

The Rev'd. Roger Hesketh reads the statement of deconsecration.

The statements of dedication issued in 1912 and 1923 are revoked and this building and all objects remaining in it are remitted for any lawful and reputable secular use, according to the laws of this land. It is therefore declared that this building to be no longer subject to the Bishop of Tasmania's canonical jurisdiction.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen



St Albans Pipers River



A celebration of gratitude
for the blessings of God upon
congregations past and present,
though this church building

3rd March 2019

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION *(Peter Cox)*

Friends in Christ,

We come together as God's people to give thanks for the faithful ministry in this building for the past 117 years.

In this service we will hear from God's holy word, and pray for our world, or community and ongoing Christian ministry in Pipers River and beyond. We do so remembering that God does not dwell in church buildings, great or small and that Christ dwells by faith in the hearts of all who love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence:

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. *(Joshua 1:9)*

OPENING HYMN *Onward Christian Soldiers (Sabine Baring-Gould 1865)*

- 1 **Onward, Christian Soldiers, marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus, going on before!
Christ, the royal Master, Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle, See, His banners go!**
 *Onward, Christian soldiers,
 Marching as to war,
 With the cross of Jesus
 Going on before.*
2. **At the name of Jesus, satan's legions flee;
On then, Christian soldiers, on to victory!
Hell's foundations quiver, at the shout of praise;
Christians, lift your voices; loud your anthems raise:**
 *Onward, Christian soldiers,
 Marching as to war,
 With the cross of Jesus
 Going on before.*

Hymn: One more step along the world I go. *Sydney Carter (1915-2004)*

1. **One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go;
from the old things to the new
keep me traveling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me traveling along with you.**
2. **Round the corners of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
and the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me traveling along with you.**
3. **As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me traveling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me traveling along with you.**
4. **Give me courage when the world is rough,
Keep me loving though the world is tough;
Leap and sing in all I do,
Keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me travelling along with you.**
5. **You are older than the world can be,
You are younger than the life in me;
Ever old and ever new,
Keep me travelling along with you.
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me travelling along with you.**

After Communion

Living God,
in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.
May the power of your love,
which we have known in word and sacrament,
continue your saving work among us,
give us courage for our pilgrimage,
and bring us to the joys you promise.

CLOSURE AND DECONSECRATION *Mr Peter Cox*

Brothers and sisters, this building was licenced and set apart solely for the ministry of God's holy word and sacraments will now be used for other purposes.

To many, this is a hallowed place of cherished memories, and we all experience a sense of loss as we surrender something of our history. Yet we are comforted in the knowledge that God's presence is not tied to any place or any building, as we place our confidence in the crucified and risen Christ who leads us faithfully into God's new day.

The congregation stand

Teach us, gracious Lord,
to begin our works with reverence,
to go on in obedience,
and finish them with love;
and then to wait patiently in hope,
looking joyfully to you
whose promises are faithful and rewards infinite,
through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen

3. Like a mighty army, moves the Church of God:
Christians we are treading, where the saints have trod.
We are not divided, all one body we,
One in hope and doctrine, one in charity.
Onward, Christian soldiers...
4. Onward, then, ye people! Join our happy throng;
Blend with ours your voices, in the triumph-song:
Glory, laud, and honour, unto Christ the King!
This through countless ages, men and angels sing:
Onward, Christian soldiers...

Let us pray together

*Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Hymn of Praise (*Gloria in excelsis*)

Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One;
you alone are the Lord;
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Prayer for the Occasion (Collect)

Blessed are you,
O Lord our God, king of the universe.
You fill the entire world with your presence;
your name is to be hallowed through all the earth.
Receive our praise and thanksgiving for the blessings,
help, and comfort which you have bestowed
upon your people in Pipers River.
Continue your mercies to your Church,
that we may be conscious of your unchanging love
as we take leave of this place of worship;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BRIEF REFLECTIONS: *Brian Baxter*

First Reading: (Genesis 12:1-3 NLT) *Reader Linda Ring*

The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you.² I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,
we remember his life of obedience to you,
his suffering and death,
his resurrection and exaltation,
and his promise to be with us for ever.
With this bread and this cup
we celebrate his saving death until he comes.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Invitation to Communion

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of
Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in
our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Today we give you special thanks for our fellowship
with Christ and each other,
For all that has been good and true
in this season of our life together
Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

And so, with everyone who believes in you,
with all the saints and angels,
we rejoice and praise you, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

And now we thank you
for these gifts of bread and wine;
may we who receive them,
as Jesus said,
share his body and his blood.
On the night he was betrayed, he took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said,
'Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks.
He shared the cup with them and said,
'This is my blood poured out
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**We remember his death on the cross.
We proclaim the resurrection to new life.
We await Christ's coming in glory.**

and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. ³ I will
bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with
contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you."

Response

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 27:9-17 (APBA)

- 8 And I will offer sacrifices in his sanctuary with exultation:
I will sing, I will sing praises to the Lord.
- 9 O Lord, hear my voice when I cry:
have mercy upon me and answer me.
- 10 My heart has said of you, 'Seek his face':
your face, Lord, I will seek.
- 11 Do not hide your face from me:
or thrust your servant aside in displeasure;
- 12 For you have been my helper:
do not cast me away or forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 13 Though my father and my mother forsake me:
the Lord will take me up.
- 14 Teach me your way, O Lord:
and lead me in an even path, for they lie in wait for me.
- 15 Do not give me over to the will of my enemies:
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and those who breathe out violence.
- 16 But I believe that I shall surely see the goodness of the Lord:
in the land of the living.
- 17 O wait for the Lord;
stand firm and he will strengthen your heart:
and wait, I say, for the Lord.

HYMN A new commandment

A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another
as I have loved you,
that you love one another
as I have loved you.

By this shall all men know
that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another;
by this shall all men know
that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.
(Repeat)

Second Reading: *Reader Brian Baxter*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, Chapter
10, verses 17 to 22

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honour your father and mother.'"

²⁰ "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy."

²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he

4. **Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.**

The gifts of the people are brought to the Lord's Table.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Rev'd Ian Wheeler)

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God, you made us, the world and everything in it.

All the good we see comes from you.

You have always loved us - but people have not always loved you.

You sent Jesus to show us how to live.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that on the cross Jesus took away our sin,
all that keeps us from each other and from you.

He frees us from hate and fear,

from all that destroys love and trust.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God is slow to anger and full of compassion.
He forgives those who humbly repent
and trust in his Son as Saviour and Lord.
God therefore forgives you in Christ Jesus:
In Him there is no condemnation. **Amen**

Passing of the peace

We are the Body of Christ
His Spirit is with us

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Offertory Hymn Breathe on me, breath of God (*Edwin Hatch 1835-89*)

1. **Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.**
2. **Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure;
Until my will is one with Thine
To do, and to endure.**
3. **Breathe on me, Breath of God,
'Till I am wholly Thine;
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with Thy fire Divine.**

said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

²² At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

Response

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON *Rev'd. Roger Hesketh*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Involves movement to different parts of the Church, led by various parishioners.

Let us bring before the Lord our prayers of thanksgiving for our life together as the congregation of St Albans and for the blessings God has brought us in this place of worship.

At the front pew of the nave *Mrs Robyn Wheeler*

Almighty God, you gathered us in this place as your Church and filled our hearts with your love through our songs and our praises. You heard our confessions and we were assured of the forgiveness our sins. You lifted our sorrows and made us glad in our celebrations. We praise and thank you for our fellowship and your love, for our meetings and our meals, for our ministry and our mission, and for all that you have been for us and with us in our life together.

We praise and thank you, O Lord, for all these things.

At the Baptismal Font. Rev'd. Trish Anderson

Almighty God, in baptism you receive us in a covenant of grace with your Son, Jesus Christ. We thank you for the many who have been baptised at this font and welcomed into the Church, the Body of Christ. May we with them turn to Christ, repent of our sin and renounce evil and keep in step with the Spirit and grow in faith, hope and love.

We praise and thank you, O Lord, for all these things.

At the Pulpit. Rev'd. Roger Hesketh

Almighty God, you speak to us through your powerful Word, through the stories and songs of faith and ultimately in the Word made flesh. We give thanks for the faithful preaching of your word, may it continue to be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path

We praise and thank you, O Lord, for all these things.

At the Holy Table. Rev'd. Ian Wheeler

Almighty God, you welcome us to the banquet of Our Lord and Saviour in your heavenly kingdom. We thank you that by faith in this we have foretaste of the feast to come as we share in the bread and wine and are united through Jesus body and blood, strengthened for our witness and work in the world

We praise and thank you, O Lord, for all these things.

At the place of leading prayer. Rev'd. Trish Anderson

For all these things and for so many more, we give you our heartfelt thanks, almighty God.

We give thanks for all the people who have enabled ministry in this place...

We give thanks that in your wisdom you know our hearts and our joys, sorrows and anxieties and in your love you call us to bring them to you...

Guide us in the ways of your eternal kingdom and in the peace of your Son who taught us to pray,

Let us Pray together

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name.**

**your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth, as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us our sins**

as we forgive those who sin against us.

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen**

Confession

**Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have gone our own way
and broken your laws.**

**We are sorry for our sins
and turn away from them.**

**For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us and change us.**

**By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you,
and to please you more and more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**