

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday Friendship Group meet @ 10am
Wednesday Golf Group meet @ 6am
Thursday Funeral Rev David Lord @ 10am
Saturday 21/10 Thank You Sundowner @ 4.30pm
Sunday 29/10 Shoeboxes blessed at the services

FUNERAL SERVICE – for the Reverend David Lord will be held this Thursday 28th September at 10am at St Brendan's by the Sea, Cnr Currie Street & Parkland Drive, Warnbro

OUR THANK YOU SUNDOWNER – will be on Saturday 21st October between 4.30 – 6pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to come along and enjoy some nibbles, soft drink, wine, beer, coffee or tea. Please put your name on the Notice Board in the hall so we know how many we're catering for.

CHRISTMAS FAIR – is fast approaching. If you can help with some donations towards items for the fair, as per the leaflet handed out last week, please place them in the boxes in the foyer.

Please pray for: Paul; Monica; Isla; Keena; Charlotte; Cameron; Deidre; Lyn; Andrew; Dave; Janet; Don & Gazza;



Happy birthday to Jan Martin & Sue Clark on 26th; Lynda Read on 27th; Shirley Olliver on 29

Wardens -	Phil Goulding	Phone: 9247 4978
	Judith Smith	Phone: 9246 3745
Parish Priest –	the Reverend Josie Steytler	Phone: 0421 115 438

Electronic giving: Account Name - Anglican Parish Greenwood
BSB - 706 001 **Account Number** - 3000 3969

Website: <https://greenwoodanglican.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/greenwoodanglican>

Email address: greenwoodanglican@gmail.com

Phone Number: 9447 9243

Welcome to Worship



Pentecost 17

24th September 2023

We are a warm-hearted community who are delighted to have you worshipping with us today ...

Our Mission is to

- **Know God personally**
- **Love and respect one another deeply**
- **Disciple and serve those around us**

Sentence: By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.
Ephesians 2:8-9

Collect of the Day

Loving and righteous God,
your boundless generosity exceeds
all that we can desire or deserve,
and you give to the last worker all you promised
to the first:

liberate us from all jealousy and greed,
that we may be free to love and serve others,
and in your service may find our true reward;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's readings:
Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Philippians 1
Matthew 20:1-16

Next Week:
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 11-16
Philippians 2
Matthew 21:23-32



Pentecost 17 – Matthew 20:1-16

The parable of the generous vineyard owner: “Are you envious because I am generous? Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The parable of the generous vineyard owner (which appears only in Matthew’s Gospel) is the first of several parables and exhortations challenging the Pharisees and scribes and those who criticised Jesus for preaching to tax collectors and sinners.

Jesus makes two points in this parable:

First, the parable speaks of the primacy of compassion and mercy in the kingdom of God. The employer (God) responds to those who have worked all day that he has been just in paying them the agreed-upon wage; they have no grievance if he chooses to be generous to others. God’s goodness and mercy transcends the narrow and limited laws and logic of human justice; it is not the amount of service given but the attitude of love and generosity behind that service.

The parable also illustrates the universality of the new Church. The contracted workers, Israel, will be joined by the new “migrant workers,” the Gentiles, who will share equally in the joy of the kingdom of God.

Today’s Gospel strikes at our tendency to judge everything and everyone in terms of how it affects **me**. How someone else benefits or is lifted up doesn’t matter — **my** hurt feelings trump their joy. Christ calls us to embrace the vision of the generous vineyard owner: to rejoice in the good fortune of others and their being enabled to realise their dreams, instead of lamenting our own losses and slights.

We have our scales, yardsticks, actuary tables and market indices to measure what is just and what is not; but God is generous, loving and forgiving with an extravagance that sometimes offends our sense of justice and fair play.

Christ calls us to look beyond labels like “tax collector” and “prostitute” and seek out and lift up the holiness and goodness that reside in every person who is, like each one of us, a child of God. The parable of the generous vineyard owner invites us to embrace the vision of God that enables us to welcome everyone to the work of the harvest, to rejoice in God’s blessings to all, to help one another reap the bounty of God’s vineyard.

© Connections/MediaWorks

