

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Pentecost 9 (Ordinary 17)

30th July 2023

Hymn - Tis 626 Lord of Creation

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

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.**

The Collect

A reading from the book of Genesis

29: 15-28

Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her



to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

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

Psalms 105: 1-11

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name:
tell among the peoples what things he has done.
- 2 Sing to him, O sing praises:
and be telling of all his marvellous works.
- 3 Exult in his holy name:
and let those that seek the Lord be joyful in heart.
- 4 Seek the Lord and his strength:
O seek his face continually.
- 5 Call to mind what wonders he has done:
his marvellous acts, and the judgements of his mouth,
- 6 O seed of Abraham his servant:
O children of Jacob his chosen one.
- 7 For he is the Lord our God:
and his judgements are in all the earth.
- 8 He has remembered his covenant for ever:
the word that he ordained for a thousand generations,
- 9 The covenant that he made with Abraham:
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 And confirmed it to Jacob as a statute:
to Israel as an everlasting covenant,
- 11 Saying ‘I will give you the land of Canaan:
to be the portion of your inheritance’,

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

8: 26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit^[c] intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed

intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Hymn - TiS 153 God is Love

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 13 beginning at verse 31

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.” When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place.

He came to his hometown and began to teach the people in their synagogue, so that they were astounded and said, “Where did this man get this wisdom and these deeds of power? Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all this?” And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honour except in their own country and in their own house.” And he did not do many deeds of power there, because of their unbelief.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon - 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

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

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

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

Hymn - TiS 681 Lord, Let Me See

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.

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.

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.

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.**

...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.**

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 531 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Please stand and turn to face the back for the blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the 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

Call for blanket and or doonas - If anyone has any spare or unused blankets or doonas hidden away in linen cupboards we would appreciate them as donations to the Thrift Shop. This cold winter is prompting lots of requests. Many thanks, The Thrift Shop Team.

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| Fri 4 Aug | 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 |
| Mon 21 Aug, 7.30pm | Book Club in the Crypt. Everyone welcome. Currently reading <i>The Rose Code</i> by Kate Quinn |
| Sun 27 Aug | Women's and Girl's High Tea , 2.30-4.30pm, \$10 single or \$15/family |
| Sat 2 Sept | Patrick Oliver speaking at Practically Spiritual , 8.30-10.30am |
| Sun 3 Sept | Westside Orchestra Concert including Father's Day BBQ, 11am-1pm |
| Fri 29 – Sat 30 Sept | Bookfest - with craft and plant stall! |

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.

Rosie, Anne, Genevieve, Brendon, Angela, Liam, Marian, Everton Park Congregation, Avril, Revd Sue and the Goonaneman Parish, Elizabeth, Revd Jack and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh. We give thanks for the continuing recovery of Sam and for the safe arrival of Tau (Gemma and Yen's daughter). And for Joy and Romola who are at home or in a nursing home.

Parish contact details - Rev Dr Margaret Wesley – priest@stpaulsashgrove.org.au, 0424 214 924
Parish Office – parish.office@stpaulsashgrove.org.au, 07 3366 2320