

Dear Beloved,

Catherine is going to bless us with here words about God's multiplication this week.



Blessings

Wendy

Community Day Saturday, 23rd September

Please encourage any community groups you know to have a stall.

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Community Day Saturday, 23rd September

Please think about how you can help on the day.

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Community Day Saturday, 23rd September

Please take some posters and put them up wherever you can.

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Wendy's last Sunday in the Parish 24th September

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Morning Tea after the Service every 2nd and 4th Sunday

please volunteer for the roster.

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Midweek Services every Wednesday at 9.30

all Welcome

--
Please volunteer for the church roster, well in advance.
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Prayer and Praise

Wendy

Catherine

Edith and Colin Mayhew
--
Glenn Fletcher

Alan Hood

our wardens and Parish Councillors
--
Bernie and Gayle

Scott's wife Jennie.
--
Beryl Lucas Mary Mitchell's sister in Palliative Care (Cancer)

Beattie Russell and Jenni Roberts in Yallambie.
--
Liz Pirie

Leanne Lowery

Mary Mitchell
--
Peter & Julie Harris from Bredbo

all congregations in Cooma
--
The Catholic priest Father Mark Croker as he ministers from Bombala
through to the mountains
--
for each other that we may be salt and light in this community
--
People everywhere who are living through war or disasters of every kind.

27 8 2023 2.5

Hymn TIS 231 At the name of Jesus

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.

Sentence

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false; they will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation. Psalm 24.4, 5

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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

Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses: grant that we, encouraged by the example of your servant Abraham, may persevere in running the race that is set before us, until at last with him we may attain to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Exodus 1.8–2.10

⁸ Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. ⁹ 'Look,' he said to his people, 'the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. ¹⁰ Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country.' ¹¹ So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labour. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites ¹³ and worked them ruthlessly

¹⁵ The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, ¹⁶ 'When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live.' ¹⁷ The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. ¹⁸ Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, 'Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?' ¹⁹ The midwives answered Pharaoh, 'Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive.'

²² Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: 'Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live.' ¹ Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, ² and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. ³ But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. ⁵ Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river-bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. ⁶ She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. 'This is one of the Hebrew babies,' she said. ⁷ Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?' ⁸ 'Yes, go,' she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. ⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you.' So the woman took the baby and nursed him. ¹⁰ When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Psalm 124

¹ If the Lord had not been on our side, now may Israel say: if the Lord had not been on our side, when our enemies rose against us,

² Then they would have swallowed us alive: when their anger was kindled against us.

³ Then the waters would have overwhelmed us, and the torrent gone over us: the raging waters would have gone clean over us.

⁴ But praised be the Lord: who has not given us as a prey to their teeth.

⁵ We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler: the snare is broken, and we have gone free.

⁶ Our help is in the name of the Lord: who has made heaven and earth.

Romans 12.1–8

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will. ³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Matthew 16.13–20

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.
Sermon

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers

Response Jesus, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

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 for ever. Amen.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3.16

Prayer of Approach [Let us pray.]

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.

But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Invitation to Confession

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table. Let us therefore draw near in full assurance of faith, and confess our sins to the God of grace.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.**

Hymn TIS 599 (ii) Take my Life and let it be

OFFERTORY

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.**

Thanksgiving

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

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.**

Loving God, we thank you for this world of wonder and delight. You have given it to us to care for, so that all your creatures may enjoy its bounty. Lord our God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

We thank you that when we turned away from you, you sent Jesus to live and work as one of us, and bring us back to you.

He showed us how to love you and set us free to love and serve one another.

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.**

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.'

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

Fill us with your Spirit that we may follow Jesus in all we do and say, working for justice and bringing your peace to this world that you have made.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread. The gifts of God for the people of God. 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 with thanksgiving.

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. Amen The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. Amen

Prayer after Communion

Father of all

we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

Keep us in this hope that we have grasped: so we and all your people will be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name.

Hymn TIS 571 Forth in your name, O Lord I go

Blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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



Today, we will talk about three things that come with the promise of God,

The calling of God - **God calls;**

The blessing of God - **God blesses;** and

The multiplication of God - God multiplies.

In **2 Corinthians 1:20** the Bible says, "For all the promises of God are in Him Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." **In Him** means in Christ and **in Him Amen** means "So be it".



The calling of God - **God calls**

God has called us out of darkness into His Marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9

Before exodus, we see God calling one man, Abraham out of darkness. Abraham was a moon worshipper. God asked Abraham to leave his land, his relatives and his father's house to a land that God would show him. God promised to **bless** Abraham, make him a great nation, **multiply** him, and make him a blessing. There was nothing above which God could swear by, and so God swore by Himself that He would bless Abraham and all the people on earth would be blessed through him.

God called Moses to deliver the children of Israel out of bondage into the promised land.

God called Samuel to be priest and judge over the children of Israel.

God called and anointed David to be king over Israel.

God called Paul to preach to the gentiles.



Today, God is calling us into His Marvelous light to be a light of the world. [Matthew 5:14-16]



The blessing of God - God blesses.

Out of one man, Abraham, we see God fulfilling the promise of blessing Abraham. Abraham was blessed in all things! including his health, and when the king of Egypt took Abraham's wife, we see God intervening in the situation and told the king, "Today, you are a dead man because of the woman you have taken". There is divine protection in the kingdom of God.

Moses was born at a time when the king had issued an edict for the midwives to kill all the Hebrew boys at birth, and we see God intervening in the situation to save Moses. Moses is raised in Pharaoh's courts and is educated. The name Moses means "Drawing out" and Moses would later be the blessing that God uses to draw the children of Israel out of the captivity in Egypt into the promised land.



1st Samuel 13:14 and **Acts 13:22** - The bible records that David was a man after God's own heart. God blessed David even making him the lineage through which Jesus would be born.

Acts 10 - Cornelius, an Italian regiment was a devout man who feared God along with his household. He did many charitable deeds for the Jewish people and always prayed to God. One day God told him his giving had reached God. God blessed him by saving him and his household, even though he was a Gentile. This blessing caused Peter to realise that salvation had been given to both the Jews and the Gentiles.

Here, salvation came to Cornelius and his household. Today God has given us the gift of salvation together with our households.



Proverbs 10:22 -The blessing of the LORD makes rich, and it adds no sorrow.

Today we have the blessing of Jesus who has redeemed us and delivered us from the bondage of sin. He is calling us to His saving grace.

Revelation 3:22 "Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in, to him and dine with him and he with me.

Will you invite him into your heart today, for you and your family?



The multiplication of God - God multiplies.

Now, there was a great famine in the land, but by God's divine purpose, Joseph who was a descendant of Abraham was in Egypt. We see God preserving the seed of Abraham during this time of famine. God has multiplied Abraham who was an old man, and his wife Sarah who was barren to 70 descendants. The fulfilment of the multiplication promise starts to unfold. For 400 years, the children of Israel were in Egypt and in those 400 years, God had multiplied them from 70 to about four hundred thousand.

God is generational.



Let us pray for one another. Let us continue to pray for our families.

Prayer: Thank you Lord for your word and for the gift of salvation. Your word says that if we repent of our sins, you are faithful and just to forgive us. I renounce sin and ask that you will forgive me. I forgive every person who has wronged me. I ask you to be my Lord and saviour. In Jesus name, Amen.

