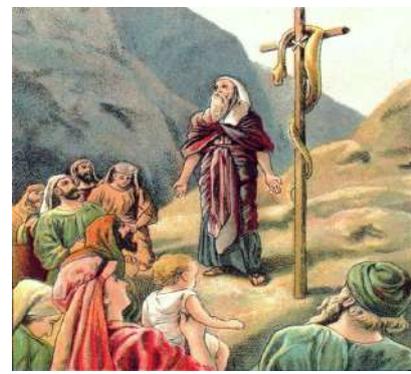


HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 14 MARCH 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SNAKES AND SALVATION

COMING UP

To join us on Zoom, please use the link below.

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUtpa05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlRlOZk09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

SUNDAY 14 MARCH

Seating limited to 75 people per service.

Sign in using Check In CBR App required

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

Celebrant : The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

Preacher: Reverend Anne Dudzinski

5pm Twilight Conversations

SUNDAY 21 MARCH

Seating limited to 75 people per service.

Sign in using Check In CBR App required

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

Celebrant : Reverend Anne Dudzinski

Preacher: The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm Twilight Conversations

**Check In CBR QR Code
for Holy Covenant**



Code
941911

Bank Details for Direct Debit are:

Bank: Commonwealth Bank

Branch: Jamison Centre, ACT

BSB: 062 907

A/C No: 802 588

Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

Most of us recoil when we see a snake. By Chapter 3 in the first book of the Hebrew Bible we encounter a snake in the Garden of Eden described as being “more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made”. Temptation comes in this form and fundamentally changes the fate of humanity.

Serpents or snakes play an important role in the religious and cultural life of ancient Israel, Egypt, Canaan, Mesopotamia and Greece. In these cultures snakes are both symbols of evil, harm and power on the one hand as well as life, fertility and healing. The symbol used by the medical profession of the snake on the pole (Asclepius or Caduceus) is filled with meaning from Greek mythology. It is a symbol of healing in the entwined snakes. There are many stories in a broad range of cultures of the capacity of this symbol of evil to become a symbol of healing, restoration and health. Of the capacity of good to overcome evil.

The Old Testament reading from Numbers describes the complaining and recalcitrant Israelites who are now afflicted with poisonous snakes. Moses acts as God’s intermediary and sets up a bronze serpent on a pole so that “whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live”. The serpents were sent by God because of the Israelites’ disobedience and their inability to remain faithful to God. Snakes also play an important role in the encounter between Moses, Aaron and Pharaoh when Aaron’s staff

becomes the snake that swallows those of Pharaoh’s sorcerers.

Jesus’ encounter with Nicodemus contains the best known verse to many of us in the Bible (3.16). It reinterprets the scene in the wilderness so that the serpent represents Jesus and the pole on which it is placed represents the cross on which Jesus will die. The response required for healing has also changed. In Numbers all that was required by a snake bitten Israelite was to look at the bronze snake on the pole to be healed. Now faith is required to receive everlasting life. It is interesting how anticipatory is Moses’ action in response to God’s instructions. Those instructions are in fact making the image of fear and death into an icon of life. The cross is an image of humiliation and disgrace, the ultimate symbol of the power of Rome. It is this symbol which has become the most recognised symbol in the world. The shameful and gruesome death is the very means of Jesus’ glorification and salvation for all who believe.

In John’s gospel Jesus repeatedly offers life. True life is couched in metaphors such as water, bread or light. Those who refuse the gift stand self condemned. When the light shines we cannot escape our shadow. During Lent it is appropriate we explore our shadows and come to the light and in so doing receive eternal life.

Clive Rodger

RECTOR: The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton, 0407 408 333, rector@holycovenant.org.au

OFFICE: 6251 6100, office@holycovenant.org.au

WEBSITE: <https://www.holycovenant.org.au>

SAFE MINISTRY TRAINING

Churches that thrive are places that take the safety of everyone seriously. Safe places treat people with respect. They strive to ensure that harassment, vilification and other forms of unwanted behaviour are not part of their life together.

You can help by participating in Safe Ministry training. Volunteers for Children and Youth ministries are required to attend this training. Others are encouraged to. First Face to Face Safe Ministry Training will be held at the following locations:

Saturday 20 March – Induction/Awareness Workshop at Holy Cross Anglican Church, Cnr Antill St & Phillip Ave, Hackett, ACT 9.30am – 3.30pm

Sunday 21 March – Refresher Workshop at Holy Cross Anglican Church, Cnr Antill St & Phillip Ave, Hackett, ACT 1.00pm – 3.00pm

If you want to/need to attend one of the workshops, please let Phil in the office know at least 5 days before the workshop and I will register you. To register I will need First Name, Surname, Email address and Phone Number.

Online Safe Ministry Training can still be completed at any time:

The **Induction** course can be accessed at [Safe Ministry Online Induction](#)

The **Refresher** course can be accessed at [Safe Ministry Online Refresher](#)

Or by accessing the web page by using <https://anglicancg.org.au/safe-ministries/safe-ministry-unit/safe-ministries-training-and-workshops/>

WOMEN'S AFTERNOON TEA SATURDAY 20 MARCH 2021 3PM IN THE WORSHIP CENTRE

Come and join us for tea, coffee and cake and an enjoyable Saturday afternoon.

The cost will be \$5 per person.



There is a sign up sheet on the board at the back of the church or let Libby know on 0419 603 228
Look forward to seeing you!

CAN YOU HELP? MORNING TEA 8AM

We need a few more people to help with morning tea at 8am.

If you can help please let the office know and we will roster you for one Sunday a month.

PALM SUNDAY REFUGEE RALLY

The Canberra Refugee Action Campaign has received approval to hold its annual Palm Sunday rally in support of more compassionate policies towards refugees.

The rally will be on Sunday 28th March, beginning at 1 pm in Garema Place in Civic. Speakers will include Roberta Hamilton (Anglican priest from Goulburn) and Jack Waterford (columnist and former editor of *The Canberra Times*).

MARCH ANGLICAN NEWS

The March Anglican News is now out and is available on our website for any printing required.

To the page:

<http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>

Straight to the pdf on the website (larger size for printing):

<https://anglicancg.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Anglican-News-March-2021.pdf>

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

During Holy week there will be a series of Reflective Meditations. These will be held on:

- Monday 29 March 6.30pm
- Tuesday 30 March 6.30pm
- Wednesday 31 March 6.30pm

Maundy Thursday (1 April) there will be a Footwashing Service at 6.30pm

Good Friday (2 April) there will be services held at 8am and 10am.

Easter Saturday (3 April) there will be Kid's Easter Service at 4pm, with an Easter Egg hunt.

Easter day (4 April) there will be services held at 6am, 8am and 10am, with champagne and croissants for the hardy souls that start the day early!



WHAT DOES IT TAKE FOR SOMEONE TO SELF-REFER TO A MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE?

KC called St John's Care about three weeks ago. I answered the call and heard a trembling voice. She needed to make an appointment because her car was about to be repossessed.

When KC came in, she said that her life was in a mess and she did not know where to start her story. During our session KC told me she had been working as a manager of a buzzing café in South Canberra and had everything going for her. Sadly, one day she had a mental breakdown. As a single mother of two teenage boys she couldn't cope with all the responsibilities and pressures that were suddenly weighing her down.

After a few days of staying in bed with curtains shut she decided that she couldn't continue to put on a fake smile anymore and couldn't go to work anymore. Something had to change. This decision was the only positive to come out of the breakdown.

KC took 3 months off to recover, her little family lived off her savings. She started to feel better mentally and emotionally but found it difficult to keep up with paying private rent. Their unpaid utility bills started to pile up.

This put more pressure on KC every day. She took out a \$3000 loan against her car to pay for bills. She also took an apprentice position at a Childcare Centre (and loved the job). Unfortunately, the pay was barely enough to keep the family afloat. With two teenage boys to feed and schooling to pay for on a very low wage, KC was feeling more anxious about what was to come. Feeling totally overwhelmed, her mental health deteriorated.

That is when she had to call mental health services and check in. KC was put on a priority wait list for a hospital stay.

I offered KC to come to us for food every week until a bed in the hospital becomes available and referred her to Care Financial to assist her with the loan she took against her car. I referred her to speak to Supportive Tenancy Services to assist her with managing and/or negotiating more favorable lease terms on their rental unit. The good news is that KC is already being supported by a psychologist.

The positive outcomes for KC were very tangible for her. At SJC we helped her pay the family's overdue utility bills, gave them enough food to last a couple of weeks and supported her with a few gift vouchers.

KC couldn't thank us enough. To express her gratitude, tears of happiness filled her eyes, she put her right hand on her chest and said " Oh my God! I am so grateful to St John's Care!"

Kind regards,

Nailia, SJC Case Manager

Items required: Small Sultana boxes, juice poppers, savory biscuits, tinned meats

PARISH DIRECTORY

A new Parish Directory is available. Please contact Phil in the Office to get one.

KID'S EASTER SERVICE

The kid's Easter service will be held on Easter Saturday at 4pm.



As part of the interactive service, we will be having an Easter egg hunt. We are looking for donations of chocolate eggs for the hunt.

There is a collection box at the back of the church. If you know of any children that would like to be involved in the service please let Wendy know: warobertson4@gmail.com

Sunday Zoom church by the lake

Battered hat on your head
the sun warm on your back
you walk to church

along summer's setting path
the lake shimmers
as you cross the bridge

and tune into words
sung from voices of ancient lands
streaming from the ether

your feet keep their rhythm
but your mind wanders
in this chapel without walls

passing a hall of green
the light softens
the earth is stealing you

the cockatoo chorale
sing in white robes
drowning the word of God

they rise
squabbling to themselves
and fly away

you reach the car
audio switches to stereo
the seamless flow of modernity

Susan Troy

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY - WEEK 4 – BLESSING

Christianity comes in many colours.

One rather monochromatic version highlights the importance of authority and obedience. It spends its energy focussed on how discipleship is a matter of loyalty, believing the right things and avoiding what's wrong. It's often focussed on resisting societal changes and frequently calls for separation in the name of fidelity. It sees itself as the only authentic expression of faith and criticises everyone else. Invariably, faith becomes a matter of performance and sin management.

Another more colourful version highlights the importance of love and understanding ourselves as beloved by God. It spends its energy by focussing on how discipleship is a matter of gratitude, sharing the blessing that we have received and learning how to do right. It frequently calls for engagement in the name of faith so that the world might be transformed. It sees itself as part of a broad family where faith is experienced in different ways and everyone needs encouragement. Faith becomes a matter of growing integrity and personal transformation.

This Lent we're exploring the way of love. We've seen how we can TURN out of our ruts and LEARN

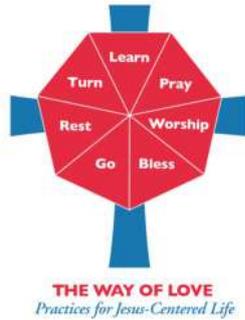
the rhythms of God's kingdom from Jesus. We've seen how PRAYER can fill our hearts, minds and spirits with God's song. We've realised that WORSHIP can keep us centred and be the start of something new. Now we learn how to BLESS.

Naturally, blessings can be approached in different ways too. The first approach sees blessings as a badge of authenticity and reserved only for those things approved by God. As the blessing is always at risk of being overwhelmed by unworthiness and impurity it needs to be kept safe and protected from the world.

The way of love sees blessing as calling out whatever is good and noble in faith with hope that God Spirit will stir love deep within. From this perspective, the blessing anticipates God's work to change our circumstances and to transform any impurity. If anything needs to be protected, it's the world because God's blessing will work its way through the whole thing (Matt 13.33). Consequently, this approach jumps in rather than runs away. It sees what's possible. It boosts strengths. It finds solutions together.

The way of love starts the week on Sunday with prayer and worship. We receive God's blessing through word and sacrament and fellowship with each other. We are recentred and strengthened for another week in the world. We are blessed so that we might be a blessing to others by helping them to build God's freedom, compassion and justice wherever it is needed most.

Wayne



A LENTEN REFLECTION

Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. Mark 11:25

I wonder when was the last time that someone said 'I forgive you' or you asked someone their forgiveness. It has a profound impact on us holistically when we can forgive or when we are forgiven. It lifts a weight off our shoulders and restores life in our soul. Lent is a time when I always focus more on this 'forgiveness' which we can find so hard to do yet look at what Christ went through to forgive us. Perhaps it's easier to not offend than to seek forgiveness? I don't know and that's something for you to ponder, but this I do know as Mark Twain said: *'Forgiveness is the fragrance the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it.'*

May the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in all ways.

Anne, servant of the Lord.

<https://comewalkwithme-reflections.blogspot.com>



Forgive them

ACCOMODATION REQUIRED

Local family requiring housing in the Belconnen area for under \$400 per week. If you have any suggestions, please let Wendy Robertson know: warobertson4@gmail.com

NEW MUSIC AT THE 10AM SERVICE

Once in a while we introduce a new song or two at the 10am service. It's always great when a few people know them already so if you'd like a bit of a sneak preview of anything new coming up, email Jodie or put your name on the sign up sheet and she'll send you a link to the video and a copy of the sheet music of anything that might be on the horizon. Let's all make a joyful noise together!

Jodie: anjoali@hotmail.com

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

⇒ .Support for provision of coronavirus vaccinations for third world countries

IN AUSTRALIA

⇒ For the safe, equitable and efficient distribution of the coronavirus vaccines.

⇒ For all who are caught up in crime or addiction, for all who are giving their allegiance to wrong things or feel trapped in circumstances beyond their control.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

⇒ Parish of Good Shepherd, Curtin & Cross Cultural Ministry

⇒ Fred Ward Gardens RSL Lifecare

⇒ Parish of St Peter's Weston

⇒ Organisations offering counselling, care and support to families and individuals; and plight of refugees and asylum seekers; and those suffering in the current Covid-19 pandemic .

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

⇒ Congregations – 10am Sunday

⇒ Young Adults ministry

⇒ Shovel Community Garden—for a deeper sense of community connection among members.

⇒ Resource Group

⇒ Tai Chi—for good health for all TaiChi members

⇒ For all members of our parish family including Hugo Walker; Peter and Wendy Ward; Libby Warren; Susan Webb; and Prue, Ken and Ellie wedgwood.

⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Judith Ann, Bev Barnes, John Blue, Anne and Peter Bazeos, Violet Hart and Lucia Horciu and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

Thursday: **Annie (Nancy) Lee (d. 1995)**

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Monday: **Margaret Martin**

Saturday: **Hannah James**

COLLECT for 4th Sunday in Lent

Everlasting God
in whom we live and move and have our being,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you:
give us purity of heart and strength of purpose,
that no selfish passion may hinder us
from knowing your will,
no weakness prevent us from doing it;
that in your light we may see light,
and in your service find perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

READINGS

Numbers 21.4-9

Psalm 107.1-3, 107.17-22

Ephesians 2.1-10

John 3.14-21

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

Wendy Robertson 0481458037
children@holycovenant.org.au

Youth Leadership Team

Tobias, Sarah and Remus
youth@holycovenant.org.au

Wardens

Deranie Jackson 0408 443 709
Joh Sheehan 6251 7151
Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore
6251 2009; rkmore@grapevine.com.au

Belonging and Caring

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton
0407 408 333; rector@holycovenant.org.au

Curate and Community Chaplain

Wendy Robertson
0481458037 warobertson4@gmail.com

Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

Program Manager

Rhonda Thorpe
0487 945 615; nurse@holycovenant.org.au

Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

Program Director and Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
0406 379 599; anne.ranse@gmail.com

Honorary Priests

Reverend Anne Dudzinski
0413 994 739; annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

Reverend Connie Gerrity

0429 423 725; connie@gerrity.id.au

Resources Team

0419 255 002