



Narrabri Anglican Church

13 Dewhurst Street, Narrabri 2390
www.narrabrianglican.org

Vicar: Bernard Gabbott 6792 2151
vicar@narrabrianglican.org
Assistant Vicar: Neil Hunt 0420 855 316
neil@narrabrianglican.org
Associate: Ralph Wood 6792 1248
Secretary: Julie Leven
office@narrabrianglican.org

22 November 2020 Genesis 18:16-19:38: The intervention of a righteous man...

Prepare for the Word

¹⁴ Therefore since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens-- Jesus the Son of God-- let us hold fast to the confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tested in every way as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us at the proper time.

Hebrews 4:14-16

We have come together, as the church of God, to fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, to encourage one another to hold fast to the hope he has given us, and to spur one another to love and good deeds...

Sing God's Word

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;

holy, holy, holy! - merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art and evermore shall be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! - though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see;
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea:
holy, holy, holy! - merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

Affirm the Word
Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven.
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again 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 life everlasting.
Amen.**

Hearing God's Word

**Gracious God,
your word is alive and active,
sharper than any double-edged sword.
Today, when we hear your voice,
deliver us from hardness of heart.
Help us to put away everything that keeps us
from persevering in your way,
for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Mission Spot

Kids' talk...

Bible-readings

All readings are taken from the Christian Standard Bible

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring you to God, after being put to death in the fleshly realm but made alive in the spiritual realm.

1 Peter 3:18

My little children, I am writing you these things so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father-- Jesus Christ the righteous One. ² He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of

the whole world. ³ This is how we are sure that we have come to know Him: by keeping His commands.

1 John 2:1-3

Sermon

¹⁶ The men got up from there and looked out over Sodom, and Abraham was walking with them to see them off. ¹⁷ Then the LORD said, "Should I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?" ¹⁸ Abraham is to become a great and powerful nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed through him. ¹⁹ For I have chosen him so that he will command his children and his house after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just. This is how the LORD will fulfill to Abraham what He promised him." ²⁰ Then the LORD said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is immense, and their sin is extremely serious. ²¹ I will go down to see if what they have done justifies the cry that has come up to Me. If not, I will find out." ²² The men turned from there and went toward Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³ Abraham stepped forward and said, "Will You really sweep away the righteous with the wicked?" ²⁴ What if there are 50 righteous people in the city? Will You really sweep it away instead of sparing the place for the sake of the 50 righteous people who are in it? ²⁵ You could not possibly do such a thing: to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. You could not possibly do that! Won't the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶ The LORD said, "If at Sodom I find 50 righteous people in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake." ²⁷ Then Abraham answered, "Since I have ventured to speak to the Lord-- even though I am dust and ashes-- ²⁸ suppose the 50 righteous lack five. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" He replied, "I will not destroy *it* if I find 45 there." ²⁹ Then he spoke to Him again, "Suppose 40 are found there?" He answered, "I will not do *it* on account of 40." ³⁰ Then he said, "Let the Lord not be angry, and I will speak further. Suppose 30 are found there?" He answered, "I will not do *it* if I find 30 there." ³¹ Then he said, "Since I have ventured to speak to the Lord, suppose 20 are found there?" He replied, "I will not destroy *it* on account of 20." ³² Then he said, "Let the Lord not be angry, and I will speak one more time. Suppose 10 are found there?" He answered, "I will not destroy *it* on account of 10." ³³ When the LORD had finished speaking with Abraham, He departed, and Abraham returned to his place.

Genesis 18:16-33

²⁴ Then the LORD rained burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah from the LORD out of the sky. ²⁵ He overthrew these cities, the entire plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and whatever grew on the ground. ²⁶ But his wife looked back and became a pillar of salt. ²⁷ Early in the morning Abraham went to the place where he had stood before the LORD. ²⁸ He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and all the land of the plain, and he saw that smoke was going up from the land like the smoke of a furnace. ²⁹ So it was, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, He remembered Abraham and brought Lot out of the middle of the upheaval when He overthrew the cities where Lot had lived. ³⁰ Lot departed from Zoar and lived in the mountains along with his two daughters, because he was afraid to live in Zoar. Instead, he and his two daughters lived in a cave.

Genesis 19:24-30

1. Intervention

2. Intercession (18:16-33)
3. Perversion judged (19:1-26)
4. The intervention of a righteous man (19:27-38)
5. The intervention of a righteous man

Pray the Word (i)

Confession

⁸ If we say, "We have no sin," we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

**Heavenly Father,
we praise you for adopting us as your children
and making us heirs of eternal life.
In your mercy you have washed us from our sins
and made us clean in your sight.
Yet we still fail to love you
and serve you as we should.
Forgive us our sins
and renew us by your grace,
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,
in whom alone is our salvation.
Amen.**

Assurance

My little children, I am writing you these things so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father-- Jesus Christ the righteous One. ² He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world. ³ This is how we are sure that we have come to know Him: by keeping His commands.

1 John 2:1-3

Sing the Word

Consider Christ

**Consider Christ, the source of our salvation,
that he should take the penalty for me.
Though he was pure a lamb, without a blemish,
he took my sins and nailed them to the tree**

Chorus

**My Lord and God, you are so rich in mercy:
mere words alone are not sufficient thanks.
So take my life, transform, renew, and change me
that I might be a living sacrifice**

**Consider Christ, that he should trust his Father
in the garden of Gethsemane.
Though full of dread and fearful of the anguish,
he drank the cup that was reserved for me.**

Chorus

**Consider Christ, for death he has defeated
and he arose, appeared for all to see.
And now he sits at God's right hand in heaven,
where he prepares a resting place for me.**

Chorus

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The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is 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 forever.
Amen.**

General prayer...

Adore: present one adoration before God
Mission: ask God to enable the good news of Jesus to go out to one particular
area of the world
Enquire: seek of God clarity about his desire for an issue
Notify: present before God one request

Sing the Word

Across the Lands

**You're the Word of God the Father
from before the world began:
ev'ry star and ev'ry planet
has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together
by the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory!
Let the land and seas rejoice!**

Chorus:

**You're the author of creation.
You're the Lord of ev'ry man.**

**And Your cry of love rings out
across the lands.**

**Yet You left the gaze of angels,
came to seek and save the lost,
and exchanged the joy of heaven
for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry.
With a word You stilled the sea.
Yet, how silently You suffered
that the guilty may go free.**

Chorus...

**With a shout You rose victorious,
wresting victory from the grave,
and ascended into heaven,
leading captives in Your wake.
Now You stand before the Father,
interceding for Your own.
From each tribe and tongue and nation,
You are leading sinners home.**

Chorus...

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Go out in the Word

Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken,
let us be thankful, and so serve God in a way that is pleasing to him,
with reverence and awe,
for our God is a consuming fire.

Amen.

Cf. Hebrews 12:28-29

Pray through Psalm 75....

- Mon 23:** SRE (Bellata—Neil)
Warialda
- Tues 24:** Bible-study groups
Women's ministry (Tracey) and Playtime (Beth, Leigh, Hayley)
Wee Waa
- Wed 25:** Those in need... Charles and Annette Radford; Pete and Ebonnie Whan; Nathaniel Cope; Syd Brown, and Della Brown; Pam Kiss; Joan Williams; Kath Hamilton; Di and Neil Magann
West Tamworth; Safe Ministry
Mission: Axons, MAF
- Thur 26:** SRE (West/Town—Margaret Baxter, Bernard, Neil, Ros T, Julie, Leigh, Michelle, Susan, Rosanne)
Parish Council; Ministry Committee
TAS
- Fri 27:** Youth Group—Neil, Bernard, Matt, Brent, Elizabeth, Jess McF
Men's Ministry—Graeme Rapp, Neil Hunt, Phil Firth
Calrossy
- Sat 28:** For the opportunity to share Jesus in the lead-up to Christmas
Chaplaincy across the Diocese
- Sun 29:** For schools (teachers, students, support staff) as they finish the year
Youth ministry; Diocesan Commissions