

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Season of Creation 4, 2023



**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

Including the Baptism of Hunter Nico James Gunthorpe

Parents:
Trent and Synoith Gunthorpe
Godparents:
Blanchi Villarias and Teisha Dunn

Song: Morning has Broken (TiS 156)

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.**

Introduction of Hunter and his supporters

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When he had risen from the dead, he commanded his followers to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

We have come together today to obey that command.

Baptism with water signifies the cleansing from sin that Jesus' death makes possible, and the new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit.

In baptism, the promises of God are visibly signed and sealed for us. We are joined to Christ, and made members of his body, the Church universal.

Children are baptised in response to God's all-embracing love. Parents and godparents who have responded to that love come now to bring their children for baptism. Before this congregation they must express their own trust and commitment to the promises of God, and their intention to bring up their children in the faith and practice of the Church. In due time these children should make their own response to God, and be prepared for confirmation.

So we welcome you, Hunter, with your Godparents and family.

We give thanks for you, and pray that you may know God's love and faithfulness for ever.

Let us affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confess that we need forgiveness.

[Let us pray]

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image. Forgive us when we turn away from you.

A pause for reflection

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death. Rescue us from addiction to sin.

A pause for reflection

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship
with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

A pause for reflection

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins, and keep you in life eternal. **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.**

Gracious One,
reaching our need
overcoming our alienation:
give us a spirit of gratitude
for the abundance of the earth,
the wildness of its creatures,
the global threads
that bind friend and foreigner;
may our thanks be the soil
in which a dream of justice grows;
through Jesus Christ, the Lord of the harvest. **Amen.**

(Prayers for an Inclusive Church)

Exodus 16: 2–15

In this reading we find the people God has rescued from slavery having trouble trusting God with their ongoing welfare in freedom. We notice how easy it is to forget God's goodness, even if a significant answer to prayer is still fresh in our memories.

² The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³ The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.' ⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.' ⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, 'In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who

brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord , because he has heard your complaining against the Lord . For what are we, that you complain against us?' ⁸ And Moses said, 'When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord .' ⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, 'Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to the Lord , for he has heard your complaining." ' ¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹ The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹² 'I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God." ' ¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

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

Psalm 105: 1–6; 37–45

(This is a historical recitation Psalm. It invited us to remember God's goodness in the past so that we might praise God and trust God with our present needs)

¹ I give thanks to you, Lord, and call upon your name:

I tell among the peoples what things you have done.

² Sing to the Lord, O sing praises:

and keep telling of all God's marvellous works.

³ I exult in your holy name:

let all that seek the Lord be joyful in heart.

⁴ I seek you, Lord, and your strength:

I seek your face continually.

⁵ I call to mind the wonders you have done:

your marvellous acts, and the judgements of your mouth,

⁶ O seed of Abraham his servant:

O children of Jacob his chosen one.

³⁷ The Lord brought Israel out with silver and with gold:

and not one among their tribes was seen to stumble.

³⁸ Egypt was glad at their going:

for dread of Israel had fallen upon them.

³⁹ The Lord spread out a cloud for a covering:

and fire to lighten the night.

⁴⁰ The people asked, and the Lord brought them quails:

and satisfied them with the bread from heaven.

⁴¹ The Lord opened a rock, so that the waters gushed:

and ran in the parched land like a river.

⁴² For you had remembered your holy word:

that you gave to Abraham your servant.

⁴³ So you led out your people with rejoicing:

your chosen ones with shouts of joy;

⁴⁵ So that they might keep your statutes:

and faithfully obey your laws. O praise the Lord.

Philippians 1: 21-30

(Paul was in prison as he dictated these words, and there was a real possibility that he might be executed. He is reflected on the honour it would be to share Jesus' suffering by being executed by the same dictatorial regime that crucified Jesus (the Roman Empire). He decides, though, that that is not his preference because he wants to offer continued ministry to the churches he has founded.)

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

Song: For the Beauty of the Earth (TiS 137)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 20 beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 20: 1–16

¹ 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴ and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷ They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³ But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

For the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon - www.stpaulsashgrove.org.au/sermons/

Silence

We welcome Hunter to be baptised. I invite his Godparents to present him now.

We present Hunter Nico James Gunthorpe to be baptised.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Hunter for baptism?

I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of Hunter?

I am.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage Hunter in the life and faith of the Christian community?

I will, with God's help.

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

You have heard these our sisters and brothers respond to Christ. Will you support them in this calling?

We will.

Let us pray.

Grant, merciful God, that Hunter may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in him. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in him.

Amen.

Give to his Godparents [and their families] the desire to share with him what you have revealed in your holy gospel.

Amen.

May he know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May he proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ.

Amen.

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith. Bring us to a day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ.

Amen.

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life. With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your kingdom. **Thanks be to God.**

And now we give you thanks that you have called **Hunter** to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Priest, Hunter, parents, and Godparents move to the font.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that he who is baptised in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May he die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue for ever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

I now ask you to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith:

**We believe in one God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Hunter Nico James Gunthorpe, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hunter, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever. Live as a disciple of Christ: fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

**Confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

God has brought you out of darkness
into his marvellous light.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

God has called you into his Church.

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

Hunter's Godparents prayer for him

Hunter's family and Godparents return to their seats and the priest returns to the sanctuary.

In baptism, God has made us one in Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

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

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

...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.

...With all these saints and with all who worship you,
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.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident 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.**

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 on either side, and leave the middle section for
those who prefer to stand.

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: Shine Jesus Shine (TiS 675)

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

11-29 Sept **Rev Margaret away** (annual leave followed by a conference)

Fri 29 – Sat 30 Sept **Bookfest** - with craft and a plant stall! This is the one "All hands on deck" event of the St Paul's year. Please add your name and area of commitment to the whiteboard at the back of the church).

Sun 1 Oct **St Francis Day with pet blessing** – in our services and outside the church immediately afterwards.

Mon 30 Oct **Book Club** – The Bookbinder of Jericho by Pip Williams, 7.30pm in the Crypt

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

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.

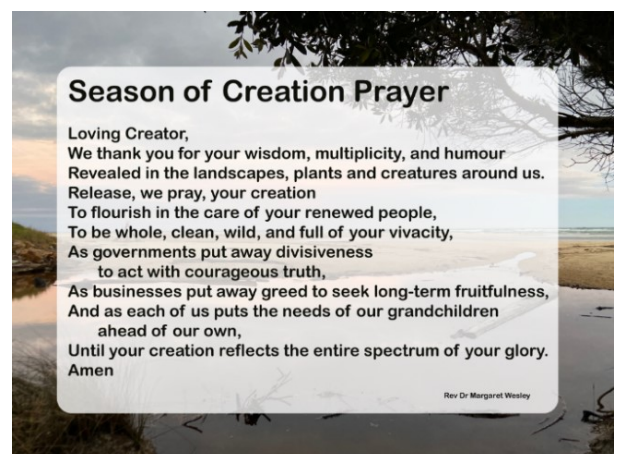
Bible Study and Morning Prayer every Wednesday morning during school terms. **Prayer** from 9:05am and **Bible Study** from 9.45. Everyone welcome!

Would you like to get more involved? If you have any ideas for events or activities you would like to organise at St Paul's, please get in touch with Rev Margaret.

For your prayers

Clinton, Melissa, Sue, Anne, 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.

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



It is the responsibility of each adult Australian to decide how they will vote in the upcoming referendum. As an organisation, the Anglican Church of Southern Queensland supports an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Australian constitution. Find out why here: <https://anglicanfocus.org.au/tag/first-nations-voice>

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