



St. John's

Anglican Church Albany

Consecrated 1848.

Sunday 27th September 2026
Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Sentence of the Day

**'Come, let us return
to the Lord, that we
may live before him.'**

Hosea 6.1a, 2b

Collect

**Grant, O merciful God, that
your people may have that
mind that was in Christ
Jesus, who emptied
himself, and took the form
of a servant, and in
humility became obedient
even to death. For you
have highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the
name that is above every
name, Jesus Christ, the
Lord; who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, in
everlasting glory. Amen.**

Prayer of the Week

**O God, you declare
your almighty power
chiefly in showing
mercy and pity:
mercifully grant us
such a measure of your
grace that, running in
the way of your
commandments, we
may obtain your
gracious promises, and
be made partakers of
your heavenly treasure;
through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

Today's Readings

1st Reading Exodus 17.1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go.' ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

2nd Reading Philippians 2

¹ If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy,
² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.
³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.
⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.
⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,
⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.
⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.
¹⁴ Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.

¹⁶ It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labour in vain.

¹⁷ But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you—

¹⁸ and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered by news of you.

²⁰ I have no one like him who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare.

²¹ All of them are seeking their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.

²² But Timothy's worth you know, how like a son with a father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.

²³ I hope therefore to send him as soon as I see how things go with me;

²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that I will also come soon.

²⁵ Still, I think it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus—my brother and co-worker and fellow-soldier, your messenger and minister to my need;

²⁶ for he has been longing for all of you, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill.

²⁷ He was indeed so ill that he nearly died. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, so that I would not have one sorrow after another.

²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, in order that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious.

²⁹ Welcome him then in the Lord with all joy, and honour such people,

³⁰ because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for those services that you could not give me.

Gospel Reading Matthew 21.23-32

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' ²⁴ Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.' ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?"' ²⁶ But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.' ²⁸ 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." ²⁹ He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.' ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Psalm for today is Psalm 78, Verses 1-4 and 11-16

- ¹ Give heed to my teaching, O my people:
incline your ears to the words of my mouth;
- ² For I will open my mouth in a parable:
and expound the mysteries of former times.
- ³ What we have heard and known:
what our forebears have told us,
- ⁴ We will not hide from their children,
but declare to a generation yet to come:
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
his mighty and wonderful works.
- ¹¹ For he did marvellous things
in the sight of their ancestors:
in the land of Egypt, in the country of Zoan.
- ¹² He divided the sea and let them pass through:
he made the waters stand up in a heap.
- ¹³ In the daytime he led them with a cloud:
and all night long with the light of fire.
- ¹⁴ He cleft rocks in the wilderness:
and gave them drink in abundance
as from springs of water.
- ¹⁵ He brought streams out of the rock:
and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.
- ¹⁶ But for all this they sinned yet more against him:
and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.

Next Sunday's Readings

<i>1st Reading</i>	<i>1 Samuel 16:4-13</i>	<i>P263</i>
<i>2nd Reading</i>	<i>Titus 1:5-9</i>	<i>P205</i>
<i>Gospel Reading</i>	<i>Mark 10:35-45</i>	<i>P44</i>

**HYMNS – EUCHARIST SETTING
DUDMAN TIS 756**

	8am	9:30am
Introit		161
Gradual	599	599
Offertory	83	83
Recessional	223	223

**Children's Church is
available at our 9:30am
service. This week's
Children's Talk is 'Yes or
No? Parable of Two Sons'.**

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS - All are welcome at the Lord's table. Baptised, communicant members of all Christian denominations, are very welcome to receive Holy Communion and any person welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come to the altar rail and wish to receive the Sacrament in your pew, please speak to a sides person.

We respectfully acknowledge the Menang Noongar people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship and minister, and pay respect to elders past and present.

Hello Dear Friends

I pray you have had a good and blessed week. It has been lovely to have so many visitors here for the wildflower exhibition.

October will be a very exciting month for us at St John's as we celebrate our 178 years. We look forward to this week here at St John's and the occurrence of our Diocesan Synod and Bishopric Election Synod. Please hold these proceedings and our Synod Representatives in your prayers.

We are blessed again with rich readings from scripture this Sunday. Exodus shows us the children of Israel journeying according to the commandment of the Lord. We see them grumbling again and testing God. God, however, shows forbearance, patience and the provision of flowing water. Our Philippians reading exhorts us to our Christian duties, the example of Jesus is set before us, we are reminded to be diligent.

And onto our Gospel, our Lord is now openly appearing as the Messiah and the Scribes and Pharisees are offended! We are given the message to accept responsibility for our sins and when we do take action!!

At the time of the prophet Ezekiel, there was a belief, amongst the Jewish people, that the child was punished for the sins of the parent. There was a popular saying, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and their children's teeth are set on edge'. But the prophet didn't agree with this. He stated clearly and unequivocally that each individual is responsible for his or her own actions, and he or she alone will have to answer for them.

He pointed out that we can't hide behind the goodness or evil of others; each of us stands before God in his own goodness and in his own badness and is judged accordingly.

What Ezekiel was talking about is the principle of personal responsibility. It is wrong to blame the past for everything. All of us must look into our own hearts, and we will see plenty to blame. But repentance will win us pardon and life.

There is a tendency today to take responsibility away from the individual. The whole thrust of modern psychoanalysis seems to be that someone else is to blame – one's companions, one's parents, one's environment, and so on.

We are, of course, influenced by our upbringing and environment. Still, there must come a time when we stop blaming others, and accept responsibility for our actions. We have to say, 'The buck stops with me'. My own sins are my own, and I and no one else will have to answer before God for them. It's refreshing to hear someone say, 'I am to blame. I am responsible'. But how seldom we hear that!

Unless we accept responsibility for our sins, we will see no need to repent of them. If we do accept responsibility for them, we will want to do something about them, and God will help us. If we confess our sins we have nothing to fear but the mercy of God.

Jesus' story of the two sons is very relevant here. One son gave his word that he would go and work in his father's vineyard, but in actual fact he didn't go. He probably said to himself: 'They'll get on without me'. Here we have a total abdication of personal responsibility.

The other son at first refused to go. However, later in the day he reflected on his decision, saw that it was wrong, and decided to put it right. Here you have an example of someone who took responsibility for his life.

But even this son is not held up as a model. True, he had a conversion. But it seems to have been just a change of mind. There is no suggestion that he had a change of heart. A change of mind is a good thing, but a change of heart is a deeper and better thing.

A change of mind may lead to a change of some aspect of a person's behaviour. But a change of heart leads to a complete change of life. A change of heart is conversion at the deepest possible level. A change of mind is usually brought about by fear or self-interest. A change of heart is brought about by love.

All of us are called to conversion, because conversion is a necessary disposition for living in the Kingdom. But the conversion which above all Jesus sought to bring about in people was a change of heart. And he succeeded in bringing it about in the most unlikely of people. Many sinners heeded his call to conversion of heart, changed their lives, and made their way into the Kingdom. But many religious people stubbornly resisted his call to conversion of heart, refused to change their lives, and so excluded themselves from being present to the Kingdom.

We need the Lord to touch our hearts with his love and compassion. People are essentially good. But this goodness has to be awakened and called forth to the Kingdom of love.

Blessings

Karen

Mothers Union Monthly Prayer

God of mercy and love, we come before You seeking peace and reconciliation. Heal the wounds of division within our hearts, families, and communities. Teach us to forgive as You forgive, to speak with kindness, and to listen with compassion. May Your Spirit guide leaders toward justice and unity among nations. Calm our anxious thoughts and renew our spirits with Your peace that surpasses all understanding. Help us to become instruments of Your love, building bridges where walls have stood. May Your light shine through us, bringing healing, hope, and harmony to a hurting world. In Your name, we pray. Amen

Prayers for:

The Diocese of Willochra – Bishop Jeremy James, clergy and people.

The Parish of Southern Ranges - , All Saints and St. Werburgh's (Mt. Barker), St. Oswald's (Cranbrook), St Mildred's (Tenterden), Priest-in-Charge - , Revd. Dr. Genevieve Milnes and husband Peter.

Please pray for:

- * Revd. Genevieve in her parish duties.
- * Our LLM's in training: Peter, Barry, Rachel, Toby, and Bob.
- * Our Ordinand in training: Phil.
- * Our monthly hospital service at Overton in Mt Barker with an average of 12 people.
- * Weekly services in Cranbrook (St Oswald's) and Mt Barker (All Saints).
- * Quarterly services in St Werburgh's (via Mt Barker) and St Mildred's (Tenterden).
- * Our musicians: Toby, Peter, Ross & Sarah, Joan.
- * All our rostered volunteers who make our services work: Op Shop, Morning teas, Readers, Flowers, Welcomers, Sacristans, Sound, LLM's, Prayers, Musicians, Newsletter Editor, Pew sheet Editor, Gardeners, Overheads.
- * Our Parish Council and Wardens: For Jan our treasurer, our Building Committee, our Wardens and Parish Councillors.

Diocesan Ministry - Bishop-in-Council.

For the World:

- * For those called to work in the area of Social Welfare.
- * For those who are rejected by others and forced to live on the fringes of society.
- * That all people will value human life more highly and respect one another.
- * For Christian unity guided by the biblical approach.

Anglican Church of Kenya - Diocese of Kapsabet.

St Andrew's Kimaam Parish - Parish Priest - Revd. Tobias Abira, wife Josephine, Curate - Revd. Evelyn Chepsiror and husband Mr. Daniel Kosgei.

St. Thomas Koiban Parish - Parish Priest - Revd. Nelson Kitur and wife Caroline.

Please pray for:

- * The parishes to actively and wholesomely participate in the work of mission through outreach.
- * Good relationship with Mission Agencies and Theological Colleges who seek to nurture very close relationships with each other involvement and for the mission of the church to continue forward despite all obstacles.

Diocesan Ministry - Pray for good and cordial relationship with the County and National governments and other stake holders in our implementation of our church projects.

The Mission of The Month for September is Samaritan's Purse.

Samaritan's Purse is a Christian organisation that takes its name from the Gospel story of the Good Samaritan, which, in Luke 10:30-37, gives a clear picture of God's wish for all of us to help those in desperate need, wherever we find them. For over 40 years, Samaritan's Purse has worked to follow Christ's command by going to the aid of the world's poor, sick and suffering. It is a non-profit Christian organisation that is active all over the world; it meets the physical needs of victims of war, famine, natural disaster, poverty and disease, thus sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ by practical example as well as spiritual to anyone in need. Aid and assistance are given regardless of race, gender, religion or ethnic background of the beneficiaries.

Some of the current projects that Samaritan's Purse are currently contributing are:

- The Nepal Flood Crisis
- Columbian Earthquake - airlifting critical supplies to western Columbia.
- Venezuelan Earthquake - donations will assist a team to provide medical care, water, sanitation and hygiene needs.
- Ebola Crisis - as cases are climbing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Samaritan's Purse is responding.
- Operation Christmas Child which St John's proudly supports every year.

Local Projects that have benefited this year:

- Victorian Fires Disaster Relief - Samaritan's Purse responded to devastation caused by fires in the Harcourt, Vic. Area.
- Taree & Mid-North Coast, NSW Flood Recovery - Samaritan's Purse volunteer teams supported residents, assisting in rebuilding homes and restoring what was lost. This included offering practical assistance to replace walls, install kitchens, bathrooms and cabinetry - a reminder that these families are not alone in their struggle.

For more detailed information about Samaritan's Purse please visit the website www.samaritanspurse.org.au

Re: NOMINATIONS FOR OUR NEXT BISHOP

The nomination period has now finished.

The Nomination Committee will consider all the names that have been sent in, check the person's eligibility and ascertain their willingness to be considered for the position.

In due course the Committee will make a short list of no less than three and no more than six names for consideration at the Election Synod.¹

Details of the Election Synod will be issued soon. All current members of Synod will be asked to attend. Please note that the election Synod is a closed Synod, so non-members will not be able to attend. The deliberations of this Synod remain confidential.

Individuals and Parishes are encouraged to pray for God's blessing and guidance during this time of discernment. I encourage you to use the following prayer:

*Eternal God, shepherd and guide,
in your mercy give your church in this Diocese a shepherd after your own heart who
will walk in your ways,
and with loving care watch over your people.
Give us a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth.
So may your Church be built up and your name
glorified;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(APBA 1995, p211, #35)

NOTICES

Upcoming Meetings and Events **Communications Committee**

Meeting - Tues., 6th October at 4pm
via Zoom.

Parish Administrator away on leave til Mon., 5th Oct.

Police Remembrance Ceremony will be held at St John's at 10am on Tuesday, 29th September, followed by Morning Tea in the D/W Hall.

Bicentennial Fete Update and Reminder - Thank you everyone one that has started making jams, pickles, and preserves for our annual fete. We have also received a donation of some really lovely soft toys. Our fete this year as part of the Albany Bicentennial Celebrations will be held on Saturday October 24th, one day before St Johns 178th birthday. Please start putting plant cuttings in pots as we may be a little short this year. This is a special request from Margaret Benn. I will be stepping down as coordinator this year after 12 years in the role. Pippa Milne has agreed to assist me this year with several "younger members" of St John's congregation I will also be looking for several committee members to help with the organisation. Thanking you all in advance. Mike Taylor 0417967368.

Emergency Relief - Hi everyone Thanks for your previous donations which we very much appreciated. We urgently require the following items:

- * Egg cartons
- * 1 litre full cream long life milk.
- * 1kg plain or self-raising flour.
- * 1kg white rice.

Thank you and best wishes from the ER team.

Ministry opportunities - The Church cleaning team and Op Shop are looking for extra volunteers to join them. Please contact our Op Shop Manager, Wardens or Revd. Karen.

Church Watch Fridays from 11am-2pm. If anyone is interested in assisting with this ministry please speak to Revd. Karen or one of our Wardens.

Please see the below for Closures and Cancellations for The King's Birthday Public Holiday (Monday, 28th September) .

- | | |
|----------|---------------------|
| - Office | - Op Shop |
| - ER | - Marthas |
| - No P4W | - No Money Counting |

On line training for Op Shop, ER and Martha's volunteers

The Diocese has arranged two online training sessions through Peninsula on **Managing Difficult Client Interactions**. We are conscious that several staff/volunteers have had difficult interactions in the past few months alone. Peninsula are the Diocese HR/WHS management consultant services and they will be providing these tailored and insightful training sessions.

This training will be particularly valuable for employees and volunteers who regularly engage face-to-face with members of the public, including those involved in:

- Op Shops
- Emergency Relief Services
- Community kitchens

Parish and community outreach activities

While the training is especially relevant for these roles, all staff and volunteers across the Diocese are welcome to attend. As places are limited, *early registration* is encouraged.

Training Dates

- Thursday 8 October
 - 3.00pm - 5.00pm
- Online (2 hours)

Learning Outcomes

Participants will learn to:

- Define what constitutes a difficult interaction.
- Identify the difference between a difficult customer and a customer complaint.
- Understand why difficult interactions need to be managed appropriately and the potential consequences when they are not.
- Recognise the signs of an escalating situation.
- Apply practical de-escalation techniques.

Use theoretical frameworks in real-life workplace and volunteer situations.

If you are unable to access the on line training, you are welcome to join Revd. Karen in the Dorothy Wood Hall for a group session. Please let Revd. Karen know if you wish to join her.

Prayer Chain - A parish prayer chain has been re-established. If you have prayer requests please contact Revd. Karen (0434 702 343), who will communicate with other members of the team. Prayer requests will not be discussed by prayer chain members and will be kept in confidence. If you wish for prayers to continue for more than one week, please contact Rev. Karen again. The importance and power of prayer is intrinsic in our faith.

Prayer is an act of worship that glorifies God and reinforces our need for God. "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7(NRSV).

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER - A contemplative prayer service is held in the Lady Chapel every **Tuesday at 11am**. The format is flexible, but follows The Rhythm of Life: Celtic Daily Prayer by David Adam and includes a time of silent prayer, up to 20 minutes for regulars. The service is chosen as a result of discussion about matters on the hearts of those attending, and the contemplation based on a mantra taken from the psalm. The service usually takes less than an hour. The books are supplied, and contemplative time can be modified for those new to this form of prayer. You are most welcome to come and try a new experience! Cherry O'Donnell.

PEACE OF MIND

Regardless of age, an enduring power of attorney (EPA), an enduring power of guardianship (EPG) and an advanced health directive (AHD) can be accessed at <https://www.wa.gov.au/service/justice/civil-law/enduring-power-of-attorney> and are recommended to be in place to provide peace of mind to our families. Do you have a will?

AND FUNERALS - Information to assist you make your wishes known re funeral arrangements can be accessed via the Parish Office. The completed information is for your family and/or support persons to ensure your wishes are carried out.

Containers for Change

We are now registered with the "Containers for Change" scheme. Our Member Number is C11770281. Would you kindly consider donating your refunds to St John's?

Direct Giving via Electronic Banking - Thanks again to those who are continuing to support the church in one form or another. Could I please ask that those that are electronically transferring money to the church follow the following instructions.

Ordinary Direct giving - quote the word "Donation" in the reference section and deposit into Anglican Community Fund.

BSB: 706-001

Acc: 3000 3081

Mission giving should be deposited into the Parish Holding Account using the word "Mission" as a reference.

Banking details are:

BSB: 706-001

Acc: 3000 8763

Services at St John's.

We have implemented live streaming of services on Facebook - If you use Facebook please "like" the following pages Anglican Parish of Albany and Anglican Parish Albany Service Stream for live services or recordings. We will also put a link on the website www.anglicanchurchalbany.org.au so you can watch the recordings.

Normal Worship times:

Sunday 8:00am

Sung Eucharist with Hymns

Sunday 9.30am

Live streamed sung Eucharist with Hymns

Sunday 7.00pm

Live Streamed Compline

Tuesday 12.30 pm

Eucharist

Monday - Friday

Morning and Evening Prayer live streamed at 8am and 5pm.

The next Order of St Luke Healing Service will be held on Thursday 8th of October at 9.30am in the Lady Chapel.

CONTACT DETAILS

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Canon Karen Cave - Mob: 0434 702 343

Email: priest@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Safe Church email - safechurch@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Wardens:

Email: wardens@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Mike Taylor: Mob: 0417 967 368

John Blake: Mob: 0438 761 950, (H) 9844 4587

Georgie Walker: Mob: 0428 425 293

Parish Office:

admin@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Rachel Matthews – 9841 5015

Parish Office Volunteer: Amy Mengler and Kate Britton.

Office Hours – Mon - Thurs 9am to 12pm and Fri 9am –5pm.

Op Shop:

Manager - Ann Robinson

Trading Hrs are 10am-2pm Mon-Fri.

Director of Professional Standards:

Ms Davina Goldthorpe - Ph: 9425 7203. Email:

safeministry@perth.anglican.org

Mandatory Reporting Service:

Ph: 1800 708 704. Website: www.mandatoryreporting.dcp.wa.gov.au

Please check out our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages at Anglican Parish of Albany and encourage your friends to follow us.