

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Easter 6, 2024



Love's Long
Labour

John 16:16-24
1 John 5:1-12

St Paul's, Ashgrove

Rev Dr Margaret Wesley

Song: Love Divine (TiS 217)

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

Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.'
John 15: 16

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.

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 of abiding love,
you choose us as your servants;
and dare to call us friends:
take our fragmented hearts,
commanding them to love
making whole our joy
our life reborn in you;
through Jesus Christ, who laid down his life for us. **Amen.**

Acts 10: 44-48

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

Psalm 98

- ¹ Sing a new song to the Lord,
**who has done marvellous things,
whose mighty hand and holy arm have won the victory.**
- ² O Lord, you have made known the victory;
**you have openly shown your righteousness
in the sight of the nations.**
- ³ You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen your victory, O God.
- ⁴ Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.
- ⁵ Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.
- ⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before our sovereign, the Lord.
- ⁷ Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- ⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands,
**and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
who is coming to judge the earth.**
- ⁹ In righteousness shall God judge the world
and the peoples with equity.

1 John 5: 1-12

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ There are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. ⁹ If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰ Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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

Song: Lord Let me See (TiS 681)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 16 beginning at verse 16.
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 16: 16-24

¹⁶ 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me.' ¹⁷ Then some of his disciples said to one another, 'What does he mean by saying to us, "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me"; and "Because I am going to the Father"?' ¹⁸ They said, 'What does he mean by this "a little while"? We do not know what he is talking about.' ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, 'Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me"?' ²⁰ Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is in labour, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. ²² So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. ²³ On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.

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

Jesus has made a way through death to life. *Silence may be kept.*

Let us cast aside fear and deception and confess our failings with a sincere and true heart

**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.**

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

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

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

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Song: We come as guests invited (MP 723)

We come as guests invited
when Jesus bids us dine,
his friends on earth united
to share the bread and wine;
the bread of life is broken,
the wine is freely poured
for us, in solemn token
of Christ, our dying Lord.

One bread is ours for sharing,
one single fruitful vine,
our fellowship declaring
renewed in bread and wine:
renewed, sustained and given
by token, sign and word,
the pledge and seal of heaven,
the love of Christ our Lord.

We eat and drink, receiving
from Christ the grace we need,
and in our hearts believing
on him by faith we feed;
with wonder and thanksgiving
for love that knows no end,
we find in Jesus living
our ever-present friend.

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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

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 for 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.

...praising you forever, and saying:

**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 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.

...we worship you 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.*

Most glorious Lord of life,
fill us with the spirit of love
and unite us in faith
that we may witness to the resurrection
and show your glory to all the world

**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

May God the Creator form new life in you and all around you;
May God the Sufferer labour beside you;
May God the Midwife breathe with you through the pain
Until all is done and all is joy and all is brand new life. **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. Please bring some food if you can.

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

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.

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).