

UNARMED on History's Battlefield

Palm Sunday

St Paul's, Ashgrove

Rev Dr Margaret Wesley

The Congregation gathers outside, near the entrance.

The King has arrived!

Humble and riding on a donkey

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone! This is the Lord's doing and is marvellous in our eyes!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest**

The Lord be with you And also with you

All hold up their palms for blessing.

God of victory in defeat,
God of salvation in suffering
God whose reigns upholds all who are rejected,
impoverished and exploited,
Bless, we pray, these symbols of your fragile yet life-giving creation.
May they be for us signs of the suffering and victory of your Son.
May we who carry them in his name follow him as king,
on the road that leads through death to life eternal. Amen

The Procession

Let's proceed in peace, in joy and in awe. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest, (2X) Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise, Be exalted, O Lord, our God,

Hosanna in the highest!

Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings! (2X) Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise, Be exalted, O Lord our God, Glory to the King of kings!

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the King of kings! (2X) Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise, Be exalted, O Lord our God, Jesus is the King of kings! (Repeat if necessary until all are seated)

Acknowledgement of Country

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.

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning God wakens— wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸the one who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

Psalm 118: 1-2; 19-29

¹ Give thanks to the Lord who is good;

the mercy of the Lord endures for ever

² Let Israel now proclaim:

"The mercy of the Lord endures for ever"

¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness;

I will enter them;

I will offer thanks to the Lord.

²⁰ "This is the gate of the Lord;

Those who are righteous may enter."

- ²¹ I will give thanks to the Lord who answered me and has become my salvation.
- ²² The same stone which the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This is the Lord's doing,

and it is marvellous in our eyes.

²⁴ On this day that the Lord has acted;

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ Hosannah, Lord, hosannah!

Lord, send us now success.

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷ God is the Lord and has shined upon us;

Form a procession with branches up to the horns of the alter.

²⁸ You are my God and I will thank you;

you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹ Give thanks to the Lord who is good:

the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.

Philippians 2: 5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

Song: The King of Glory Comes (TiS 279)

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 12 beginning at verse 12. Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 12: 12-19

¹² The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord -

the King of Israel!'

- ¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:
- ¹⁵ 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,

sitting on a donkey's colt!'

¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. ¹⁷ So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. ¹⁸ It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. ¹⁹ The Pharisees then said to one another, 'You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!'

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

Sermon – https://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 Marv 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.

Monarch of gentleness and humility,
Servant of all people and
Shepherd of all creation,
We welcome your loving authority;
We receive your life-giving service;
We submit to your generous leadership
And long, with all creation for the day when
Every knee will bend to you:
All weapon abandoned,
All enmity forgotten,
And every sin and failure left behind

As all humanity matures into your image. Amen.

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 seeks truth and love in our inner being, in our relationships, And in all the institutions of our world.

Silence

Let us then return to the one who made and loves us, Asking for a clean heart and a new spirit, For ourselves, for the church and for the world.

When power demands submission instead of offering service,

Lord, have mercy.

When innocence is met by cruelty,

Christ, have mercy.

Whenever gatekeepers bar the entry of Christ,

Lord, have mercy.

When religious enthusiasm exceeds faithful devotion,

Lord, have mercy.

When faith leaders are forced to make impossible choices,

Christ, have mercy.

Wherever fear makes hearts grow cold,

Lord, have mercy.

When we keep a safe distance from the suffering of others,

Lord, have mercy.

When our confidence is based on mob consensus instead of on the truth,

Christ, have mercy.

Whenever we worship with our lips and not our lives,

Lord, have mercy.

In your mercy, turn us from the path of destruction, And return us to the path of life. 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.

Song: Hail to the Lord's Anointed (TiS 275)

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

...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.

... As we sing 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, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...in songs of never-ending praise:

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 in remembrance that Christ 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 (ie do not dip the bread in the wine)
- Take wine only if you are free from symptoms and from anxiety about drinking from the common cup. Be assured that Christ is present in you and for you as you receive the bread alone.

...In the footsteps of Christ. Amen
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: All Glory, Praise and Honour (TiS 333)

Please stand and turn to face the back for the blessing

As you shout praises to your king May you hear around you

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 9/8.30am service!

Upcoming events

TODAY 7:30 & 9am Palm Sunday

Mon 25 March Book Club in the Crypt, 7.30pm. All are welcome. The current book is The

Temptation of Gracie by Santa Montefiore

Tue 26 March 7.00pm Chrism Eucharist, St John's Cathedral

Thu 28 March **6pm Maundy Thursday** meal and foot-washing, followed by Eucharist.

Fri 29 March 8:30am Good Friday service

Sat 30 March 7pm Easter Vigil

Sun 31 March 8:30am Easter Celebration

Fri 6 April Taize (6pm in the church) followed by

Fish & Chips – RSVP to Rev Pam or

John Hynd

Sat 27 April The Westside Orchestra presents 'An

Afternoon at the Movies', 5pm with High Tea afterwards (\$10/person)

THE WESTSIDE DACHESTRA PRESENTS

AN AFTERNOON

AT THE MOVIES

SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2024
STF ABUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH ASHGROVE
SPM
ADMISSION: \$10 INCLUDING HIGH TEA AFTERWARDS

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!

For your prayers

James and his family, Georgia, Maureen M, Damien, Sylvia, Baskaran, Liam and Mark (and their parents, Desley and Bob), Ofa and Rebekah, Clinton, Sue J, Angela. Cherilee recovering from surgery. We hold in our prayers Wayne, Noel, Joy who are at home or in a nursing home.

We give thanks for the continuing restored health of Rev Jack and Sam.

We also give thanks for Rev Jack and Rev Kathy in their ministry to several parishes, especially the Everton Park Congregation, Rev Sue and the Goonaneman Parish and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh.

We give thanks for the lives of Peter and Alec, and pray for their families in their time of grief.

Contact: Rev Dr Margaret Wesley, priest@stpaulsashgrove.org.au, 0424 214 924. Rev Margaret's day off is Thursday. Parish Office, parish.office@stpaulsashgrove.org.au, 07 3366 2320 (open Wed and Fri mornings).

Palm Sunday at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Including the BAPTISM of Carter and Sophia O'Toole

Parents:
Emma Herron and Jason O'Toole
Godparents:
Sarah Cohen and Aaron Doyle

The Congregation gathers outside, near the entrance.

The King has arrived!

Humble and riding on a donkey

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone!

This is the Lord's doing and is marvellous in our eyes!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest

The Lord be with you

And also with you

All hold up their palms for blessing.

Let's proceed in peace, in joy and in awe. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest, (2X) Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise, Be exalted, O Lord, our God, Hosanna in the highest!

Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings! (2X) Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise, Be exalted, O Lord our God, Glory to the King of kings!

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the King of kings! (2X) Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise, Be exalted, O Lord our God, Jesus is the King of kings! (Repeat if necessary until all are seated)

Welcoming of Carter and Sophia O'Toole for baptism

Acknowledgement of Country

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Christ, have mercy.
Whenever gatekeepers bar the entry of Christ,



Lord, have mercy.

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Lord, have mercy.

When faith leaders are forced to make impossible choices,

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Isaiah 50: 4-9a

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the mercy of the Lord endures for ever

² Let Israel now proclaim:

"The mercy of the Lord endures for ever"

¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness;

I will enter them;

I will offer thanks to the Lord.

²⁰ "This is the gate of the Lord;

Those who are righteous may enter."

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and has become my salvation.

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has become the chief cornerstone.

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We will rejoice and be glad in it.

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Lord, send us now success.

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We bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷ God is the Lord and has shined upon us;

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Look, your king is coming,

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This is the Gospel of the Lord: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

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

We welcome Carter and Sophia to be baptised. I invite their Godparents to present them now. We present Carter Albert and Sophia Mary O'Toole to be baptised.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Carter and Sophia for baptism? I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of Carter and Sophia?

I am.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage Carter and Sophia 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 Carter and Sophia may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in them. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in them. **Amen.**

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

May they know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May they 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 **Carter and Sophia** to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that those who are baptised in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May they 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.

Carter Albert, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sophia Mary, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Carter and Sophia, 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.

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.

Song: Hail to the Lord's Anointed (TiS 275)

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...and for 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 sing 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, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

...in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour 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.

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:

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...In the footsteps of Christ. Amen
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: All Glory, Praise and Honour (TiS 333)

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

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Fish & Chips – RSVP to Rev Pam or

John Hynd

Sat 27 April The Westside Orchestra presents 'An

Afternoon at the Movies', 5pm with High Tea afterwards (\$10/person)

THE WESTSIDE ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

AN AFTERNOON

AT THE MOVIES

SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2024
ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH ASHGROVE
SPM
ADMISSION: \$10 INCLUDING HIGH TEA AFTERWARDS

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!

For your prayers

James and his family, Georgia, Maureen M, Damien, Sylvia, Baskaran, Liam and Mark (and their parents, Desley and Bob), Ofa and Rebekah, Clinton, Sue J, Angela. Cherilee recovering from surgery. We hold in our prayers Wayne, Noel, Joy who are at home or in a nursing home.

We give thanks for the continuing restored health of Rev Jack and Sam.

We also give thanks for Rev Jack and Rev Kathy in their ministry to several parishes, especially the Everton Park Congregation, Rev Sue and the Goonaneman Parish and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh.

We give thanks for the lives of Peter and Alec, and pray for their families in their time of grief.

Contact: Rev Dr Margaret Wesley, priest@stpaulsashgrove.org.au, 0424 214 924. Rev Margaret's day off is Thursday. Parish Office, parish.office@stpaulsashgrove.org.au, 07 3366 2320 (open Wed and Fri mornings).