

Cooma Anglican 14 June 2026 2nd Order 1st Thanksgiving APBA

Welcome

Hymn - TIS 408 - O breath of God, breathe on us now

O breath of God, breathe on us now
and move within us while we pray;
you are the spring of our new life,
the very light of our new day.

How strangely you are with us, Lord,
neither in height nor depth to seek:
in nearness shall your voice be heard;
spirit to spirit you will speak.

Christ is our advocate on high;
you are our advocate within:
O plead the truth, and make reply
to every argument of sin.

But what a faithless heart of mine:
the way I know, I know my guide:
forgive me, O my friend divine,
that I so often turn aside.

Be with me when no other friend
the mystery of my heart can share;
be always known, when fears descend,
by your best name of Comforter.

Greeting

The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you. **And also with you**

Sentence of the Day

These are the clans of Noah's sons, according to their lines of descent, within their nations. From these nations spread out over the earth after the flood. Genesis 10:32

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: 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.

'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it:

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

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

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

Lord, we beseech you to keep your family, the Church, in continual godliness, and through your protection it may be free from adversaries, and devoutly given to serve you in good works, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Ministry of the Word

Genesis 10:1-6. 21-32 (NIV)

¹This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, Noah's sons, who themselves had sons after the flood. ² The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshek and Tiras.

³ The sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Riphath and Togarmah.

⁴ The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, the Kittites and the Rodanites. ⁵ (From these the maritime peoples spread out into their territories by their clans within their nations, each with its own language.)

⁶ The sons of Ham: Cush, Egypt, Put and Canaan.

²¹ Sons were also born to Shem, whose older brother was Japheth; Shem was the ancestor of all the sons of Eber.

²² The sons of Shem: Elam, Ashur, Arphaxad, Lud and Aram.

²³ The sons of Aram: Uz, Hul, Gether and Meshek. ²⁴ Arphaxad was the father of Shelah, and Shelah the father of Eber.

²⁵ Two sons were born to Eber: One was named Peleg, because in his time the earth was divided; his brother was named Joktan.

²⁶ Joktan was the father of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, 27 Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, 28 Obal, Abimael, Sheba, 29 Ophir, Havilah and Jobab. All these were sons of Joktan.

³⁰ The region where they lived stretched from Mesha toward Sephar, in the eastern hill country.

³¹ These are the sons of Shem by their clans and languages, in their territories and nations.

³² These are the clans of Noah's sons, according to their lines of descent, within their nations. From these the nations spread out over the earth after the flood.

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

Psalm 111 (NIV)

¹ Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

² **Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

³ Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate.**

⁵ **He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.**

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations.

⁷ **The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.**

⁸ They are established for ever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹ **He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever—
holy and awesome is his name.**

¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.**

1 Peter 3:18-22 (NIV)

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**

Luke 3:23-38 (NIV)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

²³ Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli, ²⁴ the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melki, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, ²⁵ the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai, ²⁶ the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josek, the son of Joda, ²⁷ the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, ²⁸ the son of Melki, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, ²⁹ the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, ³⁰ the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, ³¹ the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, ³² the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon, ³³ the son of Amminadab, the son of Ram, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah, ³⁴ the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, ³⁵ the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of Shelah, ³⁶ the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, ³⁷ the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalalel, the son of Kenan, ³⁸ the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

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

Sermon - The Table of Nations

The 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 of 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 fully 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 worshiped 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

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.

We are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. 1 John 3:2-3

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.

The Confession

Knowing the goodness of God and our failure to respond with love and obedience, let us confess our sins, saying together

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.

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.**

The Greeting of 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 425 - Come, Spirit blest, our hearts inspire

**Come, Spirit blest, our hearts inspire, let us your influence prove,
source of the old prophetic fire, the fount of life and love.**

**Come, Holy Spirit, moved by you the prophets wrote and spoke;
unlock the truth, yourself the key, unseal the sacred book.**

**Expand your wings, celestial dove, brood o'er our nature's night;
on our disordered spirits move, and let there now be light.**

**God, through himself, we then shall know, if you within us shine, and sound,
with all your saints below, the depths of love divine.**

Prayer for the 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 for ever.

The 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.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power
of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin, and obtained an eternal
deliverance for his people.

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 power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be
partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus 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 given for you. Do this in
remembrance of me.' After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it
to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in
remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made
once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for
his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect
and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

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.

As this broken bread was once many grains, which have been gathered together and made one bread: so may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.
The gifts of God for the people of God

The Communion

After Communion

Gracious God, thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you for assuring us of your goodness and love, and that we are living members of Christ's body.

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Notices

Hymn TIS 1421 Glory be to God the Father

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son,
glory be to God the Spirit: great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory while eternal ages run!**

**Glory be to him who loved us, washed us from each spot and stain;
glory be to him who bought us, made us kings with him to reign!
Glory, glory to the Lamb that once was slain!**

**Glory to the King of angels, glory to the Church's King,
glory to the King of nations; heav'n and earth your praises bring!
Glory, glory, to the King of glory sing!**

**Glory, blessing, praise eternal! thus the choir of angels sings;
Honour, riches, pow'r, dominion! thus its praise creation brings.
Glory, glory to the King of kings!**

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 10 - The Table of Nations

Who has read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation?

Of you who tried, who gave up at one of the lists of names? Genesis ch 5? Ch 10? Ch 11? Ch 25? ch 36? ch46? and that's just Genesis. There are also lists in Exodus, Joshua, Ruth and Ezra, and the book of Numbers seems to just be lists of names. The real challenge is 1 Chronicles which starts with 10 whole chapters of names. I know people who basically gave up at that point and started again in the New Testament, only to encounter lists at the start of Matthew and Luke!

What should we do with these lists of names? I know a lot of people just skip over them, or if you are a senior preacher in a church that preaches through whole books of the Bible, you find other people to preach on those weeks. When I was an honorary assistant minister in Cairns over a few years, I was asked to preach on the genealogies in Matthew 1, not once but twice, and then again just looking after we moved back to Canberra. It must be good to have young preachers you can call on when you don't want to preach on a passage!

I obviously haven't taken that option this morning with Genesis chapter 10, even if I did think that no one would have noticed if I just started again at chapter 11 after finishing with Genesis 9 last year. Does anyone even remember that I preached on Genesis 1 to 9 last year?

Just in case you don't remember, last year we studied the creation narratives, how mankind fell into sin and were cast out of Eden, and then we looked at Noah and the flood. When we finished up with Genesis 9, God had bought 7 people through the flood: Noah, his 3 sons and their wives. He made a covenant that he would never again destroy the earth with a flood.

Today's chapter tells us the sons of Ham, Japheth and Shem. You might think that it is simply a historical record of Noah's descendants to a particular point in time. Other lists, like that in exodus 6, which gives the lists of the heads of families that escaped from Egypt in the exodus, are more of this historical record. However, if you look at Genesis 10 closely, you will notice that it is more than just these grandsons and further descendants. For example, verses 4 and 5 says that the descendants of Noah through Japheth and Javan include the Kittites and the Rodanites from whom the maritime peoples spread out into their territories by their clans. These are obviously not just direct descendants, but at least some are entire tribes of people. Many, many tribes, or peoples are mentioned, as well as individuals.

You will also notice that the Genesis 10 list of names, unlike many of the lists in the Bible, or genealogies, do not have a specific end point. For example, the list

in Luke 3 is the list of Jesus's ancestors, all the way from his father Joseph back to Adam. In contrast, *Genesis 10* starts with Noah, but ends up with dozens and dozens of individuals and tribes. It goes in the completely opposite direction.

Another possibility is that rather than being a historical list, it could be a list of peoples God has foreordained for some future role. I particularly thought this when I looked through the names and noticed many that were a bit familiar. Tarshish, Egypt, Canaan are all familiar to me outside the *Genesis* account. Tarshish was where Jonah ran to when God told him to go to Ninevah. Also, Shem's descendants are called the Semites or Semitic people, and Jews are often called the Semitic people. Shem's grandson Eber is also the source of the word Hebrew - the name of the Jewish language and the people: Hebrews.

It is interesting to look at all the names in the table of nations and see if and where they come up later in the Bible. You can do this with a concordance, like Strong's, that lists every individual word in the Bible and where it is found, or you can search electronically using a Bible on your computer or phone, which quite frankly is a lot easier, and what I did. When I did this, I found there was no further information at all about a lot of the names. They were only mentioned here in *Genesis 10*, and in a similar list in *1 Chronicles 1*. So we really don't know anything about them except where they fit in the genealogies.

Another group basically showed up Ezekiel, where they were spoken of quite poorly. These included Gomer, Magog, Mardai, Javan, Tubal, Meshek, Cush, Put. Ezekiel prophesied that Gog and Magog and hordes from the north (including many of the tribes that were mentioned in *Genesis 10*) would threaten and attack the land of Israel. Despite God using these people to judge Israel, he would subsequently destroy them through an earthquake, and send torrential rains, hailstone, fire, and sulfur. These people definitely set themselves against Israel and persecuted them, even if God allowed them to do it.

This passage could be this sort of list because it falls immediately after Noah had cursed his son Ham for sinning against him, and condemned Ham's descendants, and particularly Canaan, to be the lowest of slaves to the descendants of Shem and Japheth. We know that God essentially gave the land of the Canaanites to Jacob, a descendant of Shem and his descendants. It is possible that *Genesis 10* is telling which people would be cursed by the sin of Ham - he and his descendants, including the Canaanites, and which peoples wouldn't, the descendants of Shem and Japheth. Shem's line through Arphaxad, Shelah, Eber and Peleg is significant, because Peleg was the grandfather of Abraham, the great patriarch of God's people whom God spoke to, saying: ² "I

will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

However, despite this, the passage does not focus on who are the good and the bad guys, since this passage just lists the peoples without focussing on any of them. Nimrod does get a bit more press in this passage, but he definitely seems to be the exception. Nimrod is only used as a synonym for Assyria in the book of Micah. Some scholars think the section about Nimrod in Genesis 10 is only a later addition to our Bible, and whether or not it is true, it would show why he seems to get more importance here than he warrants.

In any case, like most confusing passages in the Bible, the best approach to understanding it is to look at the context of the tricky section. Just in case you don't remember what I preached last year, back in chapter 9 verse 12 God said to Noah and his sons: "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life." God made a covenant with every human and all living creature at that time to never destroy the earth again with a flood.

There was also an obligation, or moral component to this covenant. In verse 6 God also commanded that they were not to eat meat with its lifeblood still in it. He warned that anyone who shed human blood would be kept accountable. The covenant also placed this moral obligation on all the people there. The covenant God made with Noah and all generations to come included a promise - never to destroy the world, and an obligation: Do not murder.

In addition to this moral obligation, there was also a commandment for the people in verse 7: be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it.

All three components were important elements of the covenant: God will never destroy the earth with a flood, mankind is not to murder, and mankind is to be fruitful and multiply on the earth and increase upon it.

Since the table of Nations in Genesis 10 follows the formation of this covenant, and the lack of prominence it gives to anyone or any particular person or line, it seems that the purpose of the table of nations is to highlight that God's covenant with Noah, with its promise and its obligation, was not just made with

Noah and his sons, but with every living creature that would ever live on earth. God told Noah that he would establish his covenant with him and with your descendants after you ¹⁰ and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth. Genesis 10 tells all the people that the covenant would apply to every single individual in the world. Even though the world included good people like Shem and bad people like Ham and Canaan, absolutely everyone was included in God's covenant.

The universality of this covenant is highlighted by the way that Genesis records 70 names in the Table of Nations. 70 is a significant number in the Bible with 7 being the number of perfection (think of 7 days in a week, 7 days of creation), and 10 signifying completeness and the law - 10 commandments for example. By including 70 names, Genesis is signifying the perfection completion of the covenant, applying between God and absolutely every one on the earth.

Absolutely everyone on the earth, from Noah, Japheth, Shem and Ham, to you, me and the youngest baby born today in party to God almighty - the God of Noah and our God, God in Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The covenant binds us to the three elements that Genesis mentions: a commandment to be fruitful and multiply and increase on the earth, a moral obligation to not shed blood or murder, and a promise by God to never destroy the earth with a flood.

This covenant is a universal covenant that still applies to us. We are still to be fruitful and to multiply on the earth, we still must never shed anyone's life blood, and God will never destroy our world around us. The details of this covenant were clarified as it was further made throughout history - not only with Noah, but with Abraham, with Isaac and Jacob, with King David, and ultimately through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, promising not only that our world will not be destroyed by a flood, but that our world will be perfectly restored to a new heaven and earth to which we will be resurrected to eternal life, with a perfect relationship between God, humankind and creation.

This is the covenant God made with Noah, and the covenant God made with us through his only Son Jesus Christ. God always keeps his promises, and he will to you as he did to Noah.

Amen