

# *Holy Communion*

## *at St Paul's, Ashgrove*



# *Season of Creation 2020*

**P: Welcome**

**P: Hymn O Worship the King (TiS 133)**

*Note that hymns are only sung in the 9am service*

**P: We gather in the image of the Creator  
who is a community of love.**

**We gather in the name of the Redeemer  
who reconciles all of creation.**

**We gather in the presence of the Life Giver  
who inspires new life and renews it.**

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

**LA: We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land where we gather today - the Yuggera and Ugarapul people – and pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.**

**LA: In Psalm 130, we read: If you, O Lord, should note what we do wrong, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.**

**LA: [Let us pray.]  
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.**

P: O God,  
you call your Church to witness that in Christ  
we are reconciled to you:  
help us so to proclaim the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may turn to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading

**Exodus 14.19-31**

19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. 20 It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. 21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. 22 The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. 23 The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. 24 At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. 25 He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.' 26 Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' 27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. 28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. 29 But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. 30 Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 31 Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

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

## Psalm

### Exodus 15.1-13, 15.17-18

- 1 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:  
'I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.
- 2 **The Lord is my strength and my might,  
and he has become my salvation;  
this is my God, and I will praise him,  
my father's God, and I will exalt him.**
- 3 The Lord is a warrior;  
the Lord is his name.
- 4 **'Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;  
his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea.**
- 5 The floods covered them;  
they went down into the depths like a stone.
- 6 **Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power—  
your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy.**
- 7 In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;  
you sent out your fury, it consumed them like stubble.
- 8 **At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up,  
the floods stood up in a heap;  
the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.**
- 9 The enemy said, "I will pursue, I will overtake,  
I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them.  
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them."
- 10 **You blew with your wind, the sea covered them;  
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.**
- 11 'Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?  
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,  
awesome in splendour, doing wonders?
- 12 **You stretched out your right hand,  
the earth swallowed them.**
- 13 'In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed;  
you guided them by your strength to your holy abode.
- 17 **You brought them in and planted them on the mountain of your own possession,  
the place, O Lord, that you made your abode,  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hands have established.**
- 18 The Lord will reign for ever and ever.

### Romans 14.1-14

- 1 Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions.
- 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.
- 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.
- 4 Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.
- 5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.
- 6 Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.
- 7 We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
- 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or

whether we die, we are the Lord's.

9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

10 Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God.

11 For it is written,

'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

12 So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

13 Let us therefore no longer pass judgement on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling-block or hindrance in the way of another.

14 I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean.

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

**LA: Hymn Touch the Earth Lightly (TiS 668)**

### **Gospel Reading**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 18 beginning at verse 21

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### **Matthew 18.21-35**

21 Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' 22 Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. 23 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." 29 Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. 31 When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

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

### **Sermon**

## Silence

### LA: 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.**

### LA: THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

We pray in thanksgiving for the Earth in which all life is rooted, the Sun whose energy radiates life, Water that nurtures and revives us, and the creatures with whom we live, and for whom we are called to till and keep this garden planet. Creative Spirit, **enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.**

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. Creative Spirit,  
**enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.**

God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this Earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the Earth. Creative Spirit,  
**enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.**

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. Creative Spirit,  
**enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.**

In the wake of the COVID-19 global pandemic, hear our cries of compassion, and heal our world and all creatures. Inspire our hearts with a holy imagination, to rise, freed from the demands to produce and consume to imagine a just, sustainable way of living, where all have enough, and all may be restored. Creative Spirit,  
**enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.**

During this Season of Creation, grant us courage to observe a Sabbath for our planet. Strengthen us with the faith to trust in your providence. Inspire us with the creativity to share what we have been given. Teach us to be satisfied with enough. And as we proclaim a Jubilee for the Earth, send Your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the ground. Creative Spirit,  
**enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.**

We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Creative Spirit,  
**enlighten our hearts and remain with your world. Amen.**

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

...

LA: 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

LA: God of mercy and justice,

You tell us the land must rest, free from the burden of production.

**We confess our demand that the Earth produce beyond its limits, and our bondage to desire more.**

You call us to pause from sowing, pruning, and reaping in ways that destroy the soil.

**We confess our over consumption of food and energy.**

You assure us that we can be filled from the yield of the land.

**We confess our lack of trust that we can thrive within the Earth's limits.**

You affirm that our security is found in sufficiency.

**We confess our lack of courage to resist the drive for endless growth.**

You call us to leave enough fruit on the vine and in the fields to feed our the poor and the outsider.

**We confess our failure to share what we receive from the Earth.**

You call us to fairness and justice.

**We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart and strength and mind, or our neighbours as ourselves or your creation as the work of your hands.**

Turn us from fear and mistrust,

**and free us to imagine a life reconciled to the Earth and all creatures, through the Good News of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.**

P: Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness  
to all who turn to God 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.

P: 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, maintaining 1.5m separation and without touching.*

P: Hymn: Lord of Earth and All Creation (TiS 672)

*Note that we cannot pass collection bowls around at this time. There is a box at the back of the building to receive your offerings. Alternatively, please consider giving electronically through your bank. St Paul's bank details are BSB: 704901 Acc NO: 00004420*

P: 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.**

Loving God,

we thank you for this world of wonder and delight.

You have given it to us to care for,

so that all your creatures may enjoy its bounty.

Lord our God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

We thank you that when we turned away from you,

you sent Jesus to live and work as one of us,

and bring us back to you.

He showed us how to love you

and set us free to love and serve one another.

Lord our God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

We thank you that on the cross

Jesus took away our sin,

all that keeps us from each other and from you.

He frees us from hate and fear,

from all that destroys love and trust.

Lord our God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

And so with everyone who believes in you,

with all the saints and angels,

we rejoice and praise you, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

And now we thank you

for these gifts of bread and wine;

may we who receive them,

as Jesus said,

share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread

and gave you thanks.

He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said,

'Take and eat. This is my body given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup

and gave you thanks.

He shared the cup with them and said,

'This is my blood poured out



so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

You have gathered us together  
to feed on Christ  
and to remember all he has done for us:

Fill us with your Spirit  
that we may follow Jesus  
in all we do and say,  
working for justice and bringing your peace  
to this world that you have made.  
Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**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 of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that  
he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*Special Covid-19 Guidelines: Please come forward to receive communion (bread only). Maintain 1.5m separation as you move forward. Queue close to the pew – not in the centre of the isle – in one line. Sanitise hands. Receive the bread while standing and return to your seat.*

While others are receiving communion you may wish to listen or quietly sing along to the communion while remaining seated.

Communion Hymn (Not announced): As the Deer Pants for the water (TiS 703)

Living God,  
in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.  
May the power of your love,  
which we have known in word and sacrament,  
continue your saving work among us,  
give us courage for our pilgrimage,  
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

*Please stand for the blessing:*

P: May God who established the dance of creation,  
Who marvelled at the lilies of the field,  
Who transforms chaos to order,  
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church  
To reflect God's glory in creation.s  
And the blessing of God almighty  
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
Be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

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

P: Hymn **Lord, Your Almighty Word (TiS 447)**

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Prayers are taken from the *Season of Creation 2020 Celebration Guide: Jubilee For the Earth*