



# TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

# WELCOME!

## to Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Season of Creation 1, September 1, 2024

**Song:** This Day God Gives Me (TiS 642 to Morning Has Broken 156)

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth and all creatures!  
**Praise be to the Holy Trinity!**

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

### *Acknowledgement of Country*

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.  
Deuteronomy 4:5

**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.**

*Collect*

**Deuteronomy 4: 6-9**

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. <sup>5</sup> You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. <sup>6</sup> Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. <sup>7</sup> Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. <sup>8</sup> Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, <sup>9</sup> and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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

**Psalm 15**

<sup>1</sup> Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?  
**who may abide upon your holy hill?**  
<sup>2</sup> Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
**who speak the truth from their heart.**  
<sup>3</sup> There is no guile upon their tongue;  
**they do no evil to a friend;**  
**they do not heap contempt upon a neighbour.**  
<sup>4</sup> In their sight the wicked are rejected,  
**but they honour those who fear the Lord.**  
They have sworn to do no wrong  
**and do not take back their word.**  
<sup>5</sup> They do not give their money in hope of gain,  
nor do they take a bribe against the innocent.  
**Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.**

**James 1: 17-27**

<sup>17</sup> Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup> In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. <sup>19</sup> You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup> Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. <sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup> For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup> for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup> But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. <sup>26</sup> If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

**Song:** God Has a Table (TiS 544)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark chapter 7 beginning at verse 1.  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Mark 7: 1-8, 14-23**

<sup>1</sup> Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him,  
<sup>2</sup> they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.  
<sup>3</sup> (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;  
<sup>4</sup> and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)  
<sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?'  
<sup>6</sup> He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; <sup>7</sup> in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines."  
<sup>8</sup> You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'  
<sup>14</sup> Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup> there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.'  
<sup>17</sup> When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable.  
<sup>18</sup> He said to them, 'Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, <sup>19</sup> since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?' (Thus he declared all foods clean.)  
<sup>20</sup> And he said, 'It is what comes out of a person that defiles.  
<sup>21</sup> For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup> adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.  
<sup>23</sup> All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

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

Sermon - [www.stpaulsashgrove.org.au/sermons/](http://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

Human sin disfigures the whole creation, which groans with eager longing for God's redemption.  
*(silence)*  
We therefore confess our sin in penitence and faith.

Wherever human sin brings harm to your creation,  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
Where growing profits make consciences dull  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
For every habitat that is lost and all the species that are gone,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

When your church has condoned destruction in your name,  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
Where we have failed to show loving leadership in creation,  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
Whenever your people have served ourselves instead of others,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

When we have given up because the task has been too hard,  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
When we have seen injustice and failed to protest and resist,  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
When we have focussed on our own salvation instead of bringing light and life to the world,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

**In your mercy, turn us from the path of destruction,  
And return us to the path of life. Amen.**

...May the peace of the ever-loving, Risen Lord be upon you.  
**Peace be with you.**

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**Song:** We sing of Love that Sets all People Free (to WOODLANDS) 5 verses

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 We sing a love that sets all people free,<br>that blows like wind, that burns like scorching<br>flame, | 4 We sing a love that, wandering, will not<br>rest<br>until it finds its way, its home, its source, |
|--|---|

enfolds the earth, springs up like water clear:  
come, living love, live in our hearts today.

2 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.

3 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.

through joy and sadness pressing on  
refreshed:

come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts  
today.

5 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)

*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 of all of Creation.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

...now and for ever 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 the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*...of the wine, do this in remembrance of  
me.*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

...of all, in songs of everlasting 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
- 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.

### Announcements

### Song: Let us Build a House Where Love Can Dwell

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:

*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.*

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, 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; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Copyright © 1994 by GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800-442-1358. All rights reserved. Used by 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

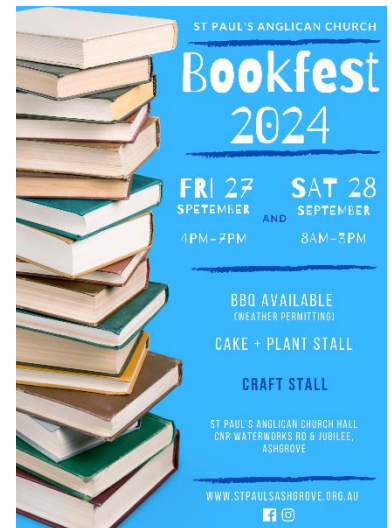
Join us for morning tea after the 9/8.30am service!

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.

Queensland Churches Together have created an app with a reflection for each day of the Season of Creation. We highly recommend it to St Paul's members. You can find it on your phone's app store, or get more information here: <https://www.qct.org.au/news-events/news-items/new-season-of-creation-app-available-now>

## Upcoming events

- Wed 4 Sept **Red Bench Unveiling** 1:30 pm, followed by afternoon tea in the Crypt.
- 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 20 Sept **Peace Vigil**, 6pm, followed by a meal. Please RSVP using the whiteboard at the back of the church, to Rev Margaret or the office.
- Sat 21 Sept **Westside Orchestra Concert**, 5pm followed by refreshments – more details to come
- Fri 27 – Sat 28 Sept **Bookfest** - with craft and plant stall! Please email the office with your availability and the activities you prefer to be involved with (books, cakes, craft, BBQ, plants, sales)



Fri 29 Nov – Sun 1 Dec **The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Northern Lay Retreat**, themed '*Peace That The World Cannot Give*'. Forms are at the back of 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

Ian and Kirsty, Rev Shane at St Lucia Parish, Baby Sal and his parents Bella and 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. Please pray for our friends at LAMB and surrounds, and for the country. There have been four homes burnt down near Lamb - one was Christian, animals slaughtered and gunshots. The Lamb Director asked for police protection, but it wasn't forthcoming.

**Contact:** Rev Dr Margaret Wesley, [margaret.wesley@anglicanchurchsq.org.au](mailto:margaret.wesley@anglicanchurchsq.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).