

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Lent 5, 2024



Song: Lord, Your Almighty Word (TiS 447)

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

Jesus said, “unless a grain of wheat
falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.” John 12: 24

**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.**

God of paradox,
You bring life through death,
Growth through falling,
And abundance through emptiness.
Take our broken promises, we pray,
And renew in us the everlasting
Covenant of truth, peace and love,
So that, together, we may call
All creation to dance
To the rhythm of your grace. **Amen.**

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

³¹ “Behold, the days are coming, says YHWH, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them up out of the land of Egypt—a covenant they broke, though I was their spouse, says YHWH. ³³ But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says YHWH: I will put my Law in their minds and on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

³⁴ “No longer will they need to teach one another or remind one another to listen to YHWH. All of them, high and low alike, will listen to me, says YHWH, for I will forgive their misdeeds and will remember their sins no more.

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

Psalm 119: 9-16

⁹ How shall the young cleanse their way?

By keeping to your words.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you;

let me not stray from your commandments.

¹¹ I treasure your promise in my heart:

that I may not sin against you.

¹² Blessed are you, Lord God:

instruct me in your statutes.

¹³ With my lips will I recite

all the judgements of your mouth.

¹⁴ I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees

than in all manner of riches.

¹⁵ I will meditate on your commandments

and give attention to your ways;

¹⁶ My delight is in your statutes;

I will not forget your word.

Hebrews 5: 5-14

⁵ So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you’;

⁶ as he says also in another place,

‘You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

⁸ Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹ and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰ having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

¹¹ About this we have much to say that is hard to explain, since you have become dull in understanding. ¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic elements of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food; ¹³ for everyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is unskilled in the word of righteousness. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, for those whose faculties have been trained by practice to distinguish good from evil.

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

Song: God of the Poor (TiS 690)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 12 beginning at verse 20.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 12: 20-33

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ ²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those

who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. ²⁷ 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say— "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' ²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' ³⁰ Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹ Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' ³³ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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.

Into your hands, loving God,
We pour out all the fleeting, flimsy hopes
To which our hearts have clung:
Success and security,
Wealth and influence,
Vigour and control,
Clarity and certainty.
They are the fickle husks that sometimes
Wrap around the life you give,
And now, we let them die,
So we can find new birth in you. 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 laws are broken and rights denied,
Lord, have mercy.
Where hope is lost and freedoms extinguished,
Christ, have mercy.
Where human greed makes food, shelter and safety scarce,
Lord, have mercy.

When the light of the world grows dim,
Lord, have mercy.
When words of life are twisted to deal death,
Christ, have mercy.
When the church has forgotten it is the body of Christ,
Lord, have mercy.

When darkness closes in and we can't see any light,
Lord, have mercy.
When our own pain is so intense that we cannot feel compassion,
Christ, have mercy.
When we feel so lost, we stop believing there is a path to life,
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: Now the Green Blade Rises (TiS 382)

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.**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament in remembrance that Christ died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

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 (ie do not 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.*

God of compassion and mercy,
 With this bread and wine
 You sustain us
 For our Lenten pilgrimage.
 In the strength of this meal
 May we walk with courage
 The road of self-giving love,
 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: Lord, Let Me See (TiS 681)

Please stand and turn to face the back for the blessing

May you Live this week in the paradox of grace:
 Discovering God's unconditional love whenever you fail,
 Finding wholeness whenever you break,
 And healing whenever you are wounded;
 May your darkest hour open your eyes
 For you to see the face of God,
 And may your dying bring you to eternal life
 In the Blessing of God most gracious
 Your maker, your healer and your in-dweller. **Amen.**

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Copyright 1995, The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation, From the text of *A Prayer Book for Australia* 1995, The Anglican Church of Australia and published under the imprint of Broughton Books. Reproduced with permission.

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission.

Hymns from Together in Song © Harper Collins Ltd. CCLI 338271

Collect from Steven Shakespeare's, *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* © 2009 Church Publishing

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

| | |
|--------------|---|
| TODAY | 8:30am Combined Service , Parish Council Meeting after morning tea |
| Fri 22 March | 6pm , Service of Readings and Hymns for Lent, St Barnabas Church, Red Hill |
| Sun 24 March | 7:30 & 9am Palm Sunday |
| Mon 25 March | Book Club in the Crypt, 7.30pm . All are welcome. The current book is <i>The Temptation of Gracie</i> by Santa Montefiore |
| Tue 26 March | 7.00pm Chrism Eucharist, St John's Cathedral |
| 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 |
| Fri 6 April | Taize (6pm in the church) followed by Fish & Chips – RSVP to Rev Pam or John Hynd |
| 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.

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