

# 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

OF

THE FORMATION OF ST MARK'S, YACKANDANDAH

9 October 2005

**10.30 am Service with Holy Communion**

## **PRE SERVICE MUSIC and WELCOME**

Today we gather to celebrate 70 years of God's gracious acts for his people in this parish. As God has called people to himself, guided them through life, and brought many home to himself here at St Mark's, we are reminded of God's saving acts toward his ancient people Israel. Their experience forms the theme for our worship this special day.



**Preacher:** Rev. G N Zweck – Pastor 1973 - 1976

**Liturgist:** Rev. J W Simboras - Locum

**ENTRANCE HYMN** LH-S 807 Lift high the cross

*Refrain*            **Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.**

1

**Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God:**

*Refrain*

2

**Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
the hosts of God in conquering ranks combine:**

*Refrain*

3

**All newborn soldiers of the crucified  
bear on their brow the seal of him who died:**

*Refrain*

4

**O Lord, once lifted on the tree in pain,  
draw all to you, as from the throne you reign:**

*Refrain*

5

**So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the crucified for victory!**

*Refrain*

*George William Kitchin 1827-1912  
and Michael Robert Newbolt 1874-1956 alt*

**WE CALL ON GOD**

Pastor: The Lord is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Pastor: This is the name by which our God reveals himself.

People: This is the name he has given us in baptism.

Pastor: In this name we have gathered these seventy years.

People: In this name we gather today to celebrate his gracious acts.

**READING** Exodus 14:21-22, 30-31; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 (*Israel passes through the sea on dry ground; Paul calls this their "baptism."*)

As God delivered Israel from bondage through water, so he has delivered us from slavery to sin through the waters of baptism.

**We are his people now, called by his name, set free to serve him.**

Today we remember and celebrate all whom God has called to be his from this place.

Since St Mark's was founded, numerous people have been baptized here.

**We praise God for his gracious action in baptism; we thank him for the privilege of bringing children and adults alike to the font; we rejoice in the cleansing waters of baptism received by so many in this place.**

**READING** Numbers 14:1-4, 13, 17-20 (*Israel complains; God forgives.*)

God's people Israel were not perfect; they grumbled and complained. But they asked God's forgiveness, and in grace, he gave it. We here at St Mark's are likewise imperfect people, and each week we have honestly acknowledged our sinfulness, as we do this day also, for we know that in Christ, we have forgiveness so that we turn from our sin and seek to serve God.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, we know that we are in bondage to sin. We complain in spite of your gracious provision, we grumble in spite of your love, we rebel against your will. Forgive us, we pray, our sinful acts and thoughts, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant us your Spirit that he may renew our hearts and inspire us to service.

*(A time of silence)*

### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

People: Amen

**READING** Exodus 15:1-2 (*Moses sings a song of praise to God.*)

**SONG OF PRAISE** AT 252 He is exalted

**He is exalted, the King is exalted on high;  
I will praise him.**

**He is exalted, forever exalted,  
and I will praise his name!**

**He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign;  
heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.**

**He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.**

Twila Paris

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## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Saving God, God of history and time, we thank you for the many gracious acts of salvation you have visited upon this congregation in its seventy years. Continue to bless us with your presence, as you come to us in word and sacraments, and make of us a city set on a hill, a light that cannot be hidden, that others may know of your great love. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, and also our Lord. With you and the Holy Spirit, he lives and rules for all time. Amen

**READING** Deuteronomy 5:1-6 (*The Lord speaks to His people.*)

Pastor: As God spoke of old to Israel, so he speaks to us today in his Word.

People: **We gladly hear and learn it.**

Pastor: Since the founding of St Mark's the Scriptures have been read in worship in this God's house.

People: **We give thanks for the saving Word as it continues to come to us.**

**THE PSALM** Psalm 19 [selected verses]

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul.

**The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.**

The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.

**The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.**

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.

**The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous.**

They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;

**sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.**

By them is your servant warned;

**in keeping them there is great reward.**

Who can discern his errors?

**Forgive my hidden faults.**

May the words of my mouth

**and the meditation of my heart**

be pleasing in your sight,

**O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

**READING** Luke 19:1-10 (*The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.*)

## **WE SING**

LH 194 Thy hand, O God, has guided

1  
Thy hand, O God, has guided  
Thy flock, from age to age:  
The wondrous tale is written,  
Full clear, on every page;  
Our fathers owned Thy goodness,  
And we their deeds record:  
And both of this bear witness:  
'One Church, one faith, one Lord.'

2  
Thy heralds brought glad tidings  
To greatest, as to least:  
They bade men rise, and hasten  
To share the great king's feast:  
And this was all their teaching,  
In every deed and word,  
To all alike proclaiming  
'One Church, one faith, one Lord.'

3  
And we, shall we be faithless?  
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?  
Shall we evade the conflict  
And cast away our crown?  
Not so: in God's deep counsels  
Some better thing is stored:  
We will maintain, unflinching,  
'One Church, one faith, one Lord.'

4  
Thy mercy will not fail us,  
Nor leave Thy work undone:  
With Thy right hand to help us,  
The victory shall be won:  
And then by men and angels  
Thy name shall be adored,  
And this shall be their anthem:  
'One Church, one faith, one Lord.'

*Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)*

**MESSAGE** Genesis 28:10-19 IN THIS PLACE

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*or Christian: 'catholic' here means 'universal'

## **READING**

Exodus 25:1-2

*(God invites Israel to bring an offering.)*

## **OFFERING**

*[Support of ministries by St Mark's]*

1

**Spread, O spread, almighty word,  
spread the kingdom of the Lord,  
where the breath of God has given  
life to people meant for heaven.**

2

**Tell them how the Father's will  
made the world, and keeps it still;  
how his only Son he gave,  
all from sin and death to save.**

3

**Tell of our Redeemer's love,  
who, for ever to remove  
all the guilt that in us lies,  
gave himself as sacrifice.**

4

**Tell them of the Spirit given  
now to guide us on to heaven,  
strong and holy, just and true,  
working both to will and do.**

5

**Up! the ripening fields you see,  
mighty will the harvest be;  
but the reapers still are few,  
great the work they have to do.**

6

**Lord of harvest, kind and true,  
give us strength to work for you,  
till the nations everywhere  
see your light, and know your care.**

Walte, walte nah und fern

Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier 1774-1841 tr Catherine Winkworth 1827-78 (1858) alt

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**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

.... For your past blessings,

People: we give you thanks.

.... For your present blessing,

People: we pray, O Lord.

.... For our future,

People: we pray your guidance and blessing. Amen

**READING**

Exodus 16:10-15

*(God provides manna to Israel.)*

Pastor: God provided manna in the desert to feed his people Israel. Today he provides another food to feed us--the body and blood of his Son, Jesus Christ, given to us in Holy Communion.

**WE SING** LHS 837 Feed us now

**1**  
Feed us now, Bread of life,  
in this holy meal;  
let us know your love anew:  
we hunger for you.  
Feed us now, Bread of life,  
come and live within;  
let your peace be ours today,  
Lord Jesus, we pray.

**2**  
Piece of bread, cup of wine:  
Lord, this food is good:  
love and mercy come to us -  
your promise we trust.  
Piece of bread, cup of wine;  
who can understand  
how his mercy works in these?  
Yet, Lord, we believe.

**3**  
God is here, O so near,  
nearer than our thoughts.  
Stay with us where'er we go;  
Lord, help us to grow.  
God is here, O so near,  
in this heaven's meal.  
May we always feed on you -  
on the bread that is true.

Robin Mann 1949- (1976)

✠ **SACRAMENT** ✠

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.  
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord.  
People: **For that is fitting and right.**

Pastor: It is good for us to give thanks to our gracious God. We remember this day his many blessings to us over the years, but most of all we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who this day once again comes to us in his body and blood. Therefore, we praise God with all angels, and with all the saints, as we join the unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY**...[Tune: LH 88 *Jesus Christ is risen today*  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Alleluia!**  
**great and ever-present God. Alleluia!**  
**Earth joins heaven as we sing: Alleluia!**  
**Praise to our triumphant king. Alleluia!**

In this place let us proclaim Alleluia!  
Christ who comes in God's own name; Alleluia!  
join with angels as we sing: Alleluia!  
Glory to our holy king. Alleluia!

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **PRAYER**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

#### **PEACE OF THE LORD**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

#### **LAMB OF GOD** AT 75 Jesus, Lamb of God

1.  
Jesus, Lamb of God,  
You take away man's sin.  
Have mercy on us, Lord.

2.  
Jesus, Lamb of God,  
You take away man's sin.  
Have mercy on us, Lord.

3.  
Jesus, Lamb of God,  
You take away our sin.  
Give us your peace. Amen.

Peter Schmidt & David Schubert 1975 From WORSHIP TODAY.  
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## **THE INVITATION**

### **THE DISTRIBUTION**

*(The Distribution is continuous)*

### **MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION**

### **BLESSING OF COMMUNICANTS**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**READING** Matthew 28:19-20

*We celebrate not only our past but also our future ministry as God's called and sent people*

**THE BLESSING**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favour and give you peace.

People: Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN**

TIS 569 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

1

**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty:  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.**

2

**Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the living waters flow:  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.**

3

**When I tread the verge of Jordan  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.**

*William Williams 1717-91  
tr Peter Williams 1722-96 and William Williams alt.*

# **A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH YACKANDANDAH**

The Lutheran cause in the Yackandandah area was commenced by Pastors J. Simpfendorfer and H.W.E. Bemman, who conducted worship services in the Back Creek School in the 1890's. After a number of members left the district worship services were discontinued and the remaining members joined the Baranduda Lutheran Church.

The first Lutheran worship service at Yackandandah was conducted in the former Methodist Church on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1935 with Pastor J.T.P. Stolz from Walla Walla leading the service and Miss J. Simpfendorfer the organist. Eighteen people attended the service which was conducted in German with the men sitting on one side of the church and the women the other. The first four services (with Holy Communion) were conducted at approximately three monthly intervals.

This preaching place was organised into a congregation in March 1936 with the following foundation members: Mr Paul Simpfendorfer, Miss Johanna Simpfendorfer, Mr & Mrs Heinrich - Eric & Elva, Mr Robert Schmidt and members of his family, Mr Ernest and Mrs Paula Simpfendorfer and Mr Albert Boehringer.

In the early stages preaching services were conducted at three monthly intervals each with Holy Communion. On 21<sup>st</sup> June 1936 the Yackandandah Congregation was joined to the Albury Parish when Pastor J.H. Linke was installed. Monthly worship services were then conducted with occasional lay reading services taken by Mr E Simpfendorfer.

In July 1939 Pastor Linke was succeeded by Pastor B.E. Muetzelfeldt in the Albury Parish. When Pastor C.E. Scheer succeeded Pastor Muetzelfeldt in April 1944, Yackandandah became a part of the newly established Corowa Home Mission field. On 27-29<sup>th</sup> January 1945, the first Leadership Youth Camp of

the N.S.W. district (and possibly Australia) was held on the farm of Albert and Marie Boehringer. Pastor Muetzelfeldt was a pioneer of this kind of work amongst the youth. In May, Yackandandah also played host to the N.S.W. District Lutheran Brotherhood.

In 1949 Pastor H. Struass, a teacher at St Paul's College Walla Walla, was in charge of the Corowa Home Mission field as a part-time pastor. In November 1949 Pastor M.E. Winkle was installed as the part-time pastor and in late 1950 he transferred to the newly formed parish of Wangaratta and Yackandandah became part of this parish.

Since then the other pastors of this parish have been: W.E. Wandel 1952-1960; J.E. Materne 1960-1964 and L. Musinskis 1964-1966.

Due to the union of the two Lutheran Churches in 1966, a re-organization of the parishes took place and Yackandandah joined the Wodonga Parish. At the annual meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1965 the congregation decided to adopt the name St Mark's.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1976 St Mark's decided to purchase the current building from the Methodist Trust for \$4000. The building was in need of repair being about 140 years old. Renovations began in 1978 to replace the roof shingle with iron, putting in a new concrete floor, replastering and fitting new ceiling and windows. On the 8<sup>th</sup> October 1978 Pastor Ross Schultz dedicated the renovated building.

Since joining the Wodonga Parish the following pastors have served St Mark's:

L.P. Altus 1966-1972; G.N. Zweck 1973-1976; R.L. Schultz 1977-1988; R.M. Hupfeld 1988-1992; K.D. Kuchel 1993-2000 and M.C. Hansen 2001-2005.



A recent mid-winter photo of the church