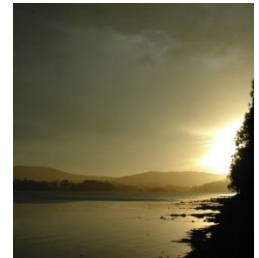


# Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany (Ordinary 5) 05/02/23

Service Time: 8.30am

*"You are the Salt of the Earth. You are the light of the world"*



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Hymn: TiS 409 O Breath of Life

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.**

Faithful God,

You have appointed us your witnesses,  
to be a light that shines in the world:

Let us not hide the bright hope you have given us,  
but tell everyone your love, revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God  
for ever and ever. 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, 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

A reading from the book of the prophet **Isaiah** 58: 1-9a

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

### **Psalms 112**

- 1 O praise the Lord. Blessed are they fear the Lord:  
**and greatly delight in his commandments.**
- 2 Their children shall be mighty in the land:  
**an upright race who will be blessed.**
- 3 Riches and plenty shall be in their house:  
**and their righteousness shall stand for ever.**
- 4 Light arises in darkness for the upright:  
**gracious and merciful are the righteous.**

- 5 It goes well with those who act generously and lend:  
**who guide their affairs with justice.**
- 6 Surely they shall never be moved:  
**the righteous shall be held in everlasting remembrance.**
- 7 They will not fear bad tidings:  
**their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.**
- 8 Their hearts are confident and will not fear:  
**they will see the downfall of their enemies.**
- 9 They give freely to the poor:  
**their righteousness stands for ever,  
their head is uplifted in glory.**
- 10 The wicked shall see it and be angry:  
**they shall gnash their teeth and consume away;  
and the hope of the wicked shall fail.**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the **Corinthians 2: 1-12**

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

**Hymn: TiS 411 Filled With The Spirits Power**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew** chapter **5** beginning at verse **13**  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus said: "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell

you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

This is the gospel of the Lord,  
**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

## **Sermon**

*Silence*

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.

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

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.**

Absolution

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.*

*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*

**Hymn: TiS 474 Here In This Place New Light Is Streaming**

**THANKSGIVING 5**

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.**

...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.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

...Do this in remembrance of me. '

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

...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.

May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us. (*NZ Prayer Book*)

*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.*

*While others are receiving communion you may wish to listen or quietly sing the communion hymn while remaining seated. This hymn is not announced - just join in as you wish.*

**Communion Hymn (not announced - TiS 747    The Lord Is My Light**

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:*

Blessing

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

**Hymn: SPHB 16    God of Day and God Of Darkness**

# ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the service!

## Upcoming events

- Wed 8 Feb 1, 9:05am 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.
- Fri 10 Feb, 9.30-11.30am **Playgroup** - weekly during school terms. \$4 per week to cover cost Registered Playgroup with Play Matters.
- Sat 11 Feb, 7-9pm **Cryptic Conversations** - *'Reappreciating God as the years go by'* (Inspiration and Conversation in the Crypt) with **Patrick Oliver**, \$15/person.
- Mon 13 Feb, 7.30pm **Book Club** in the Crypt. If you would like to join you are very welcome. Just speak to one of the Bookclubbers. The chosen book is **The Whalebone Theatre** by **Joanna Quinn**
- Sat 18 Feb, 7.30am **Parish Breakfast** – join us for a hot breakfast and speaker **Rev Dr Peter Catt**, in St Paul's Crypt, message Mark to rsvp 0414 647 077 or you can put your name on the white board at church
- Sun 19 Feb **AGM** – nomination forms are at the back of the church. Can you please have your reports to Rachel in the office by Friday 10 February.
- Wed 22 Feb **Ash Wednesday Services** - 10am, 7pm



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.**

Wayne, 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 and Romola who are at home or in a nursing home.