



34B ANZAC DAY LITURGY 2021 BROWN HILL

The ultimate sacrifice

Abstract

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me
John 10:14 (NIV)

34B ANZAC Day Liturgy 2021 Brown Hill
[Email address]

GOSPEL

John 10:11–18

¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.” ⁱ

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The ultimate sacrifice

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2021 | EASTER | FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | YEAR B | ANZAC Day

First Reading	Acts 4:5–12
Psalm	Psalm 23
New Testament	1 John 3:16–24
Gospel	John 10:11–18

The image of Jesus as good shepherd draws on the imagery of Psalm 23 and elsewhere, and is a familiar symbol for God/Jesus used in both the Old and New Testaments. Here, Jesus makes a contrast between the shepherd and a hired hand, and the ways in which they care for the sheep. He clearly designates himself as the good shepherd, making it no longer a symbol but an opportunity for a relationship as he knows his sheep by name.

Living in community always comes with difficulties but being known and cared for also offers security. We measure so much in society by output and targets; how does our value system change if we measure instead by relationships?

This week we explore 'good shepherd' as a model for community in the light of ANZAC Day 2021.

	Pre-Service
	<p>Introit <u>This is the day - Les Garrett</u></p> <p>This is the day (x2) That the Lord has made (x2) We will rejoice (x2) And be glad in it (x2) This is the day That the Lord has made We will rejoice and be glad in it This is the day (x2) That the Lord has made</p>
	<p>Greeting</p> <p>May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ The Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all</p> <p>and also with you</p>

We Gather

In memory of those who offered their lives
 for generations they'd never know.
 May we offer our praise
 to the One who is made known.

Acknowledgements**Gathering Prayer**

God of love,
 we come remembering those who fell in battle
 and those who offered their bodies, minds, hearts and spirit
 in fighting for a better world.

Shepherd God,
 Who guides and provides, who cares and protects
 We praise you that we do not need to fear
 because you are with us always.

Jesus the good shepherd,
 Even though thank you seems like not enough,
 we thank you for laying down your life for us.

Comforting Holy Spirit, come to us,
 reveal Shepherd God to us,
 reveal Jesus the good shepherd to us
 That we might know more fully
 to know what it is to love God and to love one another.
 Amen

Prayer of Confession

God of love and grace,
 We come today knowing and confessing
 that we have not always acted in love,
 that we have not always laid down our lives for others

We confess that when we have seen a brother or sister in need
 we have not helped in some way...

brief silence

We confess that love has not always been our motivation
 in doing what we do...

brief silence

We confess that we don't love our brothers and sisters
 as we should...

brief silence

Shepherd God,
 You guide us on the right paths - Guide us on these paths now
 As we turn back to you - Amen

<p>Verse 1, Chorus 1, Verse 2, Chorus 1,</p>	<p>Hymn/song TIS # 659 – “The Lord’s my shepherd” - Bonwell TIS #699 – “A new commandment I give unto to you” TIS # 10 – “The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want” TIS #145 – “The king of love my shepherd is”</p>
	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Today is ANZAC Day This service was probably one of the more difficult services I have had to write My parents immigrated from Indonesia in 1947 My father fought for the Dutch Royal Marines in WW2 He spent a lot of the war in Japanese Secret Police Camps Along with indigenous Indonesian Nationals. He never recovered</p> <p>Today we recognize their sacrifices Of deaths Of lives Of individuals Of families</p> <p>Irrespective of where they fought for your country Irrespective of when they fought for your country Irrespective of how they fought for your country Irrespective of country, race, gender they fought for your country</p> <p>Today we neither condone war nor see it as an appropriate response to international disagreement but we do want to show our gratitude to all those who gave so much that we may talk of peace now.</p> <p>Today is also Good Shepherd Sunday.</p> <p><i>Let us pray</i></p> <p>Loving and Gracious God the Shepherd who refreshes our soul. Thank you for your words of promise, of comfort, of hope and of love.</p> <p>As we continue to meditate on your words, may our hearts, ears and eyes be opened to your word in our lives so that we can continue to grow as disciples and your family here. Amen</p>
	<p>Readings</p> <p>John 10:11–18 (please use NIV translation to match the slides as attached)</p> <p><i>respond</i> For the word of the Lord</p> <p>Thanks be to God</p>

The Story of Jim Martin (second reading)

His name was Pte James (Jim) Charles Martin.

When news of the first Anzac landings
 was spread across the Australian papers,
 the recruiting depots were swamped with eager men
 ready to stand side by side with those already in action.

A father arrived home
 and sadly announced to his family
 that he had attempted to enlist in the A.I.F.
 only to be turned down as medically unfit.

As he sat with his head in his hands
 he felt his son's hand on his shoulder
 and heard the words, "Never mind Dad, I'll go."

His mother pleaded with him that he was too young.
 But Jim said that if they didn't let him go
 he would join under another name.

Armed with a letter of consent from his parents,
 young Jim Martin was the fittest man
 seen by the recruiting officer on the day he enlisted in April 1915
 at Seymour in Victoria.

Jim Martin was allocated to the 1st Reinforcement
 of the newly formed 21 Bn (battalion)
 who went into extensive training
 at Broadmeadows and Seymour camps in Victoria.

On Embarkation Day, June 27th 1915,
 they went by train to the docks at Port Melbourne
 and boarded the troop ship Berrima.

As the Berrima glided silently down the still waters of Port Phillip Bay,
 Jim Martin had time to reflect on his family,
 glancing occasionally at the streamer in his hand
 - the one he had caught from his mother
 as the ship pulled away from the quay.

For many of the soldiers on board,
 the fading lights of Melbourne were to be their last sight of Australia.

The reinforcements landed in Egypt in late August
 and were immediately absorbed by the battalion.

In the shadows of the pyramids
 the young soldier honed his fighting skills
 as the 21st Bn's day of reckoning approached.

On August 29, the battalion entrained for Alexandria.
 Awaiting them was their transport - the 12000 ton ship, Southland.

The men of the 21st Bn were joined by mates, in all - about 1600 men.

In a letter home on October 4, Jim wrote,
 "Don't worry about me, I am doing OK over here."

These were brave words
 as the effect of an incident on The Southland,
 the poor food and stress of Gallipoli,
 was running rife through young Jim's body.

On October 25, Jim Martin reported sick
 and was evacuated to the hospital ship, Glenart Castle,
 lying off Gallipoli, where he arrived about 5 pm.

He settled down to get some sleep
 ... but died suddenly of heart failure at 6.40 pm.

The next day, October 26th , 1915,
 the body of Pte James Charles Martin
 slid from the platform beneath his country's flag as his body was buried at sea,
 only 6 months after he had enlisted.

In a letter to Jim's mother,
 a member of his platoon wrote,
 "I am writing to you to express our great sorrow at your late bereavement.
 Jim was in the firing line with us
 and stuck to his post till the last like the brave lad that he was,
 and he made the greatest and noblest of sacrifices for his country.
 Sgt Coates speaks very highly of him
 and says he never had a man in his platoon
 who paid more attention to his duty."

In February, 1916, Amelia Martin opened a box sent by General Headquarters.
 It contained her son's personal effects
 his ID disc, bible, notebook, letters, belt
 and the torn and battered streamer she threw to him on his departure.

So why was Jim Martin so special and why does his story deserve to be told?

The fact is - Jim Martin was only 14 years of age when he died.
 He was our youngest Anzac.
 War is a vicious master.

Reflection

On this day, one hundred and six years ago, - in 1915,
 the ANZACs set out to capture the Gallipoli peninsula.
 Upon landing they met fierce resistance from the Ottoman Turkish defenders.
 The campaign dragged on for eight months,
 and during this time over 8,000 Australian soldiers were killed.

This day has since become the day when we, as Australian's,
remember and commemorate the lives of all Australians
killed in military operations.

It is a day we talk about sacrifice,
about soldiers laying down their lives for their mates,
for their country.

Today is probably one of the few days of the year
when the thoughts of sacrifice are most present
in our thinking and reflection.

It's a day, when across the community,
people are thinking of the sacrifice made by men and women
who have served in military forces across the world.

It's a day when we remember the people
whose names are listed on the honour roles found in this,
and other churches, halls, schools, and other public places.

It is a day when, we as Christ followers,
think about the sacrifice made by Christ for us.

It is a day of remembering
those who have served and made the ultimate sacrifice,
and in our worship, remembering Christ, the good shepherd,
who laid down his life for us.

And it is in our remembering that we wonder why – why did they do it?
Why did so many young men and women head off to Europe and Africa.

The Methodist newspaper at the time
promoted advertisements
which encouraged people to sign up.

These advertisements encouraged 'doing the right thing'
for not just king (as in earthly king) and country
but encouraging people to do the right thing as Christians.
It was viewed as a Christian duty as well as a civic duty!

After recently hearing a discussion concerning ANZAC and remembrance
and the purpose of war,
it was suggested that the big picture purposes and aims were all well and good,
but in the heat of the battle,
it wasn't so much about that,
but so much more about your mates around you.

In the depths of the trenches,
it was about looking out for the mates around you.

Each and every 'push' over the top of the wall was about mateship
it was about love.

It was, as John's letter reminds us,
about laying down lives for brothers and sisters.

The reading remind us that Jesus has laid down his life for us,
as a shepherd lays down his life to protect the sheep.

It is 'in-and-through' the death of Christ – in Jesus laying down his life for us
that we have access to God.

	<p>It is in this laying down that we are reconciled with God. Every time we share in Holy Communion, we are remembering Jesus as he lay down his life for us.</p> <p>Today we remember men and women who have served and those who are serving. We remember their love of country and perhaps more so, their love for each other; the love that meant (and means) they would do anything for the other and that no sacrifice was too big or is too small. This includes making the ultimate sacrifice.</p> <p>And in remembering these, we remember why Jesus came as Shepherd. We remember he came to lay himself down for us; to protect us; to bring us back into relationship with God. Jesus came, he laid down his life. He did this for love. He did this for the love of us. It's all about love!</p> <p>Amen</p>
<p>Verse 1, Chorus 1, Verse 2, Chorus 1,</p>	<p>Hymn/Song The power of your love Praise and Worship 621 / Together in Song 685 Just as I am without one plea— Together in Song 584</p>
	<p>The Peace The peace of the lord be always with you And also with you</p>
	<p>Prayer of Remembrance God of Eternity, before you generations fall and rise, may you have mercy upon our foolishness and carelessness. We remember the courage and patriotism of men and women who resisted evil and defended freedom</p> <p>They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.</p>
	<p>Help us to hold dear the freedom that was won, may we use it wisely so that many may live together in harmony with confidence and hope.</p> <p>At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them. We will remember them. In Jesus name. Amen.</p>

	The Last Post
	1 Minute Silence
	Rouse
	<p>Lord's 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.</p> <p>Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN</p>
	<p>Offering OFFERTORY SENTENCE Our faith calls us to account for the gifts we have. Let us join in our offering as a response to God's generosity.</p> <p>OFFERTORY PRAYER Bountiful God, help us to follow in the example of our faithful fathers and mothers who shared with all those in need as an expression of their devotion to you. May these gifts be the first steps toward our own faithful living. Amen.</p>
	Notices
	Communion Liturgy
Verse 1, Chorus 1, Verse 2, Chorus 1,	<p>Communion Hymn TIS #655 "Spirit Song" TIS #239—"Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the bread,"</p>
	<p>Invitation</p> <p>Hear the invitation of Jesus: " I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me." Revelation 3:20</p> <p>Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.</p>

	<p><i>Let us pray</i> Be present, risen Lord Jesus, as you were with your disciples, and make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit. One God, forever</p>
	<p>Great Prayer of Thanksgiving</p> <p>Let us lift up our hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.</p>
	<p>It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for with you as our shepherd, we need nothing more.</p> <p>At the dawn of time you spread creation out like a banquet and in love brought forth all life on the earth. Through your prophets you promised a good shepherd, who though rejected, would become the cornerstone of salvation for every creature under heaven.</p> <p>Your promise has been fulfilled in your Son, Jesus of Nazareth, who showed us the fullness of love that lays down even its own life for others. He was crucified, but you raised him from the dead, and through his love we have the boldness to approach you. Because he abides in us, and in all who listen to his voice, our cup overflows with goodness and love and our feet find safe paths leading to your house where we will live forever.</p>
	<p>And so we join with faithful people of every time and place to give glory to you:</p> <p>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest Amen</p>
	<p>Blessing the elements Pour out the Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ.</p> <p>May we find him here in this unexpected place, as we are made one with him and each other</p>

	<p>in his love. May we feast with him here and now, and also at the great banquet with him in the kingdom on the day to come.</p>
	<p>Lamb of God Lamb of God, you find us in our blindness Lift us up. Lamb of God, you lead us to your fold. Hold us close. Lamb of God, you conquer all injustice. We cry for peace.</p>
	<p>Breaking the Bread</p> <p><i>The bread is lifted and broken</i> The body of Christ broken for you. The bread of Life.</p> <p><i>The cup is lifted</i> The life of Christ poured out for you. The cup of Blessing</p> <p>The gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.</p> <p><i>The elements are shared</i></p>
	<p>PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Gracious God, we have been reminded of Jesus' sacrificial love for us as we have shared this meal together, and through the power of the Holy Spirit we have received his life and his love in us.</p> <p>May we make our thanks visible by serving and loving you and one another.</p>
Chorus 1, Chorus 1,	<p>Hymn TIS #699 – “A new commandment I give unto to you”</p>
	<p>We are sent out</p> <p>As we all go out into this week, May we remember that we go in the company of the Shepherd The Shepherd guides us, and leads us The Shepherd provides for us and protects us The Shepherd’s goodness and love is with us all the days of our lives</p> <p>And no matter what each day might bring, We know that the Shepherd is with us, Every step of the day. Amen</p>

	Benediction Benediction (May the peace of God) - Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
	Thank you

ⁱ [*Revised Common Lectionary*](#). (2009). Bellingham, WA: Faithlife.

ⁱⁱ DVA (Department of Veterans' Affairs) (2021), Music for Anzac Day or a commemorative event, DVA Anzac Portal, accessed 13 April 2021, <http://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/commemoration/event-planning/music>

ⁱⁱⁱ ANZAC Day Worship Resource Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia
https://assembly.uca.org.au/images/Ministries/Defence_Force_Chaplaincy/ANZAC_Day_Resources.pdf

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