

# Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

**PENTECOST 12, 2023**

**Song:** Lord, Let Me See (TiS 681)

The Lord be with you, **and also with you**

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

**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.**

God who welcomes the outsider  
And invites dissent from the margins,  
give us the faith  
that comes from the heart  
and walks beyond  
our boundary posts  
that we might be surprised  
by outrageous grace;  
through Jesus Christ, son of David and light of the world. **Amen.**

## How to Win an Argument With Jesus

Matthew 15:10-28

St Paul's, Ashgrove

Rev Dr Margaret Wesley



### Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. <sup>6</sup>And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant - <sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. <sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

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

### Psalms 67

- <sup>1</sup> Let God be gracious to us and bless us:  
**and make his face shine upon us,**
- <sup>2</sup> That your ways may be known on earth:  
**your liberating power among all nations.**
- <sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God:  
**let all the peoples praise you.**
- <sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing:  
**for you judge the peoples with integrity,  
and govern the nations upon earth.**
- <sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God:  
**let all the peoples praise you.**
- <sup>6</sup> Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness:  
**and God, our God, will bless us.**
- <sup>7</sup> God shall bless us:  
**and all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

### Romans 11: 13-36

<sup>13</sup> Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I glorify my ministry <sup>14</sup> in order to make my own people jealous, and thus save some of them. <sup>15</sup> For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead! <sup>16</sup> If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; and if the root is holy, then the branches also are holy. <sup>17</sup> But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in their place to share the rich root of the olive tree, <sup>18</sup> do not vaunt yourselves over the branches. If you do vaunt yourselves, remember that it is not you that support the root, but the root that supports you. <sup>19</sup> You will say, 'Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.' <sup>20</sup> That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand only through faith. So do not become proud, but stand in awe. <sup>21</sup> For if God did not spare the natural branches, perhaps he will not spare you. <sup>22</sup> Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity towards those who have fallen, but God's kindness towards you, provided you continue in his kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off. <sup>23</sup> And even those of Israel, if they do not persist in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. <sup>24</sup> For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree. <sup>25</sup> So that you may not claim to be wiser than you are, brothers and sisters, I want you to understand this mystery: a hardening has come upon part of Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. <sup>26</sup> And so all Israel will be saved; as it is written, 'Out of Zion will come the Deliverer; he will banish ungodliness from Jacob.' <sup>27</sup> 'And this is my covenant with them, when I take away their sins.' <sup>28</sup> As regards the gospel they are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors; <sup>29</sup> for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup> Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you,

they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup> For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all. <sup>33</sup> O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! <sup>34</sup> 'For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counsellor?' <sup>35</sup> 'Or who has given a gift to him, to receive a gift in return?' <sup>36</sup> For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory for ever. Amen.

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

**Song:** I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (TiS 585)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 15, beginning at verse 28  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### **Matthew 15: 10-28**

<sup>10</sup>Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, 'Listen and understand: <sup>11</sup>it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.' <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples approached and said to him, 'Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?' <sup>13</sup>He answered, 'Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup>Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.' <sup>15</sup>But Peter said to him, 'Explain this parable to us.' <sup>16</sup>Then he said, 'Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup>Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup>But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup>For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup>These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.' <sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' <sup>24</sup>He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' <sup>26</sup>He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' <sup>27</sup>She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

God has called us to be a people through whom the whole world is blessed.

Let us attend to the ways we have settled for less and commit ourselves once again to follow God's call.

**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.*

**Song:** Brother Sister Let Me Serve You (TiS 650)

*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*

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 all to your glory  
and 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 singing together the eternal song:

**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.**

...all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever.

**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  
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).*

You are welcome to kneel at the communion rail. If you prefer to stand, please stand in the middle  
section.

*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,  
in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.  
May the power of your love,  
which we have known in word and sacrament,  
continue your saving work among us,  
give us courage for our pilgrimage,  
and bring us to the joys you promise.

**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 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

- Mon 21 Aug, 7.30pm **Book Club** in the Crypt. Everyone welcome. Currently reading *The Rose Code* 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!
- 24-26 Nov **Northern Region Lay Retreat** (Silent Retreat) – Raymont Residential College, Auchenflower, Facilitator: Dr Patrick Oliver. For further details and booking contact Nerida Murray – [neridamurray@me.com](mailto:neridamurray@me.com)



JOIN US FOR A LOVELY WOMEN'S AND GIRL'S

## High Tea



**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.**

Aston, Rosie, Anne, Genevieve, Brendon, Angela, Liam, Everton Park Congregation, Revd Sue and the Goonaneman Parish, Elizabeth, Revd Jack and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh. We give thanks for the continuing recovery of Avril and Sam. We hold in our prayer Joy and Romola who are at home or in a nursing home. We give thanks for the life of Marian.

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