

27th September 2026



***God of the wilderness and the open heart,
when we are thirsty, frustrated or uncertain,
help us trust you.***

***Give us the mind of Christ, the humility to
serve, and the courage to turn our “yes” into
action. Amen.***

Weekly Pastoral Reflection

Jesus' parable of the two sons is wonderfully uncomfortable. One son says “no” but eventually goes; the other says “yes” but never acts. Jesus reminds us that faith is not measured simply by what we say, but by how we live. We can say the right prayers, sing the right hymns and speak beautifully about God, yet still resist God's invitation in our daily lives. The good news is that the first son changed his mind. There is always room to turn around, begin again and say “yes” through our actions. This week, perhaps God is inviting us to move from words to action, from intention to obedience, and from simply talking about love to actually becoming people who love.

Sentence & Prayer of the Day

Sentence: Come, let us return to the Lord, that we may live before him. Hosea 6.1a, 2b

Prayer of the Day: 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.

Readings

First Reading from Exodus 17.1-7

¹From 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. ²The 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?’ ³But 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?’ ⁴So Moses cried out to the Lord, ‘What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.’

⁵The 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.

⁶I 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. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Biblical background: Israel is travelling through the wilderness and finds no water. The people complain against Moses, and God provides water from the rock at Horeb.

Meaning & relevance for today: In times of pressure, we can quickly move from trust to complaint. This story reminds us that God meets us even in our wilderness and provides what we need.

Reflection question: *When I feel spiritually dry or overwhelmed, do I turn towards God or allow fear and frustration to take over?*

Psalm 78.1-4, 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.**

Second Reading from Philippians 2.1-13

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, 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; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Hear the Word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

Biblical background: Paul encourages the Philippian Christians to live with humility, unity and the mind of Christ. He points them towards Jesus, who emptied himself and became obedient, even to death.

Meaning & relevance for today: Christian discipleship is not about proving ourselves superior. It is about becoming more like Christ through humility, compassion, service and obedience.

Reflection question: *Where is Christ inviting me to become less self-centred and more willing to serve others?*

The Holy Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 21.23-32

GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

²³When 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?' ²⁴Jesus 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. ²⁵Did 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?" ²⁶But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' ²⁷So 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. ²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." ²⁹He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. ³¹Which 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. ³²For 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.

For the Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Biblical background: Religious leaders challenge Jesus about his authority. Jesus responds with the story of two sons: one says "no" but later obeys, while the other says "yes" but does not act.

Meaning & relevance for today: God is less interested in impressive words than in lives that actually respond to God's invitation. Genuine faith becomes visible through action.

Reflection question: *Where might God be asking me to turn my "yes" into action?*

News & Notices

Annual Blessing of Animals - St Francis Day

Give thanks for the joy, companionship and comfort our animals bring in to our lives.



ALL WELCOME

GYMPIE: St Peter's Sunday 4th Oct

Join us with your pet during the 8.30 - 9.30 am blessing service

OR

Bring your pet to the church grounds in Lady Mary Tce,
between 9.30 am - 10.30 am

for a personal blessing & stay for a cuppa after.



RAINBOW Good Shepherd Sunday 11th Oct

BEACH: Join us with your pet during the 9.30 & 10.30 am blessing Service **OR** come to the church grounds any time between 10.30 - 11 am for a personal blessing & stay for a cuppa after.

ALL SOULS DAY: 1st Nov 2026. Names of loved ones passed may be added to the list at the back of the Church to commemorate those who have gone before us to their eternal rest. You may also contact the office to leave names- Office details below.

THIS WEEK: Sun: 8.30 am & 5.30 pm Gympie; 9.30 am Rainbow Beach |

Tue: 5.00 pm Christian Meditation | Wed: 12.00 noon Service.

Sunday's 5.30 pm ZOOM Link: Zoom information is the same each week

Web address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7246788483> **Meeting ID: 724 678 8483**

PARISH PANTRY: Non-perishable food supplies needed for our community assistance pantry. Small packets of rice, noodles, soups; Tins of tuna, chicken, beef, soups, vegetables. Snack items: Muesli bars, chips, biscuits etc

Prayers for those in need

Jim Alford; David Arthur; Azzrah; Nicholas Barrett; Pam Dorman; Jill, Holly & Alby; Christian Ford; Joyce Gall; Allan Gall; Peter Gall; Glennys; Jenny; Lillian Lochel; Val McClurg; Jeanette Penny's family; Daniel Saunders; Shirley Summerville; Graham and Beris Trainer; Robyn Vagg; Melodie Zylstra.

Thanksgiving for the life of: Jeanette Penny. Jeanette's funeral will be at Good Shepherd Church on Wednesday, 30th Sept., 11 am.

Thanksgiving for the life of: Jean Willis: Jean's funeral will be at St Peter's Church on Thursday, 1st Oct at 10.30 am.

How to contribute to our Church financially

Deposits may be made by internet transfer from your bank direct to our Church Bank Account using the following information:

Account Name: Anglican Parish Gympie **BSB:** 704-901 **Acct Number:** 0000 5910

Please use all the four zeros when entering the Acct No.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Physical & Postal Address: 15 Amy St, Gympie 4570

Phone: 07 5482 2629 **Mobile:** 0408 745 024

Email: gympie@anglicanchurchsq.org.au **Website:** www.anglicangympie.org.au

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