

Psalm 95

O come, let us sing out to the Lord:

let us shout in triumph to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his face with thanksgiving:

and cry out to him joyfully in psalms.

For the Lord is a great God:

and a great king above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth:

and the peaks of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his and he made it:

his hands moulded dry land.

Come, let us worship and bow down:

and kneel before the Lord our maker.

For he is the Lord our God:

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Today if only you would hear his voice—

'Do not harden your hearts as at Meribah:

as on that day at Massah in the wilderness;

'When your forebears tested me:

put me to proof, though they had seen my works.

'Forty years long I loathed that generation and said:

"It is a people who err in their hearts,

for they do not know my ways";

'Of whom I swore in my wrath:

"They shall not enter my rest." '

A Prayer Book for Australia, Broughton Books, 1995

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Ngaala kaaditj Noongar moort keyen kaadak nidja boodja.

We respectfully acknowledge Noongar People as the original custodians
of this land, and their ongoing relationship with it.

We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

St David's, Ardress
St George's, Applecross
12 March 2023

Applecross
Anglican Church
Diocese of Perth



Lent III Gospel John 4.5-42

It is well and good to talk about liberation from oppression, whether from Pharaoh, Herod, or some modern day dictator. That's the theologically correct rhetoric among Christians. Yet that is not always how the story unfolds. We human beings are much more complex.

In Exodus 17, the ancient Hebrews were barely out of bondage in Egypt when they begged Moses to go back. After 430 years and ten generations, some people had grown to love their enslavement. After the exodus, after crossing the Red Sea on dry land, and after songs of celebration by Moses and Miriam for all God's mighty acts of deliverance, the liberated Hebrews set out. The very first story about them, though, describes how they demanded a return to their status quo in Egypt. Slavery had its consolations, whereas freedom was precarious. As is often the case in the Bible, the place was memorialised with a name to mark its significance. Moses called it Meribah, which is Hebrew for the verb 'to find fault.'

They faulted Moses : 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

They tested God : 'Where is the proof of your presence?'

Like Exodus 17, the Gospel in John 4 is a story about water - the Samaritan woman at the well. In both stories, talk of physical hardship [fatigue and thirst] gives way to descriptions of spiritual sustenance. Jesus changes the conversation about literal water to one about spiritual nourishment. The former, however good and necessary, is no substitute for the latter.

'Everyone who drinks this water,' says Jesus, 'will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water that I give will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give will become a spring of water welling up to everlasting life.'

Lent is an opportunity to understand our physical appetites not as something bad, but within the greater perspective of something better

Wendy

PRAYERS Gracious God, we ask for your blessing and healing for all.

In the Diocese we pray for: Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy and Bishop Kate Wilmot, and Bishop Christopher Ruto of our partnered Diocese of Eldoret. Our partnered parish St Stephens Aturei, priest Rev Josephat Bett and people.

For those in need at this time: Prayers of comfort, and peace for Wimela, Pam, Gail, Penny, and for all on our hearts.

Joyce Bradshaw (2006)

May her portion in paradise be rest in peace.

12 MARCH LENT III	St George's 7.45 am	St David's 9.30 am
Welcomers and offering	Phyllis	Deb and Nic
1st reading: <i>Exodus 17.1-7</i>	Lilian	Deb
2nd reading: <i>Romans 5.1-11</i>	David	Daphne K
Intercessor	Chris	Chris
Morning Tea	Paul and Rupesh	Anuja and Anchor
19 MARCH LENT IV	St George's 7.45 am	St David's 9.30 am
Welcomers and offering	Ann	Sam and Chris
1st reading: <i>1 Samuel 16.1-13</i>	Rosemary	Nic
2nd reading: <i>Ephesians 5.8-14</i>	Leonie	Magdalene
Intercessor	Rupesh	Brian
Morning Tea	Ann	Daphne K and Ann

Hymns: (1) TIS 102 (2) 425 or Gospel Acclamation
(3) TIS 655 (4) TIS 446 (to 772)

APPLECROSS ANGLICAN PARISH

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NOTICES

ST DAVID'S PATRONAL service. Thank you to everyone who made this a good parish celebration. Thank you to the choir - especially, but not only, for the singing of the Welsh anthem.

MEDITATION continues on Thursdays 5.30pm St David's.

TAKE 15 A service of 15 minutes commenced last week and will continue 12.30 - 12.45pm every Wednesday at St David's.

MARCH MESSENGER The article by Dean Emeritus John Shepherd "A Question of Christian Orthodoxy" is well worth a read. Copies are available in the churches on Sunday, while the article "A Good Life?" by the new Anglicare chaplain, Chris Thomason, asks for snapshots of your version of a good life, no more than 250 words, by the end of March.
chris.thomason@anglicarewa.org.au Copies of the article are available.

The series "**THE CHOSEN**" - a series about Jesus - was mentioned during our recent study on Theologies of Disability. Stream all episodes for free -
angel.com/signup/the-chosen

Lent Study 2023 A Journey to the Heart of Jesus Through Psalm 22 The study is held on Thursdays 10am in St David's seminar room and 7pm via Team. The link for our online Lenten study:
https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NTk4ZDBjZGUtZTc0OS00NzMwLTgyNmEtZGQ5OWEyYmM2ZjJh%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22d2cb87ed-7ca5-4262-9c69-d4e67c0c9581%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2215cd77b2-6e33-40b0-bba0-bd33f9923e0e%22%7d

AMUA (Mothers' Union) Meeting Monday 13 March **10 AM NEW TIME** at St George's. All welcome - Phyllis 9364 5271.

WE HAVE HEARD ten of the original Parish Youth Fellowship members are meeting for lunch next week with two visiting from Melbourne. We wish them 'buon appetito'!

LIVE STREAM Zoom link The Applecross Anglican Church invites you to a scheduled Zoom meeting, every Sunday for the 9.30am Service Join the Zoom Meeting using the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84055609795?>