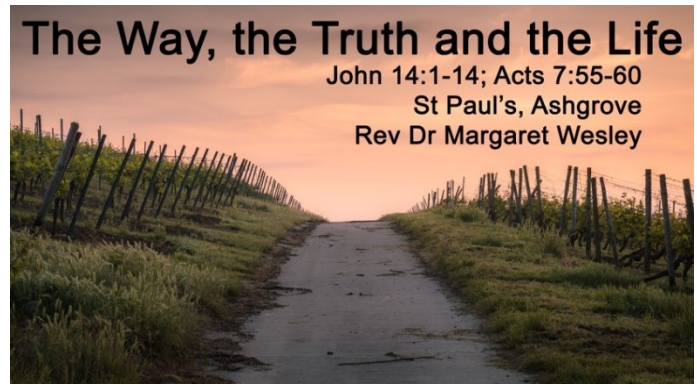


Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Easter 5, 2023



Song: Rejoice, the Lord is King (TiS 216)

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.**

Generous God,
whose way is love,
whose truth is searching,
whose life is freely given
in Jesus Christ our Lord:
as you have opened for us
your house of many rooms
so may we make a place
for the rejected and unloved,
and share the work of peace;
through Jesus Christ, the image of God. **Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord Jesus,
for as you were sent by the Father, so you send us.
Equip Charles our King and all your people
with the gifts to fulfil our calling,
that we may love as you loved,
serve as you served, and willingly follow wherever you lead.
Blessed be God for ever. **Amen.**

Acts 7: 55-60

⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

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

Psalm 31: 1–5; 17–18

- ¹ To you, Lord, have I come for shelter:
let me never be put to shame.
- ² O deliver me in your righteousness:
incline your ear to me and be swift to save me.
- ³ Be for me a rock of refuge, a fortress to defend me:
for you are my high rock and my stronghold.
- ⁴ Lead me and guide me for your name's sake:
**bring me out of the net that they have secretly laid for me,
for you are my strength.**
- ⁵ Into your hands I commit my spirit:
you will redeem me, O Lord God of truth.
- ¹⁷ All my days are in your hand:
**O deliver me from the power of my enemies
and from my persecutors.**
- ¹⁸ Make your face to shine upon your servant:
and save me for your mercy's sake.

1 Peter 2: 11–25

- ¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul.
- ¹² Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honourable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.
- ¹³ For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme,
- ¹⁴ or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right.
- ¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish.
- ¹⁶ As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil.
- ¹⁷ Honour everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honour the emperor.
- ¹⁸ Slaves, accept the authority of your masters with all deference, not only those who are kind and gentle but also those who are harsh.
- ¹⁹ For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly.
- ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval.

²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² 'He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

Song: We Limit Not the Truth of God (TiS 453)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 14 beginning at verse 1.
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 14: 1–14

¹ 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.' ⁵ Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' ⁶ Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' ⁸ Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' ⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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.

**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

Jesus absorbed, in his own body, all the violent insults of our world until they were exhausted and he woke to resurrection life.

(Silence)

Let us turn away from complicity with the enemies of Jesus and find our life in him.

**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 risen Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

All may exchange a sign of peace, maintaining 1.5m separation and without touching.

Song: The Head that Once was Crowned with Thorns (TiS 378)

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 all we have, all we give, and all we are,
As we dedicate it all to 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.

Congregational response: 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 the 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.**

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:
**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

**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
of the body and blood of Christ
in remembrance that he died and rose 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.*

Silence for communion

Living God

Make us apostles of the risen Christ

Give us joyful hearts, words of hope

And grace to recognise the Lord Jesus when he meets us

In the place of grief, and in the place of resurrection.

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: The Church's One Foundation (TiS 457)

ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the service!

Upcoming events

- Sun 21 May **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
- 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 **Cryptic Conversations** – speaker Sr Denise Brosnan, more details to come!
- 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
- Sun 2 July **Evensong** at The Cathedral, 6pm – Rev Margaret will be speaking on George MacDonald
- 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, 0424 214 924
Parish Office – paris.office@stpaulsashgrove.org.au, 07 3366 2320