

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Ascension, 2024



Song: Rejoice, The Lord is King (TiS 216)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Christ is risen. Alleluia.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Acknowledgement of Country

'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation,' says the Lord. Mark 16: 15

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleans 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.**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

God upheld
by word or wall;
power of love
beyond all lords of war:
lift us from dullness
and cynical contempt;
make us ready for your spirit
of transforming fire;
and turn our hearts
to the mending of the world;
through Jesus Christ, the name above all names. **Amen**

Acts 1: 1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

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

Psalm 93

¹ The Lord reigns and has put on splendid apparel;
the Lord is robed in splendour and girded with strength.

**The Lord has made the whole world so sure
that it cannot be moved;**

² ever since the world began, your throne has been established;
you are from everlasting.

³ The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice;
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

⁴ Mightier than the sound of many waters,
**mightier than the breakers of the sea,
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.**

⁵ Your testimonies are very sure,
**and holiness adorns your house, O Lord,
for ever and for evermore.**

Ephesians 1: 15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Song: Love Divine (TiS 217i)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark chapter 16 beginning at verse 15.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵ And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.

¹⁶ The one who believes and is baptised will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸ they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.' ¹⁹ So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

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

Sermon - 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.

**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

Christ has entered heaven itself, there to appear before God on our behalf. *Silence*

Let us therefore draw near in full assurance of faith, and confess our sins to the God of grace.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Song: There is a Redeemer (SPHB 27)

The collection bowl will be passed around to support the ministry of St Paul's. Most members give electronically through their bank. St Paul's bank details are Name: Ithaca-Ashgrove Anglican Parish BSB: 704901 Acc No: 00004420

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.

...for ever praising you and singing:

**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 Glory,
You sent your Son Jesus Christ into the world
to preach the gospel of the kingdom.
Strengthen us who share this meal to continue his mission by living the good news we proclaim

**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: Will You Come and Follow Me (SPHB 30)

Please stand and turn to face the back for the blessing

Christ our exalted king pour upon you his abundant gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and
remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the risen 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!



In 2024 we are looking to start holding child-focussed services at 9am on the 5th Sunday of the month and are looking for people that might like to be involved with this initiative. The first one would be held in September. If you would like to be involved please contact Rev Margaret or Robyn.

We would like to have the church open more often during the week so people can come in and pray. Would you like to be on a roster to just sit in church and read (or knit, etc), so we can open the building? Please contact Rev Margaret if you would like help.

The forthcoming consecration of the Reverend Canon Sarah Plowman is less than two months away. There is a fundraising effort being coordinated by Rev Michael Stalley for some of the things Sarah will require in time for her consecration and for her ongoing ministry as a Bishop. These things can come at a considerable cost. If you are able please consider giving to this fund that is intended to share the financial burden of being made a Bishop. You can donate at <https://www.stbarts.net.au/fundraising>.

Upcoming events

- Mon 13 May **Book Club** in the Crypt, **7.30pm**. All are welcome. The current book is *At the Foot of the Cherry Tree* by Alli Parker
- Sun 19 May Combined service - **Parish Council Meeting**, after morning tea
- Sat 1 June **Practically Spiritual**, 8.30am in the Crypt - a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Talk to Revd Kathy.
- Fri 7 June **Taize** (6pm in the church) followed by **Fish & Chips** - please contact Rev Pam or John Hynd if you are interested in joining.
- Fri 14 June **Peace Vigil and Peace Meal** from 6pm meeting in the church.

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

Baby Sal and their mother Belle and father George, Rev Kathy, Athol, James and his family, Georgia, Maureen M, Sylvia, Liam and Mark (and their parents, Desley and Bob), Sue J. Cherilee recovering from surgery. We hold in our prayers Wayne, Noel, Joy who are at home or in a nursing home.

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 in the Diocese, LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh.

We give thanks for the life of Clinton and pray for his family 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).