

# Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

## PENTECOST 13, 2023

**Song:** Here is this Place (TiS 474)

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.

Living God,  
you accept our stumbling faith,  
our misplaced answers,  
our false horizons,  
and through them build a way of peace:  
empower us  
to bind the wounds of the world  
and loose the debts of oppression,  
that all may confess the grace that is your work alone;



through Jesus Christ, anointed for the world. **Amen.**

### **Exodus 1: 8 – 2: 10**

<sup>8</sup> Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. <sup>9</sup> He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. <sup>10</sup> Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' <sup>11</sup> Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. <sup>12</sup> But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. <sup>13</sup> The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, <sup>14</sup> and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. <sup>15</sup> The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, <sup>16</sup> 'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.' <sup>17</sup> But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. <sup>18</sup> So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?' <sup>19</sup> The midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.' <sup>20</sup> So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. <sup>21</sup> And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. <sup>22</sup> Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.' <sup>1</sup> Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. <sup>2</sup> The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. <sup>3</sup> When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. <sup>4</sup> His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. <sup>5</sup> The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. <sup>6</sup> When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. <sup>7</sup> Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' <sup>8</sup> Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup> Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. <sup>10</sup> When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

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

### **Psalms 124**

- <sup>1</sup> If the Lord had not been on our side,  
now may Israel say:  
**if the Lord had not been on our side,  
when our enemies rose against us,**
- <sup>2</sup> Then they would have swallowed us alive:  
**when their anger was kindled against us.**
- <sup>3</sup> Then the waters would have overwhelmed us,  
and the torrent gone over us:  
**the raging waters would have gone clean over us.**
- <sup>4</sup> But praised be the Lord:  
**who has not given us as a prey to their teeth.**
- <sup>5</sup> We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler:  
**the snare is broken, and we have gone free.**
- <sup>6</sup> Our help is in the name of the Lord:  
**who has made heaven and earth.**

### **Romans 12: 1–8**

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. <sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

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

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 16, beginning at verse 13  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **Matthew 16: 13–20**

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ <sup>14</sup> And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ <sup>15</sup> He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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:** Jesus Christ is Waiting (TiS 665)

*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 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.*

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:** The Church's One Foundation (TiS 457)

*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**

# ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the service!

## Upcoming events

- 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
- Sun 10 Sept                      Michelle McDonald, our diocesan Director of News (Editor of Anglican Focus, Wednesday Weekly, etc) will join us for the 9am service and will be available to chat during morning tea. She will give a presentation on the Voice Referendum after morning tea. Bring your questions and concerns (and those of your friends).
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- 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)

**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, 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.

### Parish Council Report - 20 August 2023

1. Kelly Houston from the Diocese spoke of the progress of changing the computer technology to a platform managed by the Diocese. This will reduce the annual costs for the Parish and increase security.
2. The Diocese has approved the Parish's application for grant funding through the Community Gambling Fund for support to erect a new electronic sign. The application will be lodged before 31 August 2023. The approval for a Faculty is yet to be agreed.
3. Discussion of future projects was mentioned, including solar panels, renovations for the hall
4. Reminder of the forthcoming events including:
  - a. Women's afternoon tea – attendees to contact Rachel to RSVP
  - b. Orchestra performance for Father's Day – book online
  - c. Bookfest – consider each person's support before and on the days

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