

**CONGREGATIONS OF THE AELC**  
**TRINITY OAKEY, ST PAUL'S GREENWOOD, ST JOHN'S AUBIGNY, BETHLEHEM TOOWOOMBA**  
**TRINITY MARBURG, ST JOHN'S MINDEN, OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD**

17 May 2020

Bulletin for the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**ORDER OF SERVICE WITHOUT HOLY COMMUNION**

THE INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

HYMN 15 JESUS CAME - THE HEAVENS ADORING

1 Jesus came - the heavens adoring- Came with peace from realms on high: Jesus came for man's redemption, Lowly came on earth to die: Hallelujah, hallelujah! Came in deep humility.	2 Jesus comes again in mercy, When our hearts are bowed with care; Jesus comes again in answer To an earnest, heartfelt prayer. Hallelujah, hallelujah! Comes to save us from despair.	3 Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, Bringing news of sins forgiven; Jesus comes in sounds of gladness, Leading souls redeemed to heaven. Hallelujah, hallelujah! Now the gate of death is riven.
4 Jesus comes in joy and sorrow, Shares alike our hopes and fears; Jesus comes, whate'er befalls us, Glads our hearts and dries our tears, Hallelujah, hallelujah! Cheering e'en our failing years.	5 Jesus comes on clouds triumphant, When the heavens shall pass away. Jesus comes again in glory; Let us then our homage pay, Hallelujah, hallelujah! Till the dawn of endless day.	

THE CONFESSION

Dear friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Our help is in the name of the Lord. **He made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord. **Then He forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to You that by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Most merciful God, You have given Your only Son to die for us: Have mercy on us, and for His sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By Your Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of You and Your will, and make us obedient to Your Word, so that by Your grace we may come to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the right to become the children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.

THE INTROIT

Bless our God, you peoples, and cause the sound of His praise to be heard!  
He is keeping our souls among the living, and has not allowed our feet to slide.  
For You have tested us, O God. You have refined us as silver is refined.  
You have brought us into the net. You have laid hardship on our backs.  
You have let men ride over our heads. We have gone through fire and through water.  
Nevertheless, You have brought us out to abundance.  
I shall go into Your temple with burnt offerings. I shall fulfil to You my vows, which my lips promised and my mouth spoke when I was in trouble.

I shall sacrifice fat animals to You with the sacrificial smoke of rams. I shall prepare bulls and goats.  
Come and listen, all you who fear God, that I may declare what He has done for my soul!  
I cried to Him with my mouth, and my tongue has given high praise.  
If I had been aware of injustice in my heart, the Lord would not have listened, but God has certainly heard me. He has paid attention to the sound of my prayer.  
Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, or turned His mercy away from me!

Psalm 66:8-20

THE GLORY TO THE FATHER

**Glory to the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be for evermore. Amen.**

THE LORD HAVE MERCY

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

THE GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Glory to God in the highest.

**And on earth peace, among men with whom He is pleased. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory, O Lord God, heavenly king, God, the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For You alone are holy, You alone are Lord, You alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

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

**O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

The First Reading for \_\_\_\_\_ is written in chapter \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, beginning at verse \_\_\_\_\_.

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.    **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING

The Second Reading is written in chapter \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, beginning at verse \_\_\_\_\_.

After the reading:                      This is the Word of the Lord.

**Hallelujah Hallelujah Hallelujah.**

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel is written in the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter of the Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_, beginning at verse \_\_\_\_.

**Glory be to You, O Lord.**

After the Gospel:                      This is the Gospel of the Lord.    **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN 322 DEAR CHRISTIANS, ONE AND ALL REJOICE

1	2	3
Dear Christians, one and all rejoice, O sing with exultation, And with united heart and voice Declare your jubilation; Proclaim the wonders God hath done, How His right arm the victory won; Right dearly it hath cost Him.	In Satan's chains fast bound I lay, The doom of death hung o'er me; My sin oppressed me night and day, Wherein my mother bore me; And deeper, deeper still I fell, My life became a living hell, For sin enslaved me wholly.	But God was moved by mercy great Before the world's foundation; He saw my lost and wretched state And planned my soul's salvation. To me He turned a heart of love; O great the cost! From heaven above He gave His dearest treasure.
4	5	6
He spake to His beloved Son: 'Tis time to have compassion. Then go, My heart's most precious crown, And bring to man salvation; From sin and sorrow set him free, Slay bitter death for him that he May live with Thee for ever.	The Son His Father did obey, And, born of virgin-mother, He came awhile on earth to stay, That He might be my brother. His mighty power He hidden bore, A servant's form like mine He wore, To lead the devil captive.	He spake to me. Hold fast to Me, I am thy rock and castle; I wholly give Myself for thee, For thee I strive and wrestle; For I am Thine, and thou art Mine, Henceforth My place is also Thine; The foe shall never part us

7	In steadfast faith receive Me.
The foe will shed My precious blood, Of life will he bereave Me; All this I suffer for thy good:	My life o'er death the victory wins, My innocence doth bear thy sins, And thou art blest for ever.

SERMON - THE FATHER WOULD SEND ANOTHER ADVOCATE John 14:15-21

HYMN 119 COME DOWN, O LOVE DIVINE

1	3
Come down, O Love divine, Seek Thou this soul of mine, And visit it with Thine own ardour glowing; O Comforter, draw near, Within my heart appear, And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.	Let holy charity Mine outward vesture be, And lowliness become mine inner clothing: True lowliness of heart, Which takes the humbler part, And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
2	4
O let it freely burn, Till earthly passions turn To dust and ashes in its heat consuming; And let Thy glorious light Shine ever on my sight, And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.	And so the yearning strong, With which the soul will long, Shall far outpass the power of human telling; For none can guess its grace, Till he become the place Wherein the Holy Spirit makes His dwelling.

THE PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour, and give us peace. **Amen.**

### HYMN 197 LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN THY WORD

1	2	3
Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word; Curb those who fain by craft or sword Would wrest the kingdom from Thy Son And set at naught all He hath done.	Lord Jesus Christ, Thy power make known, For Thou art Lord of lords alone; Defend Thy Christendom, that we May evermore sing praise to Thee.	O Comforter of priceless worth, Grant one mind to Thy flock on earth, Support us in our final strife, And lead us out of death to life.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

It appears that our isolation is coming to an end, with both the Federal and State governments beginning to lift restrictions on indoor gatherings, and travel distance being increased to 150kms within the region. From 15 May to 11 June, 10 worshippers will be allowed within a church. Then from 12 June to 9 July, that figure lifts to 20. All going well, from 10 July, 100 people will be able to gather indoors. Of course, this could easily change, and so nothing is set in concrete.

However, I think we now have the opportunity to gather to say “g’day” and to receive the Lord’s Supper. So beginning this coming Sunday, the 17<sup>th</sup> of May, throughout the next month I shall be at the following churches to offer the Sacrament:

Sunday, May 17. Trinity Oakey from 8.00am to 12.00pm.

Sunday, May 24. Our Saviour Lowood from 9.00am to 11.00am.

Sunday, May 31. Bethlehem Toowoomba from 8.00am to 12.00pm.

Sunday, 7 June. St John’s Minden from 9.00am to 11.00am.

During these times, 9 members at a time will be able to come into the church where we shall hold a short HC service (about 25 mins). We should be able to hold 2 services an hour. We still have to adhere to social distancing (keeping 1.5m apart), and while members are in the church, those waiting outside will have to stay in their cars (although up to ten can gather outside together).

Instructions on seating in the church and receiving the Lord’s Supper will be given on the day. Hand wash will also be available (I may run a bit short, so if anyone can spare some, please bring it along). Please, if you plan on attending, and time isn’t an issue, try to come later rather than earlier, so there aren’t too many vehicles parked outside at the same time. If you are not feeling well, please stay at home, and if any of you cannot make any of the services, please let me know so that I can arrange to come to you.

An offering plate will be placed at the back of the church. If you wish to use your congregational envelopes they will be forwarded to each treasurer, and loose offerings will go into the parish account.

Orders of service will still continue to be recorded and made available.

I am not planning on resuming Bible Studies, Women’s Guild etc for at least another month yet.

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