

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

**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.**

**Holy God,
whose wild Spirit's breath
defies our frozen idols:
take the night time of our fear
and make it a welcoming womb
for us and all the world;
through Jesus Christ, in whom we are born anew. 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 12: 1-4a

¹ Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' ⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

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

Psalms 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills:
but where shall I find help?
² My help comes from the Lord:
who has made heaven and earth.
³ He will not suffer your foot to stumble:
and he who watches over you will not sleep.
⁴ Be sure he who has charge of Israel:
will neither slumber nor sleep.
⁵ The Lord himself is your keeper:
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand;
⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day:
nor shall the moon by night.
⁷ The Lord will defend you from all evil:
it is he who will guard your life.
⁸ The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:
from this time forward for evermore.

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

Romans 4: 1-5; 13-17

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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 3 beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 3: 1-17

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' ³ Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' ⁵ Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

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.

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.*

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**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Including the BAPTISM of Penelope Craigie Ann Warnock

Parents:

Frances and Odhrán Warnock

Godparents:

Ryan Graupner, Jasmina Kostik,
Fiona Combe



Song: Morning Has Broken (TiS 156)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

There is one Body and one Spirit;
there is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism,
one God and Father of all.

Introduction of Penelope and her supporters

Let us affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confess that we need forgiveness.

[Let us pray]

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image. Forgive us when we turn away from you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death. Rescue us from addiction to sin.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship
with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins, and keep you in life eternal. **Amen**

Holy God,
whose wild Spirit's breath
defies our frozen idols:
take the night time of our fear
and make it a welcoming womb
for us and all the world;
through Jesus Christ, in whom we are born anew. **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 12: 1-4a

¹ Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' ⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

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

Psalms 121

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills:
but where shall I find help?
- ² My help comes from the Lord:
who has made heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not suffer your foot to stumble:
and he who watches over you will not sleep.
- ⁴ Be sure he who has charge of Israel:
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- ⁵ The Lord himself is your keeper:
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand;
- ⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day:
nor shall the moon by night.
- ⁷ The Lord will defend you from all evil:
it is he who will guard your life.
- ⁸ The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:
from this time forward for evermore.

Song: I, The Lord of Sea and Sky (TiS 658)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 3 beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 3: 1-17

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' ³ Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' ⁵ Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

Sermon - www.stpaulsashgrove.org.au/sermons/

Silence

We welcome Poppy to be baptised. I invite her Godparents to present her now.

We present Penelope Craigie Ann Warnock to be baptised.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Poppy for baptism?

I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of Poppy?

I am.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage Poppy in the life and faith of the Christian community?

I will, with God's help.

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:
Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

You have heard these our sisters and brothers respond to Christ. Will you support them in this calling?

We will.

Let us pray.

Grant, merciful God, that Poppy may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in her. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in her.

Amen.

Give to her Godparents [and their families] the desire to share with her what you have revealed in your holy gospel.

Amen.

May she know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May she proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ.

Amen.

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith. Bring us to a day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ.

Amen.

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life. With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your kingdom. **Thanks be to God.**

And now we give you thanks that you have called **Poppy** to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that she who is baptised in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May she die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue for ever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

I now ask you to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith:

We believe in one God:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Penelope Craigie Ann Warnock, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Poppy, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.
Live as a disciple of Christ: fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

**Confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

God has brought you out of darkness
into his marvellous light.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

God has called you into his Church.

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

In baptism, God has made us one in 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: Jesus Loves Me, This I Know (TiS 229)

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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 singing:

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.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident 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.**

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.

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- *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): Be Still, For the Presence of the Lord (SPHB 4)

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

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

Song: Be Though my Guardian and My Guide

Lord be my guardian and my guide,
and hear me when I call;
let not my slippery footsteps slide,
and hold me lest I fall.

The world, the flesh, and Satan lie
Along the path I tread:
Help me from their deceptions fly,
To you who raise the dead.

And if I'm tempted into sin,
When outward things are strong,
O Lord, keep watch of me within,
And save my soul from wrong.

Still let me always watch and pray,
And feel that I am frail,
That when the tempter blocks my way,
He never will prevail.

(Isaac Williams 1802-65)

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ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the service!

Upcoming events

Sun 19 March	Combined Service and Parish Council Meeting (after morning tea)
Sat 1 April	Practically Spiritual , 8.30am in the Crypt - a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Talk to Revd Kathy
Sun 2 April	Palm Sunday , 7.30am and 9am
Thurs 6 April	Maundy Thursday , 6pm
Fri 7 April	Good Friday , 8.30am
Sat 8 April	Holy Saturday , 7pm
Sun 9 April	Easter Day , 8.30am
Mon 17 April, 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 Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen

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!

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

For your prayers

The Archbishop Election Committee as they discern who will be our next Archbishop.

Ian, Wayne, Gemma and Yen, David, 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 good health of Anni. And for Joy, Margaret S and Romola who are at home or in a nursing home.