

**Holy Communion  
at St Paul's, Ashgrove  
Lent, 2023**



**Untwisting  
Desire**

**Matthew 4:1-11**

**St Paul's Ashgrove**

**Rev Dr Margaret Wesley**

**Song:** God is our Strength and Refuge (TiS 28)

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins  
**Whose mercy endures forever**

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.**

Spirit of the desert,  
you drove Jesus  
to the edge of the world  
to find his truth and calling:  
scour our hearts  
and awaken our hunger  
that freed from empty clinging  
we might find ourselves in you;  
through Christ, the Lord of the wilds. **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

#### **Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7**

<sup>15</sup> The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' <sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup> but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

#### **Psalms 32**

<sup>1</sup> Blessed are those whose sin is forgiven:

**whose iniquity is put away.**

<sup>2</sup> Blessed are those to whom the Lord imputes no blame:

**and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

<sup>3</sup> For whilst I held my tongue:

**my bones wasted away with my daily complaining.**

<sup>4</sup> Your hand was heavy upon me day and night:

**and my moisture was dried up like a drought in summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you:

**and my iniquity I did not hide;**

<sup>6</sup> I said 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord':

**and so you forgave the wickedness of my sin.**

<sup>7</sup> For this cause shall everyone that is faithful

make their prayer to you in the day of trouble:

**and in the time of the great water-flood,  
it shall not come near them.**

<sup>8</sup> You are a place to hide me in,

you will preserve me from trouble:

**you will surround me with deliverance on every side.**

<sup>9</sup> 'I will instruct you, and direct you in the way that you should go:

**I will fasten my eye upon you, and give you counsel.**

<sup>10</sup> 'Be not like horse or mule, that have no understanding:

**whose forward course must be curbed with bit and bridle.'**

<sup>11</sup> Great tribulations remain for the ungodly:

**but whoever puts their trust in the Lord,**

**mercy embraces them on every side.**

<sup>12</sup> Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and be glad:

**and shout for joy, all you that are true of heart.**

### **Romans 5: 12-21**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— <sup>13</sup> sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup> And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup> For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. <sup>20</sup> But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, <sup>21</sup> so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**Song:** You Who were Rich (MP 700)

#### **You Who were Rich**

You who were rich beyond all splendour,

All for love's sake became so poor,

Thrones for a manger you surrendered

Sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.

You who were rich beyond all splendour,

All for love's sake became so poor.

You who are love beyond all telling,

Saviour and King, we worship you.

Immanuel, within us dwelling,

Help us love others as you do.

You who are love beyond all telling,

Saviour and King, we worship you.

You who are God beyond all praising

All for love's sake became a man;

Stooping so low, but sinners raising

Heavenwards by your eternal plan.

You who are God beyond all praising

All for love's sake became a man.

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 4 beginning at verse 11.  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Matthew 4: 1-11**

- <sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.  
<sup>2</sup> He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.  
<sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.'  
<sup>4</sup> But he answered, 'It is written,  
"One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' '  
<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple,  
<sup>6</sup> saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,  
"He will command his angels concerning you",  
and "On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' '  
<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' '  
<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world  
and their splendour;  
<sup>9</sup> and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.'  
<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,  
"Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him."' '  
<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

Sermon - [www.stpaulsashgrove.org.au/sermons/](http://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

Compassion and forgiveness belong to our God, however far we may have wandered from God's way.

(silence)

Let us then ask for mercy, 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 return 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:** Holy, Holy, Holy (TiS 132)

*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 Name: Ithaca-Ashgrove Anglican Parish 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.**

...and forever we 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 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): Seek Ye First (TiS 745)*

God of mercy,  
May we who have shared in this holy meal  
Know your forgiveness in our lives,  
Bring your reconciliation to others,  
And be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.  
**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*

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself,  
that you may find in him  
A solid ground on which your faith might grow,  
An unshakeable structure to support your hope,  
and the assurance of absolute forgiveness, reconciliation and eternal life;  
and the blessing of God most gracious,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

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

**Song:** O Jesus, I have Promised (TiS 595)

# ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the service!

## Upcoming events

Fri 3 March

**Taize** (6pm in the church) followed by **Fish & Chips** - please contact Pam or John Hynd if you are interested in joining us 0431 424 737 or [pamhynd@hotmail.com](mailto:pamhynd@hotmail.com)

Sat 4 March

**Practically Spiritual**, 8.30am in the Crypt - a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Talk to Revd Kathy

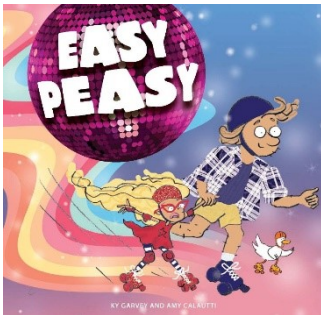
**Playgroup** - weekly on a Friday from 9.30-11.30am during school terms. \$4 per week to cover cost Registered Playgroup with Play Matters.

**Bible Study and Morning Prayer** every Wednesday morning. **Prayer group** from 9am and **Bible Study** from 9.45. Everyone welcome!

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

### Lenten Studies:

Our Wednesday morning Bible study group will be following the Common Grace Lenten series on the Lord's Prayer this year. If you are unable to join us you can access the series at home at [www.commongrace.org.au/the\\_lords\\_prayer\\_2023](http://www.commongrace.org.au/the_lords_prayer_2023)



**Kylie Garvey** (nee Minns) has extended an invitation to the parishioners of St Paul's for the launch of her book **Easy Peasy** (including storytime).

**When:** Saturday 4 March 2023

**Time:** 10 – 11am

**Location:** Where the Wild Things Are, 191 Boundary St, West End  
Book + ticket \$24.99, single ticket \$10 (tickets available 4 March, 9am) – grab tickets online via this [link](#)

## For your prayers

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

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