



## St John the Divine

### Eucharist Service

## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020

Welcome to our live-streamed service, linked from our parish website: [www.stjohndivine.org.au](http://www.stjohndivine.org.au)

### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.**

#### Sentence

Martha said, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

*John 11.27*

Hymn: *Glorious things of you are spoken*  
by John Newton (1725-1807) alt. - tune: *Austria*  
© 1999, The Australian Hymn Book Co. Pty Ltd.,  
CCL No 632290

- 1. Glorious things of you are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God:  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed you for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake your sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
you may smile at all your foes.**
- 2. See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply your sons and daughters  
and all fear of want remove:  
who can faint while such a river  
ever flows their thirst to assuage -  
grace, which like the Lord the giver  
never fails from age to age?**
- 3. Blest inhabitants of Zion,  
washed in their Redeemer's blood:  
Jesus, whom their souls rely on,  
makes them kings and priests to God.  
For his love his people raises  
over self to reign as kings,  
and as priests, his solemn praises  
each for a thank-offering brings.**
- 4. Saviour, since of Zion's city  
I, through grace, a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in your name:  
fading are the worldling's pleasures,  
all their boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasures  
none but Zion's children know.**

### PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

We have too often failed to respond to Christ's call to live his way of sacrificial love, fearing the cost and being blind to the blessing. As we prepare to offer thanks and praise for that love shown to us, let us call to mind our sins.

*Silence is kept.*

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love: fill us with your Spirit.

Lord have mercy

**Lord have mercy**

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:

fill us with your Spirit.

Christ have mercy

**Christ have mercy**

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust: fill us with your Spirit.

Lord have mercy

**Lord have mercy**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### GLORIA AND COLLECT

**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.**

Let us pray.

O God, fount of all wisdom, in the humble witness of the apostle Peter you have shown the foundation of our faith: give us the light of your Spirit, that, recognising in Jesus of Nazareth the Son of the living God, we may be living stones for the building up of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*While there are Psalms and other Scripture passages that describe God or Jesus as being the rock on which our faith is founded, in today's readings from Isaiah and Matthew it is the faith of people like Abraham and Sarah, and the faith of disciples like Peter that are described as rock-like. Hence the call, through today's Collect, for us to be 'living stones for the building up of [God's] holy Church'.*

First reading - from the Old Testament

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah 51.1–6:

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;

for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.

For the Lord will comfort Zion;

he will comfort all her waste places,  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the Lord;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
my salvation has gone out  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats;  
but my salvation will be for ever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

May your word live in us  
**And bear much fruit to your glory.**

Gospel reading

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St  
Matthew 16.13–20

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea  
Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that  
the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the  
Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one  
of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say  
that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah,  
the Son of the living God.' 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. 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. 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.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples  
not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

*Sermon*

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,  
who made and loves all that is.  
We believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was born, lived, died and rose again,  
and is coming to call all to account.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,  
and brings all things to their true end.**

This is our faith, the faith of the Church:

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*Response:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith  
we may by your grace receive,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are all one in Christ Jesus.

We belong to him through faith,  
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Hymn: Lord, you are the light of life to me  
by Brian Richard Hoare (b.1935) - tune: Fairmead  
© Hope Publishing Co., CCL No 632290

- 1. Lord, you are the light of life to me;  
when darkness hides my path, you help me  
see.  
Shine on me, O Lord, that now and all my days  
your light may lead me on, guiding my ways.**
- 2. Lord, you are the rock on which I stand,  
stable and strong in you, held by your hand;  
keep me safe, O Lord, in weakness let there be  
your loving, firm embrace upholding me.**
- 3. Lord, you are the truth that sets me free;  
only in you is found true liberty.  
Teach me then, O Lord, in all things to pursue  
your good and perfect will, growing like you.**
- 4. Lord, you are the Lamb of God who died,  
suffering for love of me, scorned, crucified.  
Love me still, O Lord, let others daily see  
your selfless, serving love flowing through me.**
- 5. Lord, you are the King who ever reigns;  
earth's rulers rise and fall: your throne remains.  
Rule my life, O Lord, I yield myself anew  
your name to glorify, living for you.**

Blessed be God,  
by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened,  
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary  
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross  
and rising to new life,  
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,  
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

And now we give you thanks  
because you reveal your divine truth  
to those who search,  
that we can proclaim Jesus your Son  
as our anointed Saviour.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:  
**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.**

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

As this broken bread was once many grains  
which have been gathered together and made one  
bread:

**so may your Church be gathered  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

**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 body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for  
you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.  
Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for  
you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with  
thanksgiving. **Amen.**

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for  
you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.  
Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed  
for you, and be thankful. **Amen.**

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for feeding us  
with the spiritual food of the body and blood  
of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Thank you for assuring us of your goodness and love,  
and that we are living members of Christ's body.

Father,  
**we offer ourselves to you  
as a living sacrifice  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Hymn: God of grace and God of glory  
by Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969) - tune: Regent Square  
©1999, The Australian Hymn Book Co. Pty Ltd.,  
CCL No 632290

- 1. God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your power;  
now fulfil your Church's story,  
bring the bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom,  
grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour.**
- 2. See the hosts of evil round us  
scorn your Christ, assail his ways.  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom,  
grant us courage,  
for the living of these days.**
- 3. Cure your children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom,  
grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**
- 4. Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom,  
grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore.**

#### BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The love of the Lord Jesus  
draw you to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus  
strengthen you in his service,  
the joy of the Lord Jesus  
fill your hearts;  
and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and those whom you love and pray for,  
now and always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

#### Permissions

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#### NOTICES

*Under the **Stage 4 Covid-19 regulations**, please note that no one is currently permitted to be in the church at all, except for some very specific, officially permitted reasons, such as the live-streamed Sunday service. Not even for admin, cleaning or planned maintenance.*

*If anyone needs to come on site for any reason, then you have to be given written permission by Fr John beforehand - otherwise both you and the parish would be liable for large fines.*

***The Dining Room Mission (TDRM)** is an essential service and continues to operate throughout the COVID19 crisis, providing takeaway meals from Vive Cafe where strict social distancing rules can be enforced.*

*The St John's TDRM team provided another lovely meal on Tuesday last week. Thanks to the cooks for this month, approximately 50+ takeaway meals were handed out and there was also enough to provide the dessert for this Tuesday coming.*

*TDRM has always been about much more than just supplying food, so it was wonderful for us to be able to also hand out colourful home-made scarves as part of our church's contribution.*

*Although the number of people we can have at the venue is currently limited by the COVID situation, the parishioners' ongoing support for this ministry (whether it is cooking, serving, washing dishes, praying, knitting, cleaning up, or helping with transport, etc.) is greatly appreciated.*

*Our **weekly newsletter** is being distributed via email or post, to every household. This has detailed news, and includes the readings, sermon, and some prayers. If you are a member of the parish and are not yet receiving this directly - or would like to become a member in order to receive it - please contact me directly, or through the parish office at office@stjohndivine.org.au*

***Offertory:** Thank you to all those who are managing to send their offertories to the Parish Office, or directly into the parish bank account: 'St John's - general account' BSB: 033044 Account: 251582*