

PENTECOST 13 | Ordinary 21

St Paul's Ashgrove, 23 August 2026

HYMNS: *As provided*; SPHB 21; SPHB 29; TiS 643

SENTENCE FOR THE DAY *Matthew 16.15-16*

Jesus said to them, 'Who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the son of the living God.'

<u>READINGS</u>	<u>THIS WEEK</u> <i>Pentecost 13</i>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u> <i>Pentecost 14</i>
FIRST READING	Isaiah 51.1-6	Exodus 3.1-6
PSALM	Psalms 138	Psalms 105.1-6
SECOND READING	Romans 12.1-8	Romans 12.9-21
GOSPEL	Matthew 16.13-20	Matthew 16.21-28

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH *51.1-6*

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended. For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

PSALM *138*

- ¹ I will give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart:
even before the gods will I sing your praises.
- ² I will bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name:
**because of your faithfulness and your loving-kindness,
for you have made your name and your word
supreme over all things.**
- ³ At a time when I called to you, you gave me answer:
and put new strength within my soul.
- ⁴ All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord:
for they have heard the words of your mouth;
- ⁵ And they shall sing of the ways of the Lord:
that the glory of the Lord is great.
- ⁶ For though the Lord is exalted, he looks upon the lowly:
and he comprehends the proud from afar.
- ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of danger, yet will you preserve my life:

you will stretch out your hand against the fury of my enemies, and your right hand shall save me.

⁸ The Lord will complete his purpose for me:
**your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever;
do not forsake the work of your own hands.**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS 12.1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION

Please come forward to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free wafers are available (please ask)

For the safety of all in the community we ask you to:

- *NOT intinct (dip the bread in the wine)*
- *Take wine only if you are free from symptoms and free of anxiety about drinking from the common cup.*

GOD HOW MANY ARE A THOUSAND

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|---|---|
| 1) God, how many are a thousand
out of all the grains of sand,
And how many are a thousand
of the stars that you command?
Lord, how awesome is the meaning
of this new day shining bright,
For we know a thousand years
are as a moment in your sight. | 2) God, we look to your vast heavens;
constellations seem to dance.
In each atom is your detail,
and you form the smallest plants.
When we look back through the ages,
there we see your hand as well.
Thank you, God, for loving, caring
for this world in which we dwell. |
| 3) God, in Christ, you showed that caring:
You broke through our time and space.
Christ proclaimed how much you love us,
showing your redeeming grace.
Jesus healed the ones who suffered;
he endured death's mighty pain.
In your time, you raised our Savior;
with him, life begins again. | 4) Yet, O God, our world still searches,
longing for the peace you give.
In this age when life is changing,
teach us, Lord, in whom we live.
Show again Christ's risen presence,
guide us by your Spirit's power.
May we find the joy you offer,
as we serve you every hour. |
| 5) God, how joyful are a thousand
when we Christians join to sing!
And how mighty are a thousand
when we share the gifts we bring!
Christ, we seek to work together;
hand in hand you make us strong.
Spirit, help us in this new time:
Give us joy in work and song. | |

ST. PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

 Call out for **plants in small pots and/or small pots** to be donated to the Green Corner Community Garden! Drop off at 300 Waterworks Rd or contact Natalie in the parish office

Wednesdays & Fridays 9.30 to 1.30pm 

 Parvin and her son are desperately looking for a place to rent. Please contact Robyn 

TODAY **PARISH COUNCIL** – 9:45am, following Sunday service

30 August **PARISH BREAKFAST** – 9:45am, following Sunday Service

03 Sept **TAIZÉ** 6:00pm in the Church – dinner afterwards. RSVP to Rev'd Pam or John Hynd.

04 Sept **PRACTICALLY SPIRITUAL** – 8:30am. Meeting in the Crypt.

18 Sept **BOOKFEST 2026** – Friday, 4:00pm to 9:00pm. Live music! BBQ! Plants! Crafts! Cake!

19 Sept **BOOKFEST 2026** – Saturday, 9:00am to 1:00pm. Plants! Crafts! Cake!

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 – Prayer at 9:30am and Bible Study at 10:00am during school terms. Currently reading the prophet Jeremiah. Everyone welcome!

THRIFT SHOP – Open Wednesdays and Saturdays 9:00am-1:00pm. New volunteers are always welcome. Donations of clothing and kitchenware (no electrical goods, furniture baby carriers or knives, please) are gratefully received.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for the people in Iran, and all in the Middle East, and those in Australia concerned for their family and friends still living there. Jack, Vanessa, Macey, Denise, Bill; Matthew (and mother Sue), Rob and Andrea, Georgia, Sue J. Please pray for our friends at LAMB and surrounds, and for the country of Bangladesh. Pray for Sarah, Gill, and David as they begin the process of looking for a new Parish Priest.

St Paul's bank details are:-

Name: Ithaca-Ashgrove Anglican Parish | **BSB:** 704901 | **Acct No:** 0000 4420

Parish Office: parish.office@stpaulsashgrove.org.au (07) 3366 2320 (office attended Wed and Fri 9:30 – 1:30pm)

St Paul's website: stpaulsashgrove.org.au

RECTORY UPDATE

REQUEST FOR OLD NEWSPAPERS

If you have a collection of old newspapers, we need them under the mulch in the Rectory. Please leave bundled up and through the back gate to the Rectory in the lower carpark

1. Donations
2. Ithaca Ashgrove Anglican Parish – **BSB:** 704 901 **Account:** 0000 4420
3. Please note – “Rectory”

 **CLEANING CHAMPION** – Margaret Franklin (0438 664 287)

4. Please liaise with Margaret for times, lock box access.

 **YARD CHAMPIONS** – Christian (0488 469 355) and John Hynd (0422 259 117)

5. Mulch
6. Pressure washing
7. Other list items

 **FREE TREES CHAMPION** – Gillian Bristow (0417 005 253)

8. Please give Gillian or leave in Notice Box an old Rates Notice, writing on the Notice “I authorise Gillian Bristow to claim free tree vouchers on my behalf”
9. She will take to library to be endorsed and in Spring planting can begin.