

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

PENTECOST 24, 2023

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

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.

Acknowledgement of Country

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Amos 5:24

**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,
whose fire of love
never goes out:



free us from
the fear of scarcity
that keeps us out
of love's own feast;
renew our trust
in your abundance
which knows no death
and keeps no count;
through Jesus Christ, the oil of gladness. **Amen.**

Amos 5: 18–24

- ¹⁸ Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD !
Why do you want the day of the LORD ?
It is darkness, not light;
¹⁹ as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.
²⁰ Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
²¹ I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
²² Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
²⁴ But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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 78: 1-7

- ¹ Give heed to my teaching, O my people:
incline your ears to the words of my mouth;
² For I will open my mouth in a parable:
and expound the mysteries of former times.
³ What we have heard and known:
what our forebears have told us,
⁴ We will not hide from their children,
but declare to a generation yet to come:
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
his mighty and wonderful works.
⁵ The Lord established a law in Jacob
and made a decree in Israel:
which our ancestors were commanded
to teach their children,
⁶ That future generations might know,
and those yet unborn:

that they in turn might teach it to their children;

⁷ So that they might put their confidence in God:

and not forget God's works, but keep God's commandments,

1 Thessalonians 4: 9–18

⁹ Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another; ¹⁰ and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, ¹¹ to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, ¹² so that you may behave properly towards outsiders and be dependent on no one. ¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

Song: Faith Will Not Grow from Words Alone (TiS 691)

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 25, beginning at verse 1

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 25: 1–13

¹ 'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." ⁷ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." ⁹ But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." ¹⁰ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." ¹² But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." ¹³ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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 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.
Silence may be kept

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.**

Exchange a sign of peace.

Song: I Will Raise You up (TiS 48)

*The collection bowl will be passed around during this song to support the ministry of St Paul's.
Most members give electronically through their bank, instead. 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.

For the safety of all in the community we ask you to:

- *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: O Jesus I have promised (TiS 595) to THORNBURY (15)

Please stand and turn to face the back for the blessing

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 9am service!

Upcoming events

A REMINDER: November is Goodna Pantry Month! Please leave donations at the back of the church or drop them off to the office during office hours.

Sat 18 Nov **Deanery Visioning Day** – for ALL of us to consider how we might work together to serve our communities more effectively than we can alone. Please sign up to attend via this link - <https://acsq.wufoo.com/forms/x1ereghv19ttsoz/>

24-26 Nov **Northern Region Lay Retreat** (Silent Retreat) – Auchenflower, Facilitator: Dr Patrick Oliver. For further details and booking: neridamurray@me.com



Scam alert: Please 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? 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

Caroline M (thanks for successful shoulder surgery), Elizabeth T (recovery from surgery for a broken ankle), Bernie, Ofa, Rebekah, Clinton, Melissa, Sue J, Anne (Sue's daughter), Angela, Liam, Margaret S and family. We give thanks for the continuing recovery of Revd Jack, Avril and Sam.

Rev Jack and Rev Kathy and the Everton Park Congregation, Revd Sue and the Goonaneman Parish and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh

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.

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