



Anglican Church of Australia

Diocese of Gippsland

(Committed in Christ, Connecting in Service & Creative in Spirit.)

Parish of Wonthaggi & Inverloch

St. George's,

McBride Ave., Wonthaggi

The Church of the Ascension

4-6 The Crescent, Inverloch

Bunurong Country

ABN: 18 842 576 826



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – 5th February

Holy Communion



“Micah prophesied during a period of intense social injustice in Judah. False prophets preached for riches, not for righteousness. Princes thrived on cruelty, violence, and corruption.”¹

Is it any different than in our world today?

Does the church preach for righteousness or do we have false prophets? Judge for yourself.

Whether this is the case or not, as we journey through the book of Micah over the next 7 weeks, hopefully you will discover that the book of Micah is as relevant today as it was when it was written.

Please join us and learn.

Rev. Graeme

¹ Quote from Talk through the Bible by Wilkinson B, & Boa K. 1983. T., Nelson Publishers, Nashville. U.S.A.

Sentence

'Is not this the fast that I choose,' says the Lord: 'to loose the bonds of injustice, and to let the oppressed go free?' *Isaiah 58.6*

Collect

Faithful God,
you have appointed us your witnesses,
to be a light that shines in the world:
let us not hide the bright hope you have given us,
but tell everyone your love,
revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading

Micah 1:1-5, 7:18-20

The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah—the vision he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

- ² Hear, you peoples, all of you, listen, earth and all who live in it, that the Sovereign LORD may bear witness against you, the Lord from his holy temple.
- ³ Look! The LORD is coming from his dwelling place; he comes down and treads on the heights of the earth.
- ⁴ The mountains melt beneath him and the valleys split apart, like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a slope.
- ⁵ All this is because of Jacob's transgression, because of the sins of the people of Israel. What is Jacob's transgression? Is it not Samaria? What is Judah's high place? Is it not Jerusalem?
- ^{7:18} Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.
- ¹⁹ You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities^c into the depths of the sea.
- ²⁰ You will be faithful to Jacob, and show love to Abraham, as you pledged on oath to our ancestors in days long ago.

*Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 112

¹ O praise the Lord. Blessed are they
fear the Lord: **and greatly delight in
his commandments.**

² Their children shall be mighty in the
land: **an upright race who will be
blessed.**

³ Riches and plenty shall be in their
house: **and their righteousness shall
stand for ever.**

⁴ Light arises in darkness for the
upright: **gracious and merciful are the
righteous.**

⁵ It goes well with those who act
generously and lend: **who guide their
affairs with justice.**

⁶ Surely they shall never be moved:

**the righteous shall be held in
everlasting remembrance.**

⁷ They will not fear bad tidings:
**their hearts are steadfast, trusting in
the Lord.**

⁸ Their hearts are confident and will
not fear: **they will see the downfall of
their enemies.**

⁹ They give freely to the poor:
**their righteousness stands for ever,
their head is uplifted in glory.**

¹⁰ The wicked shall see it and be angry:
**they shall gnash their teeth and
consume away; and the hope of the
wicked shall fail.**

New Testament Reading:

1 Corinthians 2.1-13

¹ And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. ² For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. ⁴ My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, ⁵ so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power. ⁶ We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ However, as it is written: 'What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived' – the things God has prepared for those who love him – ¹⁰ these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. ¹¹ For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² What we have received is

not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³ This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.

*Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.*

Gospel

Matthew 5.13-20

¹³ 'You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴ 'You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practises and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

*For the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

Shrove Tuesday 21st February 2023

Pancake Day - details to follow.

On This Day: Roger Williams, a Square Peg in a Round Hole



We have not always enjoyed the religious rights we now have. Christian theology, by making men conscious of their worth to God, who sacrificed his Only Begotten Son for them, made them important as individuals. In struggling for religious freedom, our forefathers won civil rights for us.

An important actor in that struggle was Roger Williams. England in the seventeenth century knew few religious rights. In that century George Foxe, the founder of the Quakers and John Bunyan, the Baptist author of *Pilgrim's Progress*, languished in English prison for daring to differ from the majority in their religious views. Some Christians fled to the newly-founded American colonies to escape persecution at home.

Roger was one of them. He arrived in New England **on this day, February 5, 1631.**

A brilliant scholar, Williams was ordained in the Church of England while at Cambridge. His liking for Puritan views, however, soon forced him out of the established church. So he migrated to New England. There he was offered the congregation at Boston but turned it down, because its people had not broken with the Church of England. The "godly" must separate from the "ungodly" if they were to stay pure, he said.

Salem and Plymouth, his next stops, soon tired of Williams. He was like a square peg in a round hole, for he told them that it was wrong for them to take Indian land without paying for it. He also insisted that the government of the colony had no right to set up a "civil power and officers to judge the convictions of men's souls..." This was too much for New England's Puritans.

The government expelled Roger Williams from Massachusetts. After wandering for fourteen weeks in the bitter cold of winter, he settled at Narragansett Bay, in territory that would become the colony of Rhode Island. Putting into practice his beliefs, he purchased his land from the Indians and founded a town which he named Providence. He learned the Indians' language and wrote a key to it.

In 1644 he wrote a defense of religious freedom. That same year he secured a charter for his new colony, Rhode Island. This small region became a haven for those whose beliefs differed from the majority.

Rhode Island became a model of toleration and of the separation of church and state. If Roger Williams had not been willing to suffer for his beliefs, U.S. citizens might not now enjoy the liberties they do have. Three hundred and fifty years later we must sometimes wonder whether we will keep the freedoms men like Roger Williams won with such struggle. *Dan Graves*

INFORMATION

Readings Feb 12th 6th Epiphany	Micah 1:8-16 1 Corinthians 3.1-9	Psalm 119.1-8 Matthew 5.21-37
Tuesday 7th Feb	10:00 am – Ascension – H.C – Rev Amy 11:30am – Prayer Meeting – Wonthaggi	
Wednesday 8th Feb	10:00 am – St George’s- H.C. Rev. John 11:00 -11:30am – Food Rescue @ St Georges	
Thursday 9th Feb	7:30pm – Parish Council - Wonthaggi	
Friday 10th Feb	11:00 -11:30am – Food Rescue @ St Georges	

Rosters 12th February, Epiphany 6, Morning Prayer

<u>Activity</u>	<u>St George’s</u>	<u>Church of the Ascension</u>
Bible Reader	Pam Davies	Wendy McBurnie
Sides Person	Alan Price	Ray/Ted
Prayers	Renee	Ray Smith
Service Leader	Jenny Rivers	Sue Lester
Eucharistic Asst	X	X
Musician	Laren	Tonya
Children’s Ministry	Jill Price	Liz Watkins

If you are unable to fulfil your roster position would you please organise for someone else to take your place.

Bible Discovery Groups:

Most Groups resume this coming week.

Please check with leaders for details.

Beischer’s – Wednesdays, 7:30pm at the Beischer’s.

196 Chisholm Rd, Wonthaggi. Ph 0437 070 579 for details.

Davies’ - Thursdays 1:30pm @ St George’s Hall. Ph: 5672 4710

Liersch’s – Tuesdays 4pm – Meeting this week – Pound Creek.

Ph: 0427 099 391 or 0407 343 876 for details.

Boer’s – Tuesdays 6:30pm.

Contact Geoff or Jennifer on 0431 440 073 for further details.

Women of Faith – Ph: 0408 100 068 (Alycia) or 0427 099 391 (Susan) for details. Re-commences at Church of the Ascension at 12.30 – 2.00 pm on Friday 10/2/2023.

Ministry Team

Bishop: Rt. Rev. Dr. Richard Treloar, Sale 5144 2044

Rector: Rev. Capt. Graeme Liersch 0417 513 390 (*Monday-Day Off*)

graemel@basscoastanglican.org.au

Youth & Young Families Minister: Rev. Susan Liersch 0427 099 391

susanl@basscoastanglican.org.au

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Rev. Anne Perryman 0438 345 349

Parish Council +

Retired Clergy: Rev's Anne Perryman 0438 345 349, John Davies 5672 4710,

Greg Jones 0402437329, Liam Matthews 0411 339 344,

Amy Turner 0412 727 711

Lay Reader: Sue Lester 0418 529 662

Rector's Wardens: Alan Price 0407 343 876, Chris Walkerden 0429 336 154

People's Wardens: David Beischer 0408 629 494, Robert Mesley 0416 246 349

Liz Watkins 0404 379 005, Wendy McBurnie 0407 574 484

Parish Office Worker: Leah Mesley (2 mornings per week – Wed & Thur)

Parish Postal Address: PO Box 201, Wonthaggi 3995. 5672 4590

Parish Op Shop: 114 Cashin St, Inverloch 0438 248 397

Welfare Support: Rev. Graeme

Food Rescue: Ron Osborne

Prayer requests for prayer chain: Jenny Rivers 0417287355

Parish E-mail: admin@basscoastanglican.org.au

Parish Website: <http://www.basscoastanglican.org.au>

Direct Debit: Would you please, if you haven't already, consider giving to the ministry through setting up a direct debit from your account. Thank you!

Our Bank Details: Anglican Parish of Wonthaggi & Inverloch

BSB: 083-975 Acc No: 51 612 6552

Thank you to all who have already set up this means to support the Parish!

Intercessory Prayers:

Please pray with us for:

Our Bishop: Richard & Leanne

Our Rector: Graeme & Susan

Co-op. Parish of Churchill/Boolarra/Yinnar: Mrs. Cathie Halliwell U.C.

Gippsland Grammar School: *Principal:* Leisa Harper, Graham

Chaplain: Tim Gaden, Selina

St Paul's Anglican Grammar School: *Principal:* Cameron Herbert

Senior Chaplain: Daniel Lowe, Helen *Associate Chaplain:* Dean Spalding

WJS Chaplain: Deana Board *TC Chaplain:* Glen Treble

Missions

ABM – (Anglican Board of Mission) John Deane

CMS Missionary – Kristy, South East Asia

Diocese of Ballarat

Bishop: Garry Weatherill

Special Focus

School chaplains & Counsellors, Our State Schools
SS & RE teachers and all involved in religious education.

Please comfort and heal all those suffering in Spirit, Soul or body, especially those affected by COVID 19 and other viruses. Please give people the courage to face their illness head on and to be assured of their salvation in Jesus Christ.

Please bring healing and strength to those we have been asked to pray for:

Matt Fletcher, Amy Davis, Chris Peters, Denise, James, Murray, Doug, Ron Lawson, Jeter, Beth & family, Simone, Mark, Marie Wilson, Cecily, Robin, Barb Bickley, Trish, Ross Smith, Tania, Russell, Hayley, Barbara Manns, Meredith, Richard B, Mary B, Lee, Bev, Stuart, Vladimir, Erika, Rita, Elijah, Rodney & Geoffrey W, Luke M, Terry, Emily, Ian M^cBurnie, Graeme Peters, Elisabeth H, Portia, Suzie, Vivienne, Benjamine, Robert P, Jessica, Kirk & Susannah (*Give thanks for the safe delivery of their son*), Pam D, June R, John G & Albert, Rob Atkin.

We give thanks for the faithful departed and the lives of Bill Finlay and Kath Kelly. Lord please comfort their families as they mourn their passing.

GIPPSLAND YOUNGER ANGLICANS GATHERING

**at the Church of the Ascension in Inverloch
on 25th February 2023**

Commences at 10.am. Includes lunch on the beach and concludes with Eucharist and healing prayer.
For more information talk to Rev. Susan.

SAFE CHURCH REFRESHER WORKSHOP - CREATING SAFE SPACES



**The Next Upcoming In-person Workshop is at
Wonthaggi Baptist Church on Saturday 25th February 2023
from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm. To register for yourself or for a
group on this date visit this link:**

https://events.humanitix.com/css-sat-feb-25-2023?_ga=2.130278156.2063222608.1674541775-1329469108.1674541775

Brian Haig visit.

Brian is the author of 'The Sunday Journal' and will be paying a visit to Wonthaggi in Mid February.

For more details please ring
Rev. John Davies on 5672 4710

Lenten Studies

With Lent approaching fast, now is the time to order your Lenten Studies. Please talk with Rev. Graeme for more info'.

Ash Wednesday - 22nd February

Imposition of Ashes Service -

10am St George's Wonthaggi

6pm Church of the Ascension Inverloch

Special Prayer Request!

MAF



On the 6th January it was reported that Ryan and 2 of his colleagues were still being held captive without charge in Mozambique's Machava Maximum Security Prison near Maputo.

They were detained on the 4th November by police who seized them on suspicion of supporting insurgents.

Please continue to pray for their immediate release and for Ryan's family; Annabel, Elias and Hezekiah Koher.

CMS Vic & the Vinicombe family

Please continue to pray for CMS Missionaries, Matt, Kate and their children; Bethany, Chloe and Amos.

Give thanks that:

- Healing continues for all.

Continue to pray for complete recovery for all.

For Your Notes!