



Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday 7 am: Holy Communion

(Hymns: TIS 589, MP613, TIS 209,vv1,3-5, TIS 147)

Sunday 9 am: Family Service (also streamed via ZOOM*)

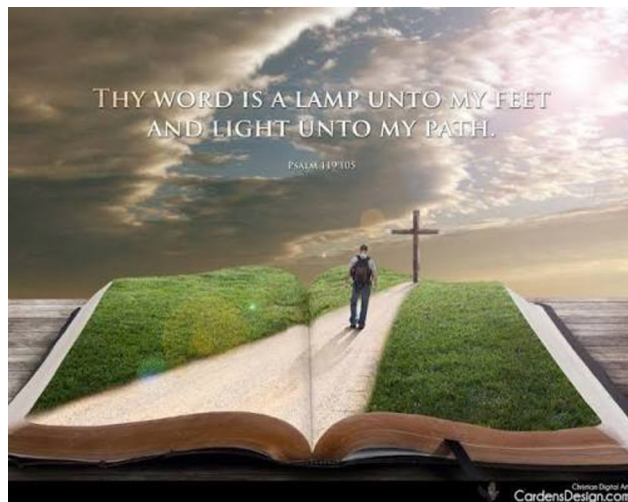
(Hymns: MP 1086, Choir, MP 435, MP 1141, TIS 755)

*** <https://zoom.us/j/7210725462> or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).
Contact the office for the password.**

The words you have spoken are spirit and life, O Lord; you have the words of eternal life.'

Rev'd Timothy writes...

We have some great, well known, readings selected for us by the lectionary compilers this Sunday, which reminds us of what a great heritage we have in the Anglican Church for the constant repetition of scripture. This was a prime focus of Thomas Cranmer and the others who brought about the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and subsequent prayer books including 'An Australian Prayer Book' (AAPB) that we use today. The opening words of the psalm says it all: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105) I can't read this without having in my mind Amy Grant singing this, and I'm sure I am not alone! A couple of verses earlier the psalmist declares "How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (v.103). God's word is life-giving and life-enhancing.

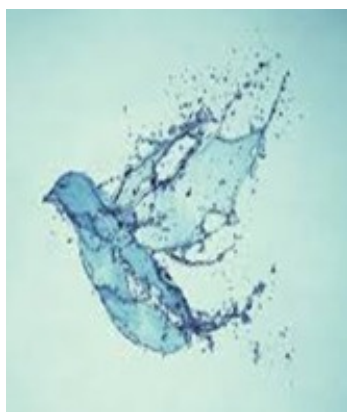


We then go on to hear an important moment in the story of God and God's people, the birth of Esau and Jacob. We are reminded that, though God chose Abraham and his descendants to be a blessing, it is not an easy path. Often God's way is not the obvious way; Paul reminds us of this in 1 Corinthians 1:27: "God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong."

Then we read from Paul's letter to the Romans his great understanding of the heart of the gospel message: "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." This is the Good News that he devoted his life to share.

Finally, our gospel passage is the well known parable of the sower, with its commentary on mission and of the importance of understanding the scriptures.

As a collect from the BCP puts it, may we read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the scriptures.



We welcome for Baptism at 9am today....

Charles Peter Jobson

Theodore Rick Jobson

along with their parents, Taylor and Alane
godparents, Thomas, Brittany, Anna and William,
and family and friends.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God.

Readings for the 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19–34 In her distress, Rebekah cries out to God, who answers her directly, revealing a personal relationship. Even before birth, her sons struggle within her, hinting at the tension to come. As the story unfolds, a defining choice begins to shape the family's future.

Psalms 119:105–112 is carefully structured, reflecting a sense of order and attention to detail. Within it, the psalmist expresses a deep reliance on God's word, describing it as a light that guides each step.

Romans 8:1–11 Paul speaks of two ways of living, shaped by where our focus rests—life in the Spirit and life turned elsewhere. Within this tension, the Spirit of God offers life and draws us into a deeper relationship with God and with one another.

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23 Jesus continues teaching with a parable, first to the crowds and then more deeply to the disciples. In offering its meaning, Jesus invites us to consider how the word is received and what shapes whether it takes root or falls away amid the pressures and challenges of life.

First reading

A reading from the book Genesis

¹⁹ These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived.

²² The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the Lord. ²³ And the Lord said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.'

²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb.

²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like

a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau.

²⁶ Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents.

²⁸ Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am

famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.'

³² Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?'

³³ Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and

lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau

despised his birthright.

Genesis 25:19-34

Psalm 119:105-112

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lantern to my feet:
and a light to my path.

¹⁰⁶ I have vowed and sworn an oath:
to keep your righteous judgements.

¹⁰⁷ I have been afflicted beyond measure:
Lord, give me life according to your word.

¹⁰⁸ Accept, O Lord, the freewill offerings
of my mouth:
and teach me your judgements.

¹⁰⁹ I take my life in my hands continually:
yet I do not forget your law.

¹¹⁰ The wicked have laid a snare for me:
but I have not strayed from your
precepts.

¹¹¹ Your commands are my inheritance for
ever:
they are the joy of my heart.

¹¹² I have set my heart to fulfil your
statutes:
always, even to the end.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Romans

¹ There is therefore now no
condemnation for those who are in Christ
Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in
Christ Jesus has set you free from the law
of sin and of death. ³ For God has done
what the law, weakened by the flesh,
could not do: by sending his own Son in
the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal
with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
⁴ so that the just requirement of the law
might be fulfilled in us, who walk not
according to the flesh but according to
the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according

to the flesh set their minds on the things
of the flesh, but those who live according
to the Spirit set their minds on the things
of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the
flesh is death, but to set the mind on the
Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason
the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile
to God; it does not submit to God's law—
indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in
the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in
the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in
you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit
of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if
Christ is in you, though the body is dead
because of sin, the Spirit is life because of
righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who
raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,
he who raised Christ from the dead will
give life to your mortal bodies also
through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Romans 8:1-11

Gospel reading

A reading from the gospel of Matthew

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the
house and sat beside the lake. ² Such
great crowds gathered around him that
he got into a boat and sat there, while
the whole crowd stood on the beach.
³ And he told them many things in
parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went
out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some
seeds fell on the path, and the birds came
and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on
rocky ground, where they did not have
much soil, and they sprang up quickly,
since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But
when the sun rose, they were scorched;
and since they had no root, they
withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among
thorns, and the thorns grew up and

choked them.⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

⁹ Let anyone with ears listen!’

¹⁸ ‘Hear then the parable of the sower.

¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;²¹ yet such a person

has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.’

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Copyright: The Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Word for the Day

Today’s readings draw us into the question of what shapes our lives and our choices.

In the story of Jacob and Esau, we see how easily a moment can be driven by immediate need or desire. In Paul’s words, we hear something of that same tension within ourselves—the pull between ways of living that lead us toward life, and those that draw us elsewhere.

The psalm offers a different voice, describing God’s word as a light for the path, something steady that can guide us. And in Jesus’ parable, we see that this word is sown widely, yet it takes root in different ways depending on what surrounds it.

Together, these readings do not offer a simple answer, but they invite us to notice what shapes us—what we attend to, what we hold onto, and what we allow to take root in our lives.

There is also hope here: that God continues to sow, to speak, and to be present, even in the midst of our distractions and struggles. The invitation is not to have everything in place, but to remain open—to listen, to receive, and to grow.

Ideas for Reflection

- What shapes our attention in the small choices of each day?
- Where do we notice God’s word taking root, or struggling to take root, in our lives?
- Soil can be improved before or after planting. What might we do to improve our connection with the Word?

- What helps us remain open to God's guidance when many things compete for our attention?
- Rebekah, Jacob, and Esau each respond differently as the story unfolds. How do we discern our own place within it?

© 2025 Liturgy, Learning, Life, used by permission

Parish Camp 2026

Our Parish Camp is on again this year at the Glengarry Boy's Brigade site by the beautiful Lake Atkinson. It is on from Saturday morning 1st August to Sunday afternoon 2nd August (or come just for a day). We have kept our prices the same as last year.



Book NOW via trybooking.com/DNHKI (or via booking form available in church).



Mission Encounter

7-8 AUGUST
TAMWORTH

REGISTER NOW

Mission Encounter is a weekend for churches and individuals to be encouraged in gospel mission, and learn from the experience of CMS missionaries. **Tim Silberman** (*SMBC Missions Lecturer*) will lead through the book of Revelation and the witness of the Lamb. CMS missionaries **Gillian Law** (*Italy*), **Dene & Rachel Hughes** (*Japan*) and **Stuart & Yukiho Sharry** (*preparing for Japan*) will share testimonies of God's work among the nations.

Pray with David and Zoë Browne in Gladstone

David and Zoë are our link missionaries with BCA in Gladstone. They write:



Give thanks for the 40th birthday celebrations of St Peter's this month; a testament to faithful service and God's provision. As the weather gets colder, pray for Soup Kitchen diners and people without accommodation.

Thank you to Margaret Sheehan for making 36 beanies for the Mission to Seafarers.



For our Prayers

Prayer for the day

Bountiful God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word: by your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy, and to live according to it, that we may grow in faith and hope and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

The World

Pray that the conflict in Iran will not re-escalate and that all parties will commit to peaceful negotiation.

The Anglican Communion

The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

The Diocese of Grafton: †Murray Harvey & †Tiffany Sparks; Clergy and People

The Parish of Samford: Robert Paget, Jan Crombie

All Diocesan Committees

St John's Anglican College, Forest Lake: Principal – Maria McIvor; Chaplain – Juliana Bate; Chair of College Council – Carla Tromans; members of College Council; staff & students

Our missionary partners

Parishes in the Western Region (Bush Ministry Fund).

Local Schools and colleges

St Elizabeths Primary, St Agnes Primary, Red Hill Special School

Our parish

Give thanks that an operating license for Little Angels Tarragindi is expected very soon.

Those who are sick, frail or emotionally stressed

Ryan, Sharon L, Rev'd Shane, David F, Peter G, Lauren, Rita, Don, Margaret, Peter F., Maxine and Robyn McElnea, Glen and Rose, Mon McNeill, Ian Basham, Scott L, Tim Vassella

From the Parish Book of Remembrance

12 July: Adam Kennedy, Doris Jewell Mundy, Thomas Henry Footitt; *13 July:* Jean Rawlinson, Lorna Stumm; *14 July:* Keith Alan McElnea, James Stephen Mendham; *16 July:* Martha Wells, Geoffrey Ernest Fuller; *18 July:* Alice Richards, George Lawson.

Children's Church

We start Children's Church again for Term 3 **next week** on 19th July, but Children are always welcome at our services and there is always a Children's talk at 9am Sunday.



Containers for Change

Donate your '10c refund' bottles and cans to St Luke's. Either bring them to church or take them direct to TOMRA (9/655 Toohey Road, Salisbury) and use the parish code: **C10686424**

Also part of St Luke's

**Little Angels
Tarragindi**

Anglican Childcare
opening soon:

littleangels.qld.edu.au



St Luke's Theatre Society:
stluketheatre.asn.au

Services This Week:

Tuesday-Friday

6pm: Evening Prayer on Zoom

Tuesday 14th July:

1.30pm: Holy Communion at
Regis Salisbury

Sunday 19th July:

8th Sunday after Pentecost

7am: Holy Communion at St Luke's

9am: Family Communion
with baptism

*Readings: Genesis 28:10-19a,
Psalm 139:1-11,23-24, Romans 8:12-25,
Matthew 13:24-30,36-43*

Keep in touch:

 priest@stlukesekibin.org.au
(Rector, Rev'd Dr Timothy Nicholson)

 admin@stlukesekibin.org.au (Office)

 families@stlukesekibin.org.au
(Children's church)

 3848 2123 (Rectory and Office)

 P.O. Box 79, Wellers Hill, QLD 4121

 www.stlukesekibin.org.au

 @stlukesekibin

Parish Warden:
Brian Wood (0466 656 149)

Offerings:

Bank details (internet banking):

Anglican Parish of Ekibin

A/C 0000 7820

BSB 704 901

Or scan the **QR code** to give
online:



<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/TIM/?BillerCode=1709377>