ministered to because they do not really understand who Jesus is (and neither do his disciples) or what the Kingdom of God will be. As Jesus goes through this point of transition the calming the storm story will reveal him as the messiah, the son of God and from this he takes the disciples into gentile land and into a direct confrontation with the Kingdom of Evil – the Kingdom of God will triumph and grow but it will not be that evident to those looking from outside.

Prayers. Almighty God, you have given us grace to bring before you with one accord our common supplications, and you promise that when two or three are gathered together in your name you will grant them their requests; fulfil now, Lord, the desires and petitions of your servants, as may be most expedient for them, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. We acknowledge that our Lord is God and give him thanks and praise in all things and all times. We declare that the Kingdom of God is in advance in this city. Lord raise up a new generation to pray and intercede for

Batemans Bay and serve you in this place. We cry out to him and call upon the name of Jesus Christ today. Lord watch over this city of Batemans Bay and transform its people in this time of economic and cultural challenge. Lord, Be present to and comfort those that are lonely, be present to and strengthen those that are weak and tempted, be present to and encourage those who are anxious, afraid or depressed not to fear the darkness because they see your light, be present to and heal those who are broken in body and mind, be present to and speak to your people in word, dreams and visions that we might become bold to proclaim your love and saving grace in this town. .

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: Dear Lord <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsCLNuU6Td0&list=PL-Wo7lu6CksuTKdkFbx68JxCo0xmtG81A&index=45>

Contemporary: Ancient of Days <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJUtaW21qAM>

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 2 Corinthians 8: 1- 15. How are the Macedonian churches described and what does God's grace allow them to do? What example are they to the church in Corinth?

What does Paul say of the churches giving and how is Jesus used as a motivation for the Corinthians giving?

Reflect on the interplay that Paul uses between grace and generosity. How do you think grace and generosity might act together in the Kingdom of God?

What is Paul's expectation of churches giving in terms of giving?