

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Pentecost 11, 2024 Sunday 4 August



Song: Gather Us In (TIS 474)

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

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

Acknowledgement of Country

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. *Isaiah 55: 2*

**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.**

Unseen God,
drawing all people
to the end of our desires:
teach us to know
true bread from false

and to feed on him
who shares our flesh
to share your love,
Jesus Christ, our communion.
Amen.

2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a

²⁶ When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. ²⁷ When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. ¹ and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, 'There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had very many flocks and herds; ³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴ Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.' ⁵ Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, 'As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; ⁶ he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.' ⁷ Nathan said to David, 'You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; ⁸ I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. ⁹ Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰ Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. ¹¹ Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. ¹² For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.' ¹³ David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord.' Nathan said to David, 'Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.'

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

Psalm 51: 1-3,6-12

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- ² Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
...
- ⁶ For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- ⁷ Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- ⁸ Make me hear of joy and gladness:
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.

¹² Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

Ephesians 4: 1-16

¹ I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

⁸ Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.' ⁹ (When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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

Song: Amazing Grace (TiS 129)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 6 beginning at verse 24.
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 6: 24-35

²⁴ So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. ²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' ²⁶ Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' ²⁸ Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' ²⁹ Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' ³⁰ So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?' ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ³² Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' ³⁴ They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' ³⁵ Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

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

God has called us to exercise loving, compassionate leadership in creation.

Silence

Let us attend to the ways we have acted from fear or greed, and commit ourselves once again to following God's call.

**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
To bring healing and hope. Amen

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

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

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Song: God of the Poor (TiS 690)

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

...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.

...and 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 in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

...all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever.

**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.

...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*
- *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.*

...and bring us to the joys you promise.

**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: We Sing of Love that Sets all People Free (to WOODLANDS)

We sing a love that sets all people free,
that blows like wind, that burns like
scorching flame,
enfolds the earth, springs up like water
clear:
come, living love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love that seeks another's good,
that longs to serve and not to count the
cost,
a love that, yielding, finds itself made new:
come, caring love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid
to be itself, despite another's wrath,
a love that stands alone and undismayed:
come, strengthening love, live in our hearts
today.

We sing a love that, wandering, will not rest
until it finds its way, its home, its source,
through joy and sadness pressing on
refreshed:
come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.

We sing the Holy Spirit, full of love,
who seeks out scars of ancient bitterness,
brings to our wounds the healing grace of
Christ:
come, radiant love, live in our hearts today.

By June Boyce-Tillman (b. 1942)

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**

ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

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

We are hoping to have the church open more often, to be a place of peace for our community. If you would like to volunteer to sit in church (read, knit, etc) so we can have the doors open, please let Rev Margaret know.

Upcoming events

- Fri 16 August **Peace Vigil**, 6pm, followed by a meal. Please RSVP to Rev Margaret, the office or you can write your name on the whiteboard at the back of the church.
- Sun 18 August Combined service - **Parish Council Meeting**, after morning tea
- Mon 26 August **Book Club** in the Crypt, **7.30pm**. All are welcome. The current book is *The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom (author of *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *Five People You Meet in Heaven*)
- Fri 6 Sept **Taize** (6pm in the church) followed by a meal at a local restaurant - please contact Rev Pam or John Hynd if you are interested in joining.
- Sat 7 Sept **Practically Spiritual**, 8.30am in the Crypt - a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Please chat to Revd Kathy.
- Fri 29 – Sun 1 Dec **The 5th Annual Silent Northern Lay Retreat**, themed '*Peace That The World Cannot Give*'. Forms can be collected at the back of the church. For any further questions you can contact Nerida Murray 0411 052 292 or neridamurray@me.com

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

Phoebe, Chris and their families, Rev Shane at St Lucia Parish, Sylvia, Baby Sal and his mother Belle and father George, Georgia, Sue J and Wayne. We hold in our prayers Noel and Joy who are at home or in a nursing home. Pray for the continuing recovery of Maureen M, Rev Jack, Cherilee and Sam.

We also give thanks for Rev Jack and Rev Kathy in their ministry to several parishes in the Diocese and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh.

Contact: Rev Dr Margaret Wesley, margaret.wesley@anglicanchurchsq.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).