

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Season of Creation 1, 2023



A Mighty River

Amos 5: 24

Let Justice and Peace Flow

Season of Creation 2023

Song: Lord of Creation (TiS 626)

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth and all creatures!
Praise be to the Holy Trinity!

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.**

Holy God, you alone are unutterable,
from the time you created all things that can be spoken of.
You alone are unknowable,
from the time you created all things that can be known.
All things cry out about you:
those that speak, and those that cannot speak.
All things honour you:
those that think, and those that cannot think.
For there is one longing, one groaning,
which all things have for you.

All things that comprehend your plan
pray to you and offer you a silent hymn.
In you, the One, all things abide,
and all things endlessly run to you who are the end of all. **Amen**
(translation of a prayer by Gregory of Nazianzus)

Exodus 3: 1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴ When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹² He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

¹³ But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

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

The Psalm is said responsively. The LA reads the words in the plain text. The congregation responds with the words in bold text.

Psalm 105: 1–6, 23–26

¹ O give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name:

We will tell among the peoples what God has done.

² Sing to the Lord, O sing praises:

We will tell of all God's marvellous works.

³ Exult in God's holy name:

let all who seek the Lord be joyful in heart.

⁴ Seek the Lord and find your strength in God:

We seek God's face continually.

⁵ Call to mind the wonders your God has done:

We recall God's marvellous acts, and the words of justice from his mouth,

⁶ O seed of Abraham God's servant:

We are children of Jacob, chosen by God.

²³ When Israel came into Egypt:

and Jacob lived in the land of Ham.

²⁴ **There the Lord made this people fruitful:**

too numerous for their enemies,

²⁵ Whose hearts turned to hate God's people:

and to deal deceitfully with the servants of the Lord.

²⁶ **Then God sent Moses his servant:**

And Aaron whom he had chosen.

Romans 12: 9–21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' ²⁰ No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

Song: Lord Your Almighty Word (TiS 447)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 16 beginning at verse 21.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 16: 21–28

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷ 'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

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 end our housing crisis,
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

We have received a high calling to be custodians of creation, tending the sacred space that God called into being as the dwelling place of peace, justice and fruitfulness.

Silence

God who created and called us will keep calling us, however much and however often we fail. So, let's be honest with God and with each other as we call on God again to set us back on the right path.

**God of compassion,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us for caring only about our own needs
While neglecting the creatures who share the earth with us
And the people who will be born after we are gone.
We are truly sorry and humbly repent,
Asking you for the will and the wisdom to truly change.
Fill us with your Spirit, that we may love as you love,
Trusting in the One
Who brought Jesus Christ from the dead,
And will bring new life to us and to our world. 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.

If we are in Christ, we are becoming a new creation.
We see God around us. We see God within us. We give thanks to our Creator.

The peace of our Creator be with you in all things. **And also with you.**

You are invited to care and share peace with your neighbour and speak a word of peace to the land in which you gather, and the creatures who share this common home.
(adapted from Celebrating Creation: Honouring Indigenous People, Kelly Sherman-Conroy, ELCA)

Song: God is Love (TiS 153)

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

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.

...Reflecting your justice, peace and beauty to all creation.
Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

...guided by His compassionate wisdom.
Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

...And from all that destroys love and trust.
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.**

...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 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: I, The Lord of Sea and Sky (TiS 658)

Please remain standing and turn to the back for the blessing:

Go in peace and justice to love and serve the Creator and creation:
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

TODAY

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).

Fri 29 – Sat 30 Sept

Bookfest - with craft and plant stall! This is the one "All hands on deck" event of the St Paul's year. Please consider how you will be involved.

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

The Text Message Gift Card Scam has started circulating again. Please be vigilant and check the phone number and email address of all correspondence purporting to come from St Paul's against the contact details listed below.

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!

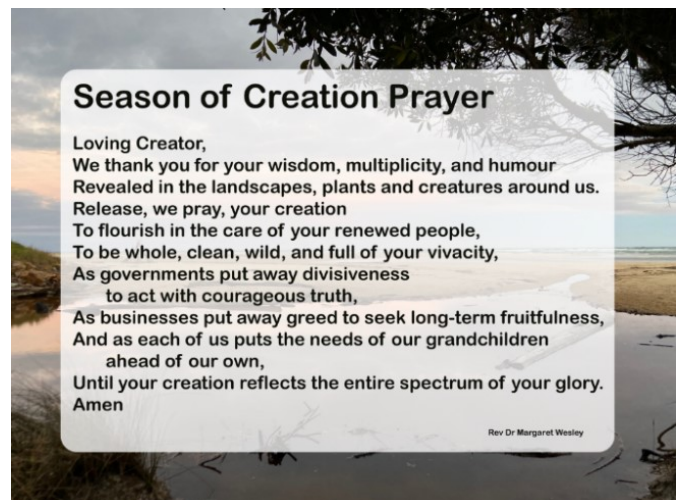
Would you like to get more involved? In addition to our regular activities, we would love to start organising BBQs, trivia nights, a craft group, a writer's group, a social justice group, etc. If you would like to be involved with any of these, or if you have other ideas for things we might begin, please get in touch with Rev Margaret.

For your prayers

The Archbishop Election Committee as they discern who will be our next Archbishop.

Aston, Anne, 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 prayers Wayne, Noel, Joy and Romola who are at home or in a nursing home. And we give thanks for the life of Genevieve.

Please let us know at the office if you would like someone added or removed from our prayer list.



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