

# Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Easter 6, 2023



**Song:** Here in This Place (TiS 474)

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.**

Trinity of love,  
inviting us  
to abide in you:  
may we follow the Spirit of truth  
through desert wild and city street,  
rutted field and snowbound heights,  
battleground and market square,  
that your demanding love  
might speak to the heart  
of the manifold world;  
through Jesus Christ, our Brother. **Amen.**

### Acts 17: 22–31

- <sup>22</sup> Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way.
- <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.
- <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,
- <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.
- <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,
- <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.
- <sup>28</sup> For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”
- <sup>29</sup> Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.
- <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent,
- <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

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

### Psalms 66: 7-19

- <sup>7</sup> O bless our God, you peoples:  
**and cause his praises to resound,**
- <sup>8</sup> Who has held our souls in life:  
**who has not suffered our feet to slip.**
- <sup>9</sup> For you have proved us, O God:  
**you have tried us as silver is tried.**
- <sup>10</sup> You brought us into the net:  
**you laid sharp torment on our loins.**
- <sup>11</sup> You let our enemies ride over our heads,  
we went through fire and water:  
**but you brought us out into a place of liberty.**
- <sup>12</sup> I will come into your house with burnt-offerings:  
**and I will pay you my vows,**
- <sup>13</sup> The vows that opened my lips:  
**that my mouth uttered when I was in trouble.**
- <sup>14</sup> I will offer you burnt-offerings of fattened beasts,  
with the sweet smoke of rams:  
**I will sacrifice a bull and the flesh of goats.**
- <sup>15</sup> Come then and hear, all you that fear God:  
**and I will tell what he has done for me.**
- <sup>16</sup> I called to him with my mouth:  
**and his praise was on my tongue.**
- <sup>17</sup> If I had cherished wickedness in my heart:  
**the Lord would not have heard me.**
- <sup>18</sup> But God has heard me:  
**he has heeded the voice of my prayer.**
- <sup>19</sup> Praise be to God:

**who has not turned back my prayer,  
or his steadfast love from me.**

**1 Peter 3: 8–22**

<sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

<sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were called—that you might inherit a blessing.

<sup>10</sup> For

‘Those who desire life

and desire to see good days,

let them keep their tongues from evil

and their lips from speaking deceit;

<sup>11</sup> let them turn away from evil and do good;

let them seek peace and pursue it.

<sup>12</sup> For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,

and his ears are open to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.’

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?

<sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated,

<sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you;

<sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.

<sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit,

<sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison,

<sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water.

<sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

<sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

**Song:** Shine, Jesus, Shine (TiS 675)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 14 beginning at verse 15.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**John 14: 15–21**

<sup>15</sup> ‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. <sup>18</sup> ‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my

commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

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.

**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:** Your Hand, O God, Has Guided (TiS 456)

*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.**

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  
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, in the place of doubt, in the place of conflict,  
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

**Song:** God Gives us a Future (TiS 687)

*Please stand and turn to face the back for the 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.**

Sun 21 May	<b>Combined Service and Parish Council Meeting</b> (after morning tea)
Fri 2 June	<b>Taize</b> (6pm in the church) followed by <b>Fish &amp; Chips</b> - please contact Pam or John Hynd if you are interested in joining us 0431 424 737 or <a href="mailto:pamhynd@hotmail.com">pamhynd@hotmail.com</a>
Sat 3 June	<b>Practically Spiritual</b> , 8.30am in the Crypt - a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Talk to Revd Kathy
Sat 3 June	<b>Cryptic Conversations</b> – speaker Sr Denise Brosnan, more details to come!
Sat 17 June	<b>Men's Breakfast</b> – 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	<b>Senior Ichthus Camp</b> (Grades 10-12) at Glendalough, Perigian Beach – registrations are open now - <a href="http://www.aycf.org.au/registration">www.aycf.org.au/registration</a>
Sun 2 July	<b>Evensong</b> at The Cathedral, 6pm – Rev Margaret will be speaking on George MacDonald
Mon 3 July, 7.30pm	<b>Book Club</b> in the Crypt. If you would like to join you are very welcome. Just speak to one of the Bookclubbers. The chosen book is <b>Lessons in Chemistry</b> by <b>Bonnie Garmus</b>
Sun 16 July	<b>Bishop Jeremy visiting</b> – 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. We also give thanks for the life of Zoe Johnston,

*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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