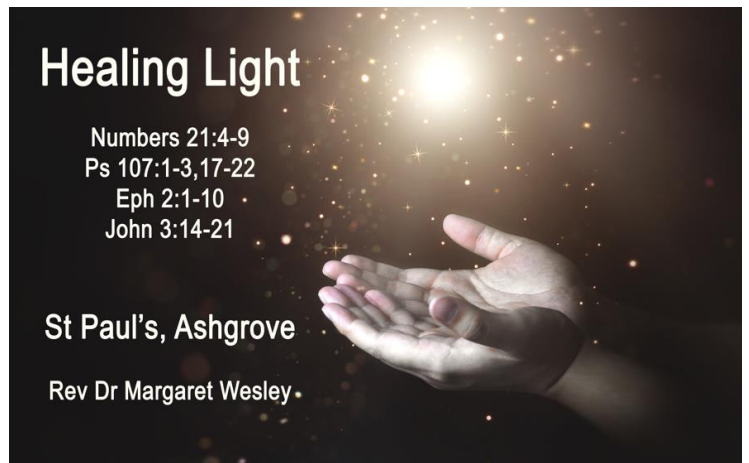


# Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Lent 4, 2024



**Song:** When I Survey (TiS 342)

The Kingdom of God has come near!  
**We repent and believe the Gospel.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## Acknowledgement of Country

### Sentence

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Collect

#### **Numbers 21: 4-9**

<sup>4</sup> From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup> The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' <sup>6</sup> Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup> The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' <sup>9</sup> So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm 107**

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord who is good,  
**and whose mercy endures for ever.**
- <sup>2</sup> Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim  
**that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe.**
- <sup>3</sup> The Lord gathered them out of the lands;  
**from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.**

- <sup>17</sup> Some were fools and took to rebellious ways;  
**they were afflicted because of their sins.**
- <sup>18</sup> They abhorred all manner of food  
**and drew near to death's door.**
- <sup>19</sup> Then they cried to you, O Lord, in their trouble,  
**and you delivered them from their distress.**
- <sup>20</sup> You sent forth your word and healed them  
**and saved them from the grave.**
- <sup>21</sup> Let them give thanks to you, O Lord, for your mercy  
**and the wonders you do for your children.**
- <sup>22</sup> Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving  
**and tell of your acts with shouts of joy.**

### **Ephesians 2: 1-10**

You were dead because of your sins and offenses, <sup>2</sup> which you committed in your allegiance both to the present age and to the ruler of the power of the air—that spirit who is even now at work among “the children of rebellion.” <sup>3</sup> And all of us were among them; we lived at the level of the flesh, following every whim of the flesh, every fancy of this age, and so by nature deserved God’s wrath like the rest.

<sup>4</sup> But God, rich in mercy and loving us so much, <sup>5</sup> brought us to life in Christ, even when we were dead in our sins. It is through this grace that we have been saved. <sup>6</sup> God raised us up and, in union with Christ Jesus, gave us a place in the heavenly realm, <sup>7</sup> to display in ages to come how immense are the resources of God’s grace and kindness in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> And it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith—and even that is not of yourselves, but the gift of God. <sup>9</sup> Nor is it a reward for anything that you have done, so nobody can claim the credit. <sup>10</sup> We are God’s work of art, created in Christ Jesus to do the good things God created us to do from the beginning.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

**Song:** Great God, your Spirit, like the Wind (TiS 416)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 3 beginning at verse 14.  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **John 3: 14-21**

<sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> ‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> ‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.’

For the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon – <https://www.stpaulsashgrove.org.au/sermons/>

Silence

## **Nicene Creed**

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Crucified Lord,  
Exalted in humiliation,  
We look to you for life:  
In our illnesses and wounds, we look to you for healing;  
In our despair, we look to you for hope;  
In our shame, we look to you for acceptance;  
In our rejection, we look to you for love,  
In our sin, we look to you for forgiveness,  
In our hurting world, we look to you for a new way forward  
Into peace and kindness, sufficiency and solidarity,  
Until we see your kingdom come,

And your will done on Earth as in heaven. Amen.

**God of the nations,  
whose sovereign rule brings justice and peace,  
have mercy on our broken and divided world.  
Shed abroad your peace in the hearts of all  
and banish from them the spirit that makes for war,  
that all races and peoples may learn to live  
as members of one family  
and in obedience to your law,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**God who made our home,  
And made your home with us,  
Yet often had no place to lay your head,  
Have mercy today on all who have no home.  
Provide shelter and protection,  
A future and a hope,  
To all whose beds tonight will be unsafe, unstable or exposed.  
Grant wisdom and compassion,  
To everyone with power or resources  
To provide housing solutions,  
So that all may live in peace  
And share with equity and thanksgiving  
The good things you provide  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,

**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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy**  
Lord, have mercy

God seeks truth and love in our inner being,  
in our relationships,  
And in all the institutions of our world. *Silence*

Let us then return to the one who made and loves us,  
Asking for a clean heart and a new spirit,  
For ourselves, for the church and for the world.

Where spiritual pain is numbed instead of being healed,

**Lord, have mercy.**

When desperate people are given false hope,

**Christ, have mercy.**

For all that distracts people from your invitation to life,

**Lord, have mercy.**

When the church attracts people to itself instead of to you,

**Lord, have mercy.**

When your people preach wrath instead of love,

**Christ, have mercy.**

When we limit the extent of your grace,

**Lord, have mercy.**

When we love pleasure and hide from you,

**Lord, have mercy.**

When we bask in our salvation instead of expressing it in good works,

**Christ, have mercy.**

Whenever we judge instead of loving,

**Lord, have mercy.**

**In your mercy, turn us from the path of destruction,**

**And return us to the path of life. Amen.**

God, who is merciful and gracious, grant you

Freedom where sin has trapped you,

Healing where sin has wounded you,

And strength where sin has weakened you.

Receive forgiveness and return to your communities

As ambassadors of healing and reconciliation. Amen

Jesus is our peace. Through his body he has formed one reconciled humanity. (Eph 2:14-16)

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

**Song:** Let us Build a House Where Love Can Dwell (words below)

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live.

A place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace.

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true.

Where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace.

Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

4 Let us build a house where hands will  
reach

beyond the wood and stone.

To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face.

Let us bring an end to fear and danger;

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

5 Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard.

And loved and treasured, taught and  
claimed

as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

3 Let us build a house where love is found,  
in water, wine and wheat.  
A banquet hall on holy ground,  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space,  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us;  
*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

prayers of faith and songs of grace.  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter;  
*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Tune: TWO OAKS, with refrain;  
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*The collection bowl will be passed around during this song to support the ministry of St Paul's. Most members give electronically through their bank, instead. St Paul's bank details are Name: Ithaca-Ashgrove Anglican Parish BSB: 704901 Acc No: 00004420*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.  
Accept all we have, all we give, and all we are,  
As we dedicate all to your glory  
and the service of your kingdom.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your 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.**

...As we sing together the eternal song:  
**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.**

...Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'  
**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

...in songs of never-ending praise:  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

Please come forward to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free wafers are available (please ask). If you prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing (keep your hands behind your back). You are welcome to kneel at the communion rail. If you prefer to stand, please stand in the middle section. For the safety of all in the community we ask you to:

- Use hand sanitiser before receiving the bread and wine
- NOT intinct (dip the bread in the wine)
- Take wine only if you are free from symptoms and from anxiety about drinking from the common cup. Be assured that Christ is present in you and for you as you receive the bread alone.

...In the footsteps of Christ. Amen

**Most loving God,  
you send us into the world you love.  
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit**

Announcements

**Song:** In Christ Alone (MP 1072 for music)

In Christ alone, my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings  
cease  
My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The love of God was magnified,  
With all my worth in him revealed  
Here in the death of Christ I live, I live.

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
My fear has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus describes my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

*(Mission Praise 1072, Used with permission)*

*Please stand and turn to face the back for the blessing*

**Blessing**

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord: In the name of Christ. Amen**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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# ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the 9/8.30am service!

**ABM Studies for Lent, *God's Own Country***, are available at the back of the Church. They are based on the Seven Days of Creation and include stunningly beautiful paintings by Rev Aunty Robyn Davis. Put **\$15** in an envelope in the Everything Box or make a bank transfer with *Lent Study* as the description.

## Upcoming events

- Sun 17 March **8:30am Combined Service**, Parish Council Meeting after morning tea
- Sun 24 March **7:30 & 9am Palm Sunday**
- Thu 28 March **6pm Maundy Thursday** meal and foot-washing, followed by Eucharist.
- Fri 29 March **8:30am Good Friday** service
- Sat 30 March **7pm Easter Vigil**
- Sun 31 March **8:30am Easter Celebration**
- Mon 25 March **Book Club** in the Crypt, **7.30pm**. All are welcome. The current book is *The Temptation of Gracie* by Santa Montefiore
- Fri 6 April **Taize** (6pm in the church) followed by **Fish & Chips** - please contact Rev Pam or John Hynd if you are interested in joining.
- Sat 27 April The Westside Orchestra presents '**An Afternoon at the Movies**', 5pm with High Tea afterwards (\$10/person)



**Jubilee Terrace Playgroup** - weekly on a Friday from 9.30-11.30am during school terms. \$4 per week to cover cost. Registered Playgroup with Play Matters.

**Bible Study and Morning Prayer** every Wednesday morning during school terms. **Prayer** from 9:05am and **Bible Study** from 9.45. Everyone welcome!

## For your prayers

James and his family, Georgia, Maureen M, Damien, Sylvia, Baskaran, Liam and Mark (and their parents, Desley and Bob), Ofa, Rebekah, Clinton, Sue J, Angela. Those recovering from surgery – Cherilee, Elizabeth T. We give thanks for the continuing restored health of Rev Jack and Sam. We also give thanks for Rev Jack and Rev Kathy in their ministry to several parishes, especially the Everton Park Congregation, Rev Sue and the Goonaneman Parish and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh. We hold in our prayers Wayne, Noel, Joy who are at home or in a nursing home. We give thanks for the lives of Peter and Alec, and pray for their families in their time of grief.

**PILGRIMAGE - Sat 4th - Mon 6th May 2024** The Cursillo team is planning a pilgrimage, starting at the Anglican Parish of Grovely in Arana Hills, going via Esk and Warwick, and ending in the Boonah/Harrisville area on the Sunday night. This is open to everyone, not just those who have been to a Cursillo weekend. For further information, contact the parish office and your question will be forwarded to the organiser.

**Contact:** Rev Dr Margaret Wesley, [priest@stpaulsashgrove.org.au](mailto:priest@stpaulsashgrove.org.au), 0424 214 924. Rev Margaret's day off is Thursday. Parish Office, [parish.office@stpaulsashgrove.org.au](mailto:parish.office@stpaulsashgrove.org.au), 07 3366 2320 (open Wed and Fri mornings).