



St George's Anglican Church | Malvern

**Seventh Sunday of Easter / Sunday after Ascension 17 May 2015**

**Sentence** Jesus prayed, 'Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

*John 17.11*

**Collect**

O God,  
you withdraw from our sight  
that you may be known by our love:  
help us to enter the cloud where you are hidden,  
and to surrender all our certainty  
to the darkness of faith  
in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**A Reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles.**

*The restoration of twelve apostles is achieved with the election of Matthias; this number corresponds to the original twelve tribes of Israel and symbolises the establishment of the new Israel, the Church.*

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.' So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' And they cast lots for them,

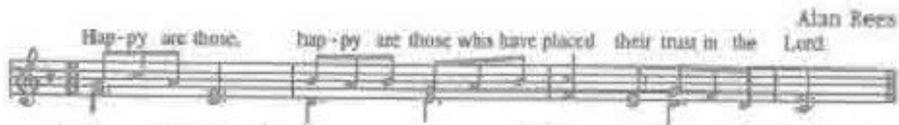
and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

*Acts 1.15-17, 21-26.*

**Reader** For the word of the Lord  
**ALL** Thanks be to God

**Psalm 1 at 8am APBA page 224 at 10.00am Responsorial Setting**

*This wisdom psalm serves as a preface to the whole psalter as a repository of divine instruction. The virtuous are happy and do not keep company with the wicked but delight in following God's way.*



- 1 Happy indeed are those who follow not the counsel of the wicked; nor linger in the way of sinners nor sit in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponder his law day and night.
- 2 They are like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters. that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that they do shall prosper.
- 3 Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

**A Reading from the letter of John.**

*The hallmarks of faith for John are that we believe in Jesus as the Christ and love one another. True faith is not only based on human testimony but on God's testimony as well, which we see in the vindication of Jesus in being raised by God and in the love of the community of Christ.*

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those

who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. *1 John 5.9-13*

**Reader** May your word live in us.

**ALL** **And bear much fruit to your glory.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**ALL** **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Cantor Jesus prayed: As you have sent me into the world; so I have sent them into the world.

**ALL** **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Reader The Lord be with you

**ALL** **And also with you**

**Reader** A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

**ALL** **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*This is part of the prayer John describes Jesus as praying in the upper room while with his disciples. This is a prayer for the disciples – and for we who are believers now – that we may abide in the truth we have been given and thus be one with Jesus and each other in God’s purposes.*

Jesus prayed: ‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your

name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

*John 17.6-19*

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

**DAY OF PENTECOST**

**Bible Readings next week 24 May 2015**

Acts 2.2-21 Ps 104.26-36 Romans 8.22-27 John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15.

**The presider and preacher will be The Rt Dr Peter Hollingworth.**

**WEAR RED!**

**Prayer of the Week.**

O God, King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we pray you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us,  
and exalt us to the same place where our Saviour Christ has gone  
before; and lives and reigns with you and the holy Spirit, one God,  
forever and ever. Amen.

**Pray for the Faithful Departed**

We remember before God : William Hardy *priest*, Betty Glover, Jess Slattery, Lily (Pat) Boughton, Samuel Richard Creswick Wood, Gwladys May Reilly, Janet Alexander, Colin Cruth, Sheila Burgess, Ethel Cameron, Ian Harry (Toby) Cumming, Elsie May Smith, Hilda (Peg) Payne, Elizabeth Armstrong *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

**COMMEMORATIONS OF THE WEEK.**

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.**

**May 19** Dustan, archbishop of Canterbury (909-988). A Benedictine monk at Glastonbury and in 939 became its Abbot. His principal achievement was restoration of monastic life after its destruction by the Danish invasions. In 960 he was made Archbishop of Canterbury and was instrumental in reforming the Church in England, largely through the monastic orders.