

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER 2024 TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Alive God (Hebrews 4.12-16)

The Hebrews reading states emphatically that God is alive. But importantly, that God is an active God; not asleep on some cloud in the sky. It doesn't take a minute to see that our world is falling apart in chaotic violence. And it is easy to get depressed especially when we are inundated by the wanton suffering of innocent men, women and children in the horrid reality of what is happening in the Middle East whenever we turn on the TV to visually see such painful destruction of innocent people as they try to manage life.

When we create something in life, whether a garden or a poem, we tend to love what we have accomplished. We may not be entirely happy with it and we often make on-going changes to improve our creation. But always regarding it with a certain personal love. In terms of the Creator of the world, Christians hold on to a special meaning of that word 'love'. I hold on to the believe that God is still very active through Jesus and involved in everyday life. This is based on the knowledge of how Jesus lived his life in active involvement with humanity and his never-ending love. I believe Jesus is still actively involved within each of us. Activation is our responsibility.

A Jesus that emphasises love, forgiveness, and reconciliation, suggesting that change can come through the transformation of individuals and societies when they follow His example. And hoping that this internal activity within our lives will change hearts, inspire people toward acts of justice, mercy, and peace, and will guide the many different communities in the world to care for each other.

There is great power in this internal connection, in the words of the Hebrew reading, a power that is metaphorically sharper than any double-edged sword. Consequently, I believe that God is indeed active and capable of facilitating change. Whether through individual transformation, or collective efforts of justice.

Jesus' life and teachings provide a model for engaging with this broken world. We must hold on to such certainties in our understanding of the chaos in hope and faith as we connect and belong to the same approach to life.

Richard Scutter

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

[https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?
pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSF
VIRll0Zz09](https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRll0Zz09)

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS Youth and Kids
resume on 20 October.

SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER
8am and 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER
12 Midday Communion Service and
Lunch

SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER
8am and 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant:
Revd Lynda McMinn
Preacher:
Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
Coming soon:
16 November—Holy Covenant Fete

Bank details for direct debit:

Bank: Commonwealth
Branch: Jamison Centre ACT
BSB 062 907
Account No: 802588
Name: Holy Covenant Anglican
Church

Office: (staffed Tues, Thurs, Fri 10am –3pm) ph: 6251 6100 email: office@holycovenant.org.au

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

WELCOME TO HOLY COVENANT

Holy Covenant is a diverse community and inclusive church in the Anglican tradition. This means that we seek to help people become all they were created to be. When we can be our true selves, we are then able to help the world become a better place for everybody.

We believe in a restorative Gospel, where God has come to heal and renew all of creation. This means we strive to make the world better rather than simply waiting around for heaven to arrive.

Our vision is to be a place for everyone, where people get to become the person they were always meant to be.

We value what Jesus valued: inclusion, diversity, compassion, justice and freedom. This means we encourage participation by people regardless of their background, heritage, gender, age, disability or orientation.

Children at Holy Covenant are welcome to participate in Kids' Church and/or Youth Group, but are also welcome to stay with their caregivers.

Communion is open to everyone, regardless of your denominational background or baptismal status. We are all invited and welcome to engage with God in this way.

Please stay for morning tea after our service and maybe get to know some other members of the congregation. We'd love to see you back next week.

Spring Glory

Join with all nature in unspoken witness to your great faithfulness, mercy and love. TIS 154

What is the glory attached to Spring? Need we ask? Just take a look about you. There is the soft fading mist of warming mornings, tiny pearls of dew drops on the greening grass and new surprises every morning are the blooms in the garden and the blossom decorated trees some holding a carpet of petals all about them and the sky is vast and blue. This is the glory of spring in the gift of a new day. Blessed are we to have the quiet of a sacred space to just sit, and be, and be loved by God in all that is about us as the morning soft mist rises over his creation. Let our praise to God be forever and may peace fall like rain on our troubled world.

May the peace of God fill your life every single day.

Anne, servant of the Lord.



A carpet of blooms.

K is a man who lives with a chronic autoimmune disease which causes him to rarely leave his home. My first interaction with K was approximately 4 years ago during the lockdown when he called the Centre and asked if we could drop some food to his house. K described his serious health conditions to me, and his concerns about the potentially lethal risk that the pandemic posed. He asked that I wear gloves and a mask whilst packing his food into bags. As well as perishable and non-perishable food items, K requested personal hygiene items, and cleaning supplies.

Since that day, I have regularly provided support to K by dropping food to his front doorstep, only ever seeing him through the window as I drove away. As I built a rapport with him, he began to tell me a little more about himself. He had grown up in Canberra his whole life and described having a relatively normal life, enjoying socialising with friends, and spending time with his family. Very little was known about his health condition at the time, however K can recall the onset of frequent bouts of illness in his 20's.

At first, he believed he was simply unfortunate and was experiencing a series of colds, however over the next few years and several tests later, he was diagnosed with a life threatening condition which changed his life forever. During one of our many conversations, K described deep feelings of isolation and loneliness. Although he spoke with his friends and family on the phone, he very rarely saw anyone, and this was something he missed more than anything.

St John's Care purchased a webcam and set it up with a laptop that had been donated to us. During my next visit to K's house, I surprised him with the laptop and called him shortly after to walk him through how to use it. K has since used the laptop everyday to speak with friends and family and wants to thank our supporters for reconnecting him his loved ones and changing his life.

Robbie Speldewinde Operations Manager

Items required: Baked Beans, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Tomatoes, 1L full cream UHT milk, Large tinned tuna



HOLY COVENANT FETE 2024

SATURDAY, 16 NOVEMBER

The sign-up sheets for fete volunteers are on the back noticeboard. There's a wealth of volunteering opportunities available for before, during and after the fete. A few of the stalls still need coordinators—an important role to make sure that the stalls run smoothly! Feel free to contact Carol for more info:
carol.kubanek@gmail.com

Women's Breakfast

Last Saturday, we hosted our Mary Magdalene Women's Breakfast, and had our Diocese's new Assistant Bishop Vanessa come to speak to us. She told us about her journey to being priested and then consecrated as Bishop. She also shared the challenges that arose for her, many of which arose because she's a woman in places where complementarianism prevails.

She talked about the Canberra-Goulburn Diocese and spoke to the *Addressing Disparity* report that was presented at Synod, by the working group that included both Lynda McMinn and Wayne Brighton. Vanessa, along with those who attended, are hopeful that conditions for women in leadership in our Diocese will improve significantly. After Vanessa spoke, we had an extensive Q&A session.

Many people came from different ministry units in the diocese, including Hackett, Ginninderra, Woden, Reid, Wanniasa and Curtin. We also had a great team of men in the kitchen, ensuring that the breakfast service and washing up went smoothly. Many thanks to everyone who helped with the organising and running of the day.



PLANT STALL—JODIE PETROV

With the fete fast approaching and the weather getting warmer, now is the time to plant seeds, take cuttings, and pot up extra plants from your garden for sale at the plant stall. If you have plants already that need looking after please let Jodie know and she can take them home until the fete. To contact Jodie, please email: anjoali@hotmail.com

CRAFTY CREW WANT YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS

Crafty Crew would like your old, used Christmas cards to recycle. Gillian is happy for you to remove personal greetings or she can do it before they are circulated to the rest of the group.

If you are able to assist, please leave any cards underneath the jam table at the back of the church.

To contact Gillian, email: gillian.painter@icloud.com



Did you know...?

It's election time again, and we all have to vote: a time to have your say, and enjoy a democracy sausage or two! But the hustle and bustle of the polling place isn't for everyone.

Did you know that this year Elections ACT have set up a Low Sensory Unit for people who need quiet, calm spaces to vote?

If you or someone you know is neurodivergent, has dementia or has a need for low stimulus, the Low Sensory Unit is located next door to the Early Voting polling place at Canberra Museum and Gallery, in Canberra City.

Open for pre-poll votes for people in any electorate, the Low Sensory Unit is staffed by friendly, trained polling officials, who aim to make a safe, calm, quiet, welcoming place to cast your vote.

For more information, head to the Elections ACT website <https://www.elections.act.gov.au>

Pet Blessing

On Sunday, we had our St Francis Day Pet Blessing service. We had 4 dogs attend and several pictures of cats and dogs that were otherwise unable to attend.



Audiovisual upgrades

The audiovisual system in the Worship Centre has undergone an upgrade, with the TVs and connecting hardware now installed.

Thanks to Mark & Allison Cooper-Stanbury and Geoff Stanbury, Mark's brother, for the time and energy that went into installation, set-up and cleaning up after everything was done.

Thank you also to the several parishioners who made donations for the upgrade: Parish Council would welcome any further donations to offset this cost. Please talk with Wayne or the treasurer.



SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

THE POWER OF CHRIST

READING THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

15 OCT

GOD'S POWER

JESUS THE PRIEST

22 OCT

29 OCT

PRIESTLY WORK

IN HEAVEN'S SANCTUARY

5 NOV

12 NOV

TRUE WORSHIP

TRUE FAITH

19 NOV

26 NOV

TRUE STRENGTH

TUESDAY GROUPS MEET IN THE WORSHIP CENTRE AT 4PM

ONLINE GROUP EACH THURSDAY AT 7:30PM

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ For NGOs in Ukraine and Russia, supporting wounded and injured veterans.
- ⇒ For the people of Gaza, Israel and Lebanon caught in the middle of war zones.
- ⇒ For recovery efforts following Hurricane Milton.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ For families with loved ones living in refugee camps overseas.
- ⇒ For all engaged in water policy for the Murray-Darling river and other catchments.
- ⇒ For those engaged with emergency services, preparing for another fire season.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Ministry with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island People of Australia
- ⇒ St Paul's, Manuka & St David's Red Hill
- ⇒ St David's Close Self Care Units, Red Hill
- ⇒ Aged Care Chaplaincy: Baptist Care; Jindalee Nursing Home; Carey Gardens Aged Hostel Red Hill; Mountain View Aged Care Facility
- ⇒ Calvary John James Hospital
- ⇒ Parliamentary Christian Fellowship
- ⇒ Pray for: Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Leader of the Opposition Peter Dutton, all members and senators, and reconciliation with First Peoples of Australia.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Evelyn, Jey, Elizabeth, Hannah, Mary and Sarah Hoole; Jenny DeBont; Elaine Dennis; Peter Dent, Alira Prideaux and Gabe and Edward; and Remus Douglas.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Glenys Wimmer; Bev Chambers; Kath Arthur, Joh Sheehan, Celeste Sandstrom, Bruce Barnes, Megan McKay, Bob & Hilary Harris, Joshua Salske, In Matters and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

- 15 Oct **Daphne Watts (d. 2000)**
Francis Thomas Freeman (d. 2003)
- 18 Oct **Dawn Jane Hardman (d. 2020)**

BIRTHDAYS

- 14 Oct **Helen Boulton**
- 15 Oct **Phyl Holmes**
- 16 Oct **Kath Arthur, David Meggs**
- 18 Oct **Dave Peebles**

BIBLE READINGS

- Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

COLLECT

Merciful God,
in your Son you call not the righteous but sinners to repentance:
draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction,
and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant,
that in seeking your truth,
and obeying your will,
we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus our Saviour;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Rector

The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton,
0407 408 333 rector@holycovenant.org.au

Assistant Minister

The Reverend Dr Bili Malek
0420 966 866 (SMS only please) bili.malek@gmail.com

Youth Coordinator

Tobias Nevile
0468 969 372 youth@holycovenant.org.au

Wardens

Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore
6251 2009 kennemorosemary@gmail.com

Belonging and Caring

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

Children & Families Worker

Lou Passmore
0411 338 361 holycovenantkids@gmail.com

Covenant Care Program Manager

Leanne McKean
0487 945 615 nurse@holycovenant.org.au

Covenant Care Chaplain

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

Honorary Priests

The Revd Anne Dudzinski
0413 994 739 annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

The Revd Connie Gerrity
0429 423 725 connie@gerrity.id.au

The Revd Lynda McMinn
0403 769 991 ellemm99@gmail.com

Resources Team

0419 255 002