

# Online Worship at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Sunday, August 8



## Pentecost 11, 2021

### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

P: Welcome

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

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

LA: We acknowledge the custodians of the land where we gather today - the Yuggera and Ugarapul people. We celebrate their culture, thank them for their care of the land and pay respects to their elders: past, present and emerging.

LA: Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. Ephesians 5.1-2

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: Living God,  
whose Son Jesus fed the hungry  
with the bread of his life  
and the word of his kingdom:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us with your true and living bread,  
Jesus Christ our Lord;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## 1st Reading

### **2 Samuel 18.5-9, 18.14, 18.31-33**

<sup>5</sup> The king gave orders to Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom. <sup>6</sup> So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. <sup>7</sup> The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. <sup>8</sup> The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword. <sup>9</sup> Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. <sup>14</sup> Joab said, 'I will not waste time like this with you.' He took three spears in his hand, and thrust them into the heart of Absalom, while he was still alive in the oak. <sup>31</sup> Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, 'Good tidings for my lord the king! For the Lord has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.' <sup>32</sup> The king said to the Cushite, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' The Cushite answered, 'May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.' <sup>33</sup> The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would that I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'

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

#### **Psalm 34.1-8**

<sup>1</sup> I will bless the Lord continually:  
his praise shall be always in my mouth.  
<sup>2</sup> Let my soul boast of the Lord:  
the humble shall hear it and rejoice.  
<sup>3</sup> O praise the Lord with me:  
let us exalt his name together.  
<sup>4</sup> For I sought the Lord's help and he answered:  
and he freed me from all my fears.  
<sup>5</sup> Look towards him and be bright with joy:  
your faces shall not be ashamed.  
<sup>6</sup> Here is a wretch who cried, and the Lord heard me:  
and saved me from all my troubles.  
<sup>7</sup> The angel of the Lord encamps round those who fear him:  
and delivers them in their need.  
<sup>8</sup> O taste and see that the Lord is good:  
happy are they that hide in him!

#### **Ephesians 4.25-5.2**

**4** <sup>25</sup> So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup> Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup> Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup> Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup> and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. **5** <sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>2</sup> and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

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

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

### **John 6.35, 6.41-51**

<sup>35</sup> 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. <sup>41</sup> Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' <sup>42</sup> They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. <sup>44</sup> No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. <sup>45</sup> It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. <sup>46</sup> Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup> Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup> I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup> Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup> This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

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

### **Sermon**

#### **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.

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.**

LA: We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.

Let us then run our race, laying aside every weight and bringing our sins to the Lord in penitence and faith.

**Almighty God  
Saviour, Liberator and Lover of all people,  
We confess that we have not loved you  
with our whole hearts  
Or reflected your self-sacrificing love  
that has won our freedom.  
We hear of modern slavery  
And the slavery in Australia's past,  
But we prefer not to look too closely  
At what is difficult to face and painful to think about.  
We have chosen to keep our eyes shut  
Rather than ask difficult questions.  
Yet we remember how you came into our darkness And always walk  
beside us,  
And never look away from us.**

**We are truly sorry – please forgive us and make us more like you.**

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

Lord, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy**  
Lord, have mercy

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.**

### **Announcements**

P: The peace of God which passes all understanding  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge  
and love of God, and of his Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord;  
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**

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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