

First Reading

A Reading from *The Acts of the Apostles*
Read by Liz Boggis

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.'
(This is a wilderness road.)

²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?'

³¹He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?'

³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' ³⁷And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may". And he replied, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn:

472; You are the vine and we are the branches

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

'Abide in me, that you may bear much fruit, says the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Jesus said to his disciples,;

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower

²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit.

Every branch that bears fruit

he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

³You have already been cleansed

by the word that I have spoken to you

⁴Abide in me as I abide in you.

Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself

unless it abides in the vine,

neither can you unless you abide in me.

am the vine, you are the branches.

Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit,

because apart from me you can do nothing.

⁶Whoever does not abide in me

is thrown away like a branch and withers;

such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you,

ask for whatever you wish,

and it will be done for you.

⁸My Father is glorified by this,

that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ

Please remember to pray for the following friends of our Parish who are not able to worship with us at this time
Peggy Bean. Vera Emeny, Margaret Pearce, Pat Todd,
David and Lily Webb.

Intercessions

Intercessions are led by Jim Manning

Those for whom prayer has been asked:

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For those on active service in places of danger.

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Dick and Caroline Seed our CMS Missionaries

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The Migrant and Refugee Crisis

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The visitors to the Top Up shop and Family First

3 Celia, Dereck Markham, Ray Mallet,
Colleen and Kevin

2 Linda Best, Louise

1 Mark Wall, Maureen and Steve, Angela Parobij
Edward Colthorpe, Carol Glymin, Sam
those known privately to us.

Those who have died recently

We remember the anniversary of death of

Gordon Blackburn 29 April 2018

Rod Kemp 4 May 2012

Les Neesam 4 May 2023

Offertory Hymn;

212; Now the green blade

Communion Hymns:

430; Bread of Heaven on thee we feed

Anthem; Unless a grain of wheat. Bernadette Farrell

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God,

Your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:

grant us to walk in his way,

to rejoice in his truth,

and to share his risen life;

who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

Recessional Hymn:

491; Go to the world
