

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Epiphany 2, 2023

Song: God Gives us a Future (TiS 687)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

**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.**

You, who teach us a new song,
and train our feet to follow:
meet us in our searching
and turn our eyes and hearts
to the one who gives his life for the world;
through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. **Amen.**

**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**

Isaiah 49: 1-7

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
³ And he said to me, 'You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'
⁴ But I said, 'I have laboured in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord ,
and my reward with my God.'
⁵ And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord ,
and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says,
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'
⁷ Thus says the Lord ,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,

'Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord , who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

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

Psalm 40: 1-14

- ¹ I waited patiently for the Lord:
and he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- ² He brought me up from the pit of roaring waters,
out of the mire and clay:
and set my feet upon a rock, and made firm my foothold.
- ³ And he has put a new song in my mouth:
even a song of thanksgiving to our God.
- ⁴ Many shall see it and fear:
and shall put their trust in the Lord.
- ⁵ Blessed are those who have made the Lord their hope:
**who have not turned to the proud,
or to those who wander in deceit.**
- ⁶ O Lord my God, great are the wonderful things
which you have done,
and your thoughts which are towards us:
there is none to be compared with you;
- ⁷ Were I to declare them and speak of them:
they are more than I am able to express.
- ⁸ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire:
but my ears you have marked for obedience;
- ⁹ Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required:
then said I, Lo, I come.
- ¹⁰ In the scroll of the book it is written of me,
that I should do your will:
O my God, I long to do it, your law delights my heart.
- ¹¹ I have declared your righteousness
in the great congregation:
**I have not restrained my lips, O Lord,
and that you know.**
- ¹² I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart:
I have spoken of your faithfulness and of your salvation.
- ¹³ I have not kept back your loving-kindness and your truth:
from the great congregation.
- ¹⁴ O Lord, do not withhold your mercy from me:
**let your loving-kindness and your truth
ever preserve me.**

1 Corinthians 1: 1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷ so that you are not

lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Song: There is a Redeemer (SPHB 27)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 1 beginning at verse 29.
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 1: 29-42

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ³¹ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' ³² And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.' ³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' ³⁹ He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

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.

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

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**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.**

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.

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.

Song: Be Thou My Vision (TiS 547)

While we will now be passing around the collection bowls again you may like to also consider giving electronically through your bank. St Paul's bank details are BSB: 704901 Acc NO: 00004420

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for 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.

...for ever praising you and 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.**

...Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

...in songs of never-ending 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.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament in remembrance that Christ died for us, 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).

With the high incidence of Covid and influenza in the community we ask you to:

- *Maintain physical distancing of 1.5m as you move forward*
- *Use hand sanitiser before receiving the bread and wine*
- *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. Be assured that Christ is present in you and for you as you receive the bread alone.*

Song (not announced): A New Commandment (TiS 699)

God of the nations,

we thank you for nourishing us with this holy sacrament.

Guide us by your presence,

that we may bring your light to those who dwell in darkness,

and establish your justice in the earth.

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

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

Song: Who Would True Valour See (TiS 561)

ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the service!

Upcoming events

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|-----------------------|--|
| Sun 15 Jan | Parish Council Meeting (after morning tea) |
| Fri 3 Feb, 9.30-11.30 | Playgroup recommences – weekly during school terms. To learn more contact Rev Margaret or the office. |
| January 29 | Preparing and Presenting Intercessions. Workshop in the Hall after the service |
| February 1, 9:05 am | Bible Study and Morning Prayer resumes with an Introduction to Matthew's Gospel . Matthew will be the focus of our preaching through 2023 and this overview will help you see how it all fits together. Everyone welcome! Morning Prayer and Bible Study will continue as usual from Feb 8. |
| Sat 11 Feb, 7pm | Cryptic Conversations - 'Reappreciating God as the years go by' (Inspiration and Conversation in the Crypt) with Patrick Oliver |
| Sat 18 Feb | Men's Breakfast |
| Sun 19 Feb | AGM |

If you would still like to make a donation towards the **Archbishop's farewell gift** please contact the office or our treasurer.

For your prayers

The Archbishop Election Committee as they prepare for their task of looking for and discerning who will be our next Archbishop.

Gemma and Yen, David, Stafford Parish with Revd Kathy and Revd Jack as Locums, Revd Sue, The Ward Family, Barb, Maureen, Elizabeth, Melvie Rose, Sam, Kate, Liam, John, Anni, Revd Jack, Daphne, Genevieve, Revd Margaret's niece, Annie, Nick, The Paul Family and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh. We give thanks for the continued recovery of Nick and Jack and Anni. And for Joy, Margaret S, Romola and Noela who are at home or in a nursing home.