

Cooma Anglican 3 August 2025 1st Order APBA

Welcome

Hymn TIS 693 - For the fruit of all creation

**Come as you are, that's how I want you.
Come as you are, feel quite at home.
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven;
come as you are, why stand alone?**

**No need to fear, love sets no limits.
No need to fear, love never ends.
Don't run away, shamed as disheartened.
Rest in my love, trust me again.**

**I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.
Each time you fail to live by my promise,
why do you think I'd love you the less?**

**Come as you are, that's how I love you.
Come as you are, trust me again.
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.
All will be well, just come as you are.**

Greeting

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

Sentence of the Day

But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded. Genesis 8:1

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

O God, giver of life and health, whose Son Jesus Christ has called us to hunger and thirst for justice; refresh us with your grace, that we may not be weary in well-doing, for the sake of him who meets all our needs, Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

The Ministry of the Word

Genesis 8:1-5, 14-22

¹ But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded. ² Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of the heavens had been closed, and the rain had stopped falling from the sky. ³ The water receded steadily from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the water had gone down, ⁴ and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. ⁵ The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible. ¹⁴ By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ “Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷ Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number on it.”

¹⁸ So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. ¹⁹ All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on land—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. ²¹ The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: “Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. ²² “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

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

Psalms 55:1-8,22-23

¹ Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea;

² **hear me and answer me. My thoughts trouble me and I am distraught**

³ because of what my enemy is saying, because of the threats of the wicked; for they bring down suffering on me and assail me in their anger.

⁴ **My heart is in anguish within me; the terrors of death have fallen on me.**

⁵ Fear and trembling have beset me; horror has overwhelmed me.

⁶ **I said, “Oh, that I had the wings of a dove! I would fly away and be at rest.**

⁷ I would flee far away and stay in the desert;

⁸ I would hurry to my place of shelter, far from the tempest and storm. ”

²² Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

²³ But you, God, will bring down the wicked into the pit of decay; the bloodthirsty and deceitful will not live out half their days. But as for me, I trust in you.

1 Peter 3:15-22

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷ For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹ After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits — ²⁰ to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand — with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

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

Matthew 10:26-33

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

²⁶ “So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. ²⁸ Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. ³⁰ And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

³² “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

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

Sermon - Genesis 8 - God Remembers

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 597 Master speak, Thy servant heareth

**Master speak Thy servant heareth
Waiting for Thy gracious word
Longing for Thy voice that cheereth
Master let it now be heard
I am listening Lord for Thee
What hast Thou to say to me**

**Speak to me by name O Master
Let me know it is to me
Speak that I may follow faster
With a step more firm and free
Where the Shepherd leads the flock
In the shadow of the rock**

**Master speak and make me ready
When Thy voice is truly heard
With obedience glad and steady
Still to follow every word
I am listening Lord for Thee
Master speak O speak to me**

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 592 Stand up, stand up for Jesus

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, as soldiers of the cross;
lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss;
from victory on to victory his army he shall lead
till every foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey;
forth to the mighty conflict in this his glorious day!
All Christians true now serve him against unnumbered foes;
let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in his strength alone:
the arm of flesh will fail you, you dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armour, each piece put on with prayer;
where duty calls, or danger, be never wanting there.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the strife will not be long:
this day the noise of battle, the next the triumph song.
To those who are victorious a crown of life shall be;
they with the King of Glory shall reign eternally.**

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 - Genesis 8 - God Remembers

Reminding people is big business these days. It used to just be paper diaries, and when I was younger, I always carried my little pocket diary to remember the appointments, provided I wrote them down.

Nowadays, my phone, my emails, my social media accounts all compete to remind me of any possible thing I may want to remember. I get emails reminding me to follow up emails I sent days ago. Computers read my emails and my texts, deciding whether or not they should be added to my calendar so I can be reminded of them later, and lately I receive lots of emails from the apps on my phone, reminding me of what they thought I was doing and where I was on this day years ago. About the only thing they really remind me of is what a dull life I lead and how little I travel!

So, being reminded and remembering is important, and so much more than the things my wife has asked me to do. The anguish of losing our memories to Alzheimer's terrifies the elderly and their carers, and even forgetting little things, like where I left my phone can cause immeasurable confusion and inconvenience.

God remembered

In our page from Genesis today, we start with God remembering. Our great God is not only a personal God who knows and cares for every individual human and animal personally, he is a God who remembers and deeply cares about everything we do and everything we have ever done. You may think that the God only had 8 people to worry about at that time, and quite a few dozen animals, but he also had the rest of the entire universe, with 200 Septillion stars or so - and he didn't forget Noah and his family. God explicitly sent a wind to dry the waters from all over the land, and when the land was completely dry, told Noah, ¹⁶ "Come

out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷ Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground."

God could have given up on the world - after all, he had all but completely destroyed it and every living creature. As everyone who has an old house knows, it is often much easier and cheaper to demolish and rebuild than to try and renovate your old house, but this is not God's way. Back in chapter 6, God said he would establish his covenant with Noah, and you will enter the ark. God did not forget his covenant, his promise, and having saved Noah and his family through the flood, was not about to forget them, no matter how much the world had displeased him.

Noah remembered

So, as God remembered Noah, so Noah remembered God. "Noah built an altar to the LORD. Taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. And the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma."

Noah was not told to make a sacrifice. Just like Abel before him, he offered back to God some of the creatures that God had saved in the ark. Like Abel, and unlike Cain, he offered clean animals that were pleasing to God, and God was pleased. Noah showed his faith that God could repopulate the earth despite the sacrifices, and unlike the rest of the world as we discussed last week, Noah was completely focused on God and his plan.

As Noah did, we need to remember God and keep our focus on him. It is so easy for us to focus on our jobs at hand and not God. Noah could have focused on building a house to live in, to establish crops to feed his family, or even to figure out ways to keep the animals separate so they could repopulate the earth instead of eating each other. Instead, he chose to worship God,

to offer him a praise and thanksgiving sacrifice for not only saving him and his family and all the living creatures, but for remembering them when the waters went down.

We need to focus on God rather than the tasks at hand. After all, God can provide for us despite our failings, if we only put our trust in him. Just as God does not forget the most insignificant of the sparrow, Jesus reminded us that the very hairs of your head are all numbered by God. We are not to be afraid; we are worth more than many sparrows. Similarly, he said: Do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' Instead we are to seek first his kingdom, and all those things shall be given to us as well. Remember God, and he will remember you.

Something to remember

As God remembered Noah, and Noah remembered God, God made Noah a promise that we need to remember. God said "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though **every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood**. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done."²²

"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

God would always remember his creation. Even after the flood, when so many people and animals died, Noah, his family, and all who are descended from them still sinned. Even today, every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. Despite this, God has promised that he will never again destroy all living creatures as he did in the flood.

In fact, one day, Jesus will return, and the heavens and earth will be laid bare, and then renewed into the perfect heaven and earth that God always intended, a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. You see, Jesus died to pay the penalty for

all the sin of this world, for all the evil in human hearts. In his death, the penalty has been paid for all who put their trust in him as Lord and Saviour, and on that day when Jesus returns to lay the world bare, they will be raised up to eternal life in the new heaven and the new earth.

We must not forget that this is coming, even though in the last days scoffers will come, saying "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." ⁵ But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶ By these waters also the world of that time (at the time of Noah) was deluged and destroyed.

We must not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He will not forget his promise. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. The day of the Lord will come. Until then, as God promised Noah, "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

After then, those who trust in him will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ 'He will wipe every tear from our eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

God will always remember this promise, and we must remember it too. Let us, like the thief on the cross cry out, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." For Jesus will surely answer him, "Truly I tell you, you will be with me in paradise."

God will remember. Will you?