

As a Christian community, meeting together to worship God, we affirm our commitment to ensuring the safety of each child who interacts with our community.

Our statement of commitment for Child Safety is available on our website or in the Narthex of each Parish Centre.

Mission Statement: *To live as disciples of Christ embracing his teaching of love and service to all.*

Vision Statement: *To be known as God's people of prayer, to be welcoming of all our sisters and brothers by being inclusive and sensitive to diversity, open to change and growing as a community by the love and grace of Christ.*

STEWARDSHIP GIVING

Please consider using Direct Deposit for your Stewardship giving.

Bank account details - BSB 703122, Indue Ltd. Account no. 05004414

The account is in the name of - St. Matthew's Glenroy/Hadfield with St. Linus' Merlynston

DIARY THIS WEEK

Wednesday 8th. May

Julian of Norwich, holy woman and mystic (d.1417)

Thursday 9th. May 10.00 am to 11.30 am. Playgroup at St. Linus' All Welcome to attend
ASCENSION DAY

Sunday 12th. May 9.00 am, Eucharist at St. Linus'
Ascension Sunday 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 18th. May 10.30 am. Parish Council at St. Linus'

Saturday 18th. May 10.00 am.-2.00 pm. National Day of Prayer, at 11 Kalang Rd. Glenroy
Be still and know that I am God

A Day Devoted to Adoration, Thanksgiving, and Prayer
Light refreshments will be on offer

Sunday 19th. May DAY of PENTECOST 9.00am. at St. Linus' 10.30am. at St. Matthew's
4.00pm. Hindi Eucharist

Monday 20th. May 1.30 pm. Connect Meditation: Guided Spiritual Meditation at St. Matthew's. Please bring a cushion or rug or both. All Welcome to participate in a time of relaxation and refreshment. Enquiries Glenda 0448 821 218

Sixth Sunday of Easter 05-05-2024

WELCOME

*The services within our parish can be seen on the screens during the service.
Please see one of our welcomers if you would like to use the complete prayer book.
Morning tea will follow the service.
Please join in our fellowship time.*



**The Anglican Parish of Glenroy / Hadfield with Merlynston
St Matthew's Church - 30 Widford St Glenroy 3046
St Linus' Church - 21 Glyndon Ave Merlynston 3058**

Where you find yourself in Christ

PARISH PRIEST: The Reverend Robert Koren
Email: priest@matthewlinus.org.au
Parish Mobile: 0493 384 108
Parish Phone: 9306 9528

This Week,

Rev Rob can be found at: St. Linus' - Mon. 9 am. to 3 pm. St. Matthew's - Fri. 9 am. to 3 pm.
Available at other times by appointment only.

**PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.org.au
PARISH FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/matthewlinus
PARISH PODCAST - www.buzzsprout.com/1974085**

Authorised Honorary Lay Minister
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

Authorised Honorary Parish Reader
Kerryn Pratchett 0409 306 818

**Pew Leaflet Notices:
please email gonana7@bigpond.com
by 4.00 pm. Wednesday**



Love. Grow. Serve.

Acknowledgement of Country

From time immemorial the Wurundjeri people have cared for this land, nurtured it, depended on it and given honour and thanks to the Creator.

As we acknowledge their faithful custodianship of the land, and the sacred stories they have told; as we offer our respect to their elders, past, present and emerging, guide us Lord in caring for them, this land, and each other with the help of the Holy Spirit of Dreaming.

Sentence; Jesus said, “you did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.
John 15. 16;

Collect: Loving God, your Son has chosen us and called us to be his friends; give us grace to keep his commandments, to love one another, and to bear fruit which will abide; through him who is the true vine, the source of all our life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles 10. 44-48

While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ‘Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Hear the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalms 98; said by alternate half verses;

- 1 O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
- 2 His right hand and his holy arm;
they have got him the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his just deliverance in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness toward the house of Israel;
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth;
break into singing and make melody.
- 6 Make melody to the Lord upon the harp;
upon the harp and with the sounds of praise.
- 7 With trumpets and with horns;
cry out in triumph before the Lord, the King.
- 8 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the good earth and those who live upon it.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the mountains ring out together before the Lord.
- 10 For he comes to judge the earth.
he shall judge the world with righteousness; and the peoples with equity.

The second reading is from the letter to the first letter of John 5. 1-12;

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the

water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. ⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Hear the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

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
Jesus said to his disciples: ‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I 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. You 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. I 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

Faith Matters!! What you abide in feeds your soul.

Have you heard the phrase “*You are what you eat?*”? This phrase tells us that the end result of who we are is determined by what we put into our bodies. For those who were mum’s in the 1970’s and 80’s you would remember this to be very true when raspberry cordial was served. It was proved that when the kids had raspberry cordial they would be more hyper. In the same way when we eat fatty foods or processed foods we are more likely to be sedentary and still as these foods require a lot of digestion and use up energy which would otherwise be dedicated to the activities we do. In the seen world we can find a lot of things that we do that have an effect on our bodies: more exercise equals more “happy” hormones, regular exposure to the sun means more “happy” hormones.

It is very similar in the unseen world. The passage above comes from what we know to be John’s farewell discourse and Jesus is preparing his disciples for a time when he is not with them. The journey of Holy Week is yet to happen, and they will journey through the time we call the Passion of the Christ. Their souls will go through a significant journey of sorrow, confusion, loss, grief and abandonment—and others emotions as well. In the passage today, Jesus is giving them a pointer. When your spirit is feeling low because things are spiritually hard and the world is against you, don’t sit in the misery of the moment and feed your soul with negativity, but take the time to abide in Jesus so that you change what is going into your spirit. Take the time to think about who Jesus is and what He means to your life. Take the time to be with Jesus and remind yourself that He is always with you. So how can we be intentional about doing this? When things are hard, saying we abide in Jesus is easier said than done. Psalm 98 reminds us that when are stuck in a particular thought, feeling or moment, then one thing we can do is “Sing a new song to the Lord”. In our modern way of describing things what this is asking us to do is to change the self talk that we play in our minds. When we are saying in our minds, “Where is my God”, “Why am I still sick after praying to you”, “Why is my child having problems have you not heard me” we are singing a song that comes from abiding in a life that is grounded in a life without Jesus or God. So sing a new song! Sing a song that starts with the idea that whatever is happening is part of God’s plan. When Job questioned God, God did not answer his questions as Job would not be able to comprehend the answer. Job would have needed to have the mind of God—which is as impossible for us as it was for Job.

As we move forward intentionally through Easter make sure that Jesus is the source and sustenance of your faith, and if you find yourself having self-talk in your mind that adds to your fear, anxiety and worry then sing a new song to the Lord. Reframe the self-talk so that it includes God’s love, compassion and care for you. You might even consider singing your favourite hymn in the shower, but you are not going to get closer to God by doing things that keep Jesus away. Sing a new song for God does marvellous things in your life. *Blessings, Rev. Rob.*