

Fourth Sunday after Easter Anzac Day

Sentence of the Day

Turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord. *Acts 3.19–20*

Prayer of the Day

O God, our ruler and guide,
in whose hands are the destinies of this and every nation,
we give you thanks for the freedoms we enjoy in this land
and for those who laid down their lives to defend them:
We pray that we and all the people of Australia,
gratefully remembering their courage and their sacrifice,
may have grace to live in a spirit of justice,
of generosity, and of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah 4.1-4

4.1 In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised up above the hills.
Peoples shall stream to it,
² and many nations shall come and say:
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
³ He shall judge between many peoples,
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more;
⁴ but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,

and no one shall make them afraid;
for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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.

Second Reading

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews 10.32-11.1

³² But recall those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, ³³sometimes being publicly exposed to abuse and persecution, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. ³⁴For you had compassion for those who were in prison, and you cheerfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing that you yourselves possessed something better and more lasting. ³⁵Do not, therefore, abandon that confidence of yours; it brings a great reward. ³⁶For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. ³⁷For yet 'in a very little while,
the one who is coming will come and will not delay;
³⁸ but my righteous one will live by faith.
My soul takes no pleasure in anyone who shrinks back.'
³⁹But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who have faith and so are saved.

^{11.1} Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 15.9-17

+ Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.