

Cooma Anglican 1 June 2025 - 1st Order APBA

Welcome

Hymn TIS 168 - For the fruit of all creation

**For the fruit of all creation, Thanks be to God
For His gifts to every nation, Thanks be to God
For the ploughing sowing reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping
Future needs in earth's safekeeping, Thanks be to God**

**In the just reward of labour, God's will is done
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done**

**For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God
For the wonders that astound us
For the truths that still confound us
Most of all that love has found us, Thanks be to God**

Greeting

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

Sentence of the Day

Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life. John 4:13, 14

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.

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

Lord, have mercy on us, and write your law in our hearts by your Holy Spirit

Prayer of the Day

Lord of the wellspring,
source of life and truth: give us the courage of the Samaritan woman, so that we may receive living water, and worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ who quenches our thirst with eternal life. **Amen**

The Ministry of the Word

Jeremiah 17:13-16

¹² A glorious throne, exalted from the beginning, is the place of our sanctuary. ¹³ LORD, you are the hope of Israel; all who forsake you will be put to shame. Those who turn away from you will be written in the dust because they have forsaken the LORD, the spring of living water. ¹⁴ Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise. ¹⁵ They keep saying to me, “Where is the word of the LORD? Let it now be fulfilled!” ¹⁶ I have not run away from being your shepherd; you know I have not desired the day of despair. What passes my lips is open before you.

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

Psalms 42:1-8

¹ As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.

² **My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?**

³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”

⁴ **These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.**

⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

⁶ **My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon —from Mount Mizar.**

⁷ Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me.

⁸ **By day the LORD directs his love, at night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life.**

Revelation 7:13-17

¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?” ¹⁴ I answered, “Sir, you know.” And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore, “they are before the throne of God

and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ ‘Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,’ nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; ‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’ ‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

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

John 4:1-26

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

¹ Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John — ² although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. ³ So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee. ⁴ Now he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. ⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹ “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?” ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?” ¹³ Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” ¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.” ¹⁶ He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.” ¹⁷ “I have no husband,” she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.” ¹⁹ “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹ “Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.” ²⁵ The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is

coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”²⁶ Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

This is the gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Sermon John 4:1-26 - Living Water

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose from the dead, he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving for Offering

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

Prayers

Let us pray for the world and the church.

Response: Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,

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.

Exhortation

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we who would come to the holy communion of the body and blood of our Saviour Christ must consider how St Paul exhorts us to examine ourselves before presuming to eat of that bread and drink of that cup.

For the benefit is great, if with a penitent heart and lively faith we receive that holy sacrament. We then spiritually eat the flesh of Christ and drink his blood; we dwell in Christ and he in us; we are one with Christ and Christ with us.

Yet also the danger is great if we receive the bread and cup unworthily. Judge yourselves therefore, that you be not judged of the Lord. Repent truly of your sins, having a steadfast faith in Christ our Saviour. Amend your lives and love your neighbour.

Above all, give hearty thanks to God for the redemption of the world by the death and passion of our Saviour Christ, truly God and truly human, who humbled himself to death on the cross for us sinners, that he might make us children of God, and raise us to eternal life.

You who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God and walking in his holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to strengthen and comfort you. But first, let us make a humble confession of our sins to almighty God.

Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we acknowledge with shame the sins we have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against your divine majesty, provoking most justly your wrath and indignation against us.

We earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for all our misdoings. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please you in newness of life, to the honour and glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all who with hearty repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the words of assurance for those who truly turn to Christ: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, and he is the perfect offering for our sins. 1 John 2:1-2

Hymn TIS 534 Love is His word love is His way

**Love is His word love is His way
Feasting with men fasting alone
Living and dying rising again
Love only love is His way**

Chorus

Richer than gold is the love of my Lord

Better than splendour and wealth

**Love is His way love is His mark
Sharing His last Passover feast
Christ at His table host to the Twelve
Love only love is His mark *Chorus***

**Love is His mark love is His sign
Bread for our strength wine for our joy
This is my body this is my blood
Love only love is His sign *Chorus***

**Love is His sign love is His news
Do this He said lest you forget
All my deep sorrow, all my dear blood
Love only love is His news *Chorus***

**Love is His news love is His name
We are His own chosen and called
Family brethren cousins and kin
Love only love is His name *Chorus***

**Love is His name love is His law
Hear His command all who are His
Love one another I have loved you
Love only love is His law *Chorus***

**Love is His law love is His word
Love of the Lord Father and Word
Love of the Spirit God ever one
Love only love is His word *Chorus***

The Thanksgiving

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.

It is indeed right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, Lord, Mighty Creator and Eternal God. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory to you, O Lord most high.**

Prayer of Approach

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.

All glory to you, our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death on the cross for our redemption: who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until his coming again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that we who receive these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who on the night he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given you thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' Likewise after supper he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, 'Drink from this, all of you; for this is my blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' Amen.

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.

After Communion

Almighty and everliving God, we heartily thank you that you graciously feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and thus assure us of your favour and goodness towards us and that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people, and are also heirs, through hope, of your eternal kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of your dear Son. And we humbly beseech you, heavenly Father, so to assist us with your grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as you have prepared for us to walk in, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, world without end.

Hymn TIS 517 Hallelujah! sing to Jesus

**Hallelujah! sing to Jesus, his the sceptre, his the throne;
hallelujah! his the triumph, his the victory alone;**

**hark, the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
'Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood.'**

**Hallelujah! not as orphans, are we left in sorrow now;
hallelujah! he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise, 'I am with you evermore'?**

**Hallelujah! bread of heaven, and on earth our food, our stay;
hallelujah! here the sinful flee to you from day to day;
intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, plead for me
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Hallelujah! King eternal, you the Lord of lords we own;
hallelujah! born of Mary, earth your footstool, heav'n your throne:
you within the veil have entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest;
you on earth both priest and victim, in the eucharistic feast.**

Notices

Dismissal

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.**

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

Sermon John 4:1-26 - Living Water

Two weeks ago, Jesus used an image for salvation that Nicodemus did not understand. Nicodemus could not understand how he could be born again.

In our gospel reading today, Jesus uses a different image for salvation, living water, that the Samaritan woman did not understand either.

Before we look at this, we need to put it into context. Jesus had left Judea for Galilee, and passed through Samaritan territory. Jews and Samaritans really didn't get on, as we see a few times in the gospels (for example the parable of the good Samaritan), and they wouldn't normally have anything to do with each other. Most Jew travelling from Judea to Galilee would go the long way around to avoid entering Samaria.

The background to this was after the Assyrians captured Samaria [the capital of the Northern kingdom of Israel] in 722-21 BC, they deported all the Israelites of substance and settled the land with foreigners, who intermarried with the surviving Israelites and adhered to some form of their ancient religion (2 Kings 17-18). After the exile [of the Southern kingdom in Babylon], Jews, returning to their homeland ... viewed the Samaritans not only as the children of political rebels but as racial half-breeds whose religion was tainted by various unacceptable elements. Also, about 400 BC the Samaritans erected a rival temple on Mount Gerizim.

So, despite this, Jesus enters Samaria, and then, to make things worse, he stops to chat with a disreputable Samaritan woman, and asks her to get him a drink from the well with her bucket.

Jesus knew she had a bad reputation, having five husbands and now living with a man she wasn't married to, but also she was collecting water in the heat of the middle of the day because she was too embarrassed to meet people who knew her reputation, same everyone else collected water in the cool of the morning or evening.

When asked for a drink, the woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" and Jesus answered

"If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman obviously doesn't understand this idea of living water, even when Jesus tells her "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Now she is really confused, she wants this living water so she doesn't have to keep drawing water from the well, which leads Jesus into a discussion about her marital status.

However, before we move on, there are five things Jesus says about the water that he offers the Samaritan woman, and that he offers you today.

Firstly, It's the gift of God (verse 10: "If you knew the gift of God"). Ephesians 2:8-9 tells us 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. You can't do anything to deserve this gift, this living water

Secondly, It's living water (verse 1b: "He would have given you living water"). Our old testament reading this morning from Jeremiah describes God as the spring of living water that heals us and saves us.

Thirdly, If you drink it, you never thirst again—that is, it's always there to satisfy you when your longing soul is thirsty (verse 14: "Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again"). This speaks to God's loving faithfulness

Fourthly, this water becomes a spring—a well of water (verse 14: "The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water"). That's why you never get thirsty again—not because one drink is enough, but because one true drink produces a well for an eternity of drinks.

And finally, this water gives eternal life (verse 14: "... a spring of water welling up to eternal life."). Our reading from revelation is talking about eternal life when 16 'Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. When the sun will not beat down on them,' nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; 'he will lead them to springs of living water.'

For as Jesus went on to say to the woman "a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." Worshipping God is not about which mountain you are on. It doesn't matter if you are on Mount Zion, Mount Gerazim, or even Mount Kosciusko.

The woman said she knew that Messiah, the Christ, was coming and Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

In talking to the woman, Jesus had moved from saying he is the living water in verses 1-15, the prophet verses 16-19, the Saviour who makes true spiritual worship possible in verses 20-24 and in verses 25-26 that he is the Messiah. I have primarily focused today on him being there living water, but in reality Jesus is all these things: living water, prophet, saviour and Messiah. I said earlier that it didn't matter which mountain we worship on, but what does matter is who we worship, that we worship Jesus, the living water, the prophet, the saviour and the Messiah in the spirit and in truth.

Do you worship Jesus in the spirit and in truth?