

# Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

## Ascension Day

21<sup>st</sup> May 2023 8.30am



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Hymn: **SPHB 4**      Be Still For The Presence of The Lord

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

Christ is risen. Alleluia

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia**

**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.**

The Collect

**A reading from the Book of Acts**

1.1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise

of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

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

### **Psalm 47**

- 1 O clap your hands, all you peoples:  
**and cry aloud to God with shouts of joy.**
- 2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared:  
**he is a great king over all the earth.**
- 3 He cast down peoples under us:  
**and the nations beneath our feet.**
- 4 He chose us a land for our possession:  
**that was the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.**
- 5 God has gone up with the sound of rejoicing:  
**and the Lord to the blast of the horn.**
- 6 O sing praises, sing praises to God:  
**O sing praises, sing praises to our king.**
- 7 For God is the king of all the earth:  
**O praise him in a well-wrought psalm.**
- 8 God has become the king of the nations:  
**he has taken his seat upon his holy throne.**
- 9 The princes of the peoples are gathered together:  
**with the people of the God of Abraham.**
- 10 For the mighty ones of the earth  
are become the servants of God:  
**and he is greatly exalted.**

### **A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians 1.15-23**

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and

dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

**Hymn: TiS 263**            The Bright Wind is Blowing

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 28 beginning at verse 16  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

This is the gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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

*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.

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**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**

.....

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 has entered heaven itself,  
there to appear before God on our behalf.  
Let us therefore draw near in full assurance of faith,  
and confess our sins to the God of grace.

**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

Know that the risen and ascended Lord promises to be with you for ever;  
And the peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

**Hymn: TiS 258**      You are the Word

*While we are now 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*

## **THANKSGIVING 5 (Ascension)**

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.**

You have highly exalted him,  
and given him the name  
which is above all other names,  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow  
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.  
And so with everyone who believes in you,  
with all the saints and angels,  
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.**

And now we thank you  
for these gifts of bread and wine;  
may we who receive them, as Jesus said,  
share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed,  
he took bread and gave you thanks.  
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said,  
'Take and eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me. '

After supper he took the cup and gave you thanks.  
He shared the cup with them and said,  
'This is my blood poured out so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in remembrance of me. '

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

You have gathered us together to feed on Christ  
and to remember all he has done for us:  
Fill us with your Spirit that we may follow Jesus  
in all we do and say,  
working for justice and bringing your peace  
to this world that you have made.  
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.**

*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.*

*Silence for communion*

God of Glory,  
you sent your Son Jesus Christ into the world  
to preach the gospel of the kingdom.  
Strengthen us who share this meal to continue his mission by living the good news we proclaim.  
**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*

**Hymn: TiS 681**          Lord Let Me See

*Please stand and face the back for the blessing*

**Blessing**

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

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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# ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the service!

## Upcoming events

If you were the person that spoke to Margaret Marshall regarding collecting any broken crockery from the Thrift Shop can you please get in touch with the office.

- TODAY **Combined Service and Parish Council Meeting** (after morning tea)
- Fri 2 June **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 3 June **Practically Spiritual**, 8.30am in the Crypt - a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Talk to Revd Kathy
- Sat 3 June, 7pm **Cryptic Conversations** – Sr Denise Brosnan will speak on *Resting in Oneness: the mystical vision of Julian of Norwich*. Tickets are available for \$15 at <https://events.humanitix.com/cryptic-conversations>
- Sat 17 June **Men's Breakfast** – join us for breakfast at 7.30am in the Crypt. Craig Ray will speak, President of Shed Happens (The Gap/Ashgrove Committee)
- Sun 25 – Fri 30 June **Senior Ichthus Camp** (Grades 10-12) at Glendalough, Perigian Beach – registrations are open now - [www.aycf.org.au/registration](http://www.aycf.org.au/registration)
- Sun 2 July **Evensong** at The Cathedral, 6pm – Rev Margaret will be speaking on George MacDonald
- Mon 3 July, 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 **Lessons in Chemistry** by **Bonnie Garmus**
- Sun 16 July **Bishop Jeremy visiting** – if there is anyone that would like to be confirmed please contact Rev Margaret

**Jubilee Terrace 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 during school terms. **Prayer** from 9:05am and **Bible Study** from 9.45. Everyone welcome!

**Would you like to get more involved?** In addition to our regular activities, we would love to start organising BBQs, trivia nights, a craft group, a writer's group, a social justice group, etc. If you would like to be involved with any of these, or if you have other ideas for things we might begin, please get in touch with Rev Margaret.

### For your prayers

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

Everton Park Congregation, Avril, Ian, Wayne, Gemma and Yen, Revd Sue and the Goonaneman Parish, The Ward Family, Barb, Elizabeth, Melvie Rose, Sam, Kate, Liam, John, 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 David. And for Joy, Margaret S and Romola who are at home or in a nursing home.

If you know of someone who needs our prayers, please put a note in the 'Everything Box' or email our office. We will include them in our intercessions for a month. If they still need prayer after a month, please get in touch again.

Parish contact details - Rev Dr Margaret Wesley – [priest@stpaulsashgrove.org.au](mailto:priest@stpaulsashgrove.org.au), 0424 214 924  
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