

## Psalm 149

O praise the Lord, and sing to the Lord a new song:  
O praise him in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in him that made him:  
**let the children of Zion be joyful in their king.**

Let them praise him in the dance:  
**let them sing his praise with timbrel and with harp.**

For the Lord takes delight in his people:  
**he adorns the meek with his salvation.**

Let his faithful ones exult in his glory:  
**let them sing for joy upon their beds.**

Let the high praises of God be in their mouths:  
**and a two-edged sword in their hands,**

To execute vengeance on the nations:  
**and chastisement upon the peoples,**

To bind their kings in chains:  
and their nobles with fetters of iron,

To visit upon them the judgement that is decreed:  
**such honour belongs to all his faithful servants.**  
**Praise the Lord.**

*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, Ardross  
St George's, Applecross  
10 September 2023

Applecross  
Anglican Church  
Diocese of Perth



### Reflection on Pentecost XV

In Romans this week, Paul compares love to a debt that we can never fully repay. This commandment is repeated throughout the New Testament, and was repeated in the centuries after the first believers. "Our care for the derelict and our active love," writes Tertullian, "have become our distinctive sign." "Blessed is the one who can love all people equally," said Maximus the Confessor, "always thinking good of everyone."

The church father Jerome describes how John the evangelist, author of the gospel and the book of Revelation, preached at Ephesus into his nineties. At that age, John was so feeble that he had to be carried into the church at Ephesus on a stretcher. Then, when he could no longer preach a sermon, he would lean up on one elbow. The only thing he said was, "Little children, love one another." People would then carry him back out of the church. This continued for weeks, says Jerome. And every week John repeated his one-sentence sermon: "Little children, love one another." Weary of the repetition, the congregation finally asked, "Master, why do you always say this?" "Because," John replied, "it is the Lord's command, and if this only is done, it is enough."

As the chaplain at Yale University, William Sloan Coffin pushed back against intellectual idolatry. He observed how students at Yale "thought *cogito ergo sum* (I think, therefore I am) was what it was all about, and Yale was encouraging them to think that." Coffin suggested a subversive alternative: "I felt very deeply that it's *amo ergo sum* (I love, therefore I am)." This Latin phrase, *amo ergo sum*, which is the title of a 2002 book by the German cultural anthropologist Christina Kessler, can be translated slightly differently to make the point even more radical: "I am because I love."

Or, as the farmer-poet Wendell Berry put it, I only live to the extent that I love. In his book of poetry called *Leavings* (2012), Berry points the way for us in a short poem-prayer:

I know that I have life  
only insofar as I have love.

May we know that we have life.

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 and Rev'd Josephat Bett and people of St Stephens Aturei parish.

**For our Parish :** for our Parish Council in their work of Mission.

**For those in need at this time:** Prayers of comfort, healing, and peace for Lilian, Leonie and all on our hearts.

George Hobday (2017)  
*May his portion in paradise be rest in peace.*

| 10 SEPTEMBER<br>PENTECOST XV      | ST GEORGE'S<br>7.45 AM                                   | ST DAVID'S<br>9.30 AM |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Welcomers                         | Jill   | Jill and Ross         |
| 1st reading <i>Exodus 12.1-14</i> | Ann  | Mary                  |
| 2nd reading <i>Romans 13.1-10</i> | David  | Brian                 |
| Gospel <i>Matthew 18.10-20</i>    | Meliata  | Meliata               |
| Intercessor                       | Rupesh   | Sam                   |
| Morning Tea                       | Ann  | Sam and Deb           |
| <b>HYMNS</b>                      | 648 (tune 14)<br>477 or Gospel Acclamation<br>152<br>154 |                       |

**APPLECROSS ANGLICAN PARISH**

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**NOTICES**

**VOICE in PARLIAMENT** If you are wanting a theological consideration of how to vote in the upcoming referendum the Social Responsibility Commission Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/anglicansocialresponsibilities> is a good resource for us and for our neighbours. Please note ABM has a range of resources on the Voice Referendum. Free and available on their webpage.

**MEDITATION** Thursdays 5.30pm St David's church. All welcome.

**WA RELIGIOUS RESPONSE to CLIMATE CHANGE** Interfaith Workshop at Hillview Intercultural Community Centre, 1-3 Hill View Place, Bentley, **1.30-5.00pm Saturday 9 September.**

**AMUA (MOTHERS' UNION)** Meeting Monday 11 September 10.00 am. All welcome. Phyllis 9364 5271.

**CAFÉ BETHLEHEM** gathering **21 September** with the theme *Environmental Care*. Recycling being one of the day's focus Due to Meliata's research and negotiation the Parish is involved in Containers for Change, by way of now having our own receptacle, and the recycling of plastic bottle tops. We are pleased to say the Playgroup will also be involved in this ministry. A container for the plastic lids is located in St David's foyer.

**CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE** Fund raising The Parish number is **C10681155**. We now have a Container for Change bin, located in the foyer of St David's hall. If more convenient, please bring your containers and deposit in our local bin.

**WE NEED** empty, clean jars with lids and empty milk bottles - of any size - for Café Bethlehem. Please bring to Parish Centre or give to Meliata or Jacquie. Next week please so we can prepare for our Café activities.

**BOOK WORKSHOP 2.00-3.00pm followed by High Tea Thursday 12 October.** All participating in this workshop are now charged with the reading of the book *Failure* by Emma Ineson.

**PARISH COMMUNITY MISSION** Everyone is welcome to share invites with friends, family, and neighbours to our parish. Please take and distribute.

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**LIVE STREAM Team link** We invite you to a scheduled Team meeting, for the 9.30am service. Join the Meeting using the link: <http://bit.ly/3JydKOd>