



St John the Divine

Eucharist Service

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 30th August 2020

Welcome to our live-streamed service, linked from our parish website: 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

If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow him.

Matthew 16.24–25

Hymn: Take my life, and let it be

by Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-79) alt. - tune: Nottingham

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CCL No 632290

1. Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.
3. Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.
4. Take my silver and my gold,
nothing, Lord, would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.
5. Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.
6. Take my love: my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

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,

whose Son has shown the way of the cross to be the way of life:

transform and renew our minds

that we may not be conformed to this world

but may offer ourselves wholly to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Saviour;

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The words from Jeremiah's prophecy provide an evocative context for the emotional reaction that Jesus makes to Peter in the Gospel reading. Jesus verbally pushes away the temptation that Peter names, of avoiding the pain and shame of the cross. Both Jeremiah and Jesus acknowledge the cost of integrity.

First reading - from the Old Testament

A reading from the prophecy of Jeremiah 15.15–21:

O Lord, you know;

remember me and visit me,

and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;

know that on your account I suffer insult.

Your words were found, and I ate them,

and your words became to me a joy

and the delight of my heart;

for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.
I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the Lord:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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 16.21-28

Glorify to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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.
And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him,
saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to
you.' 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.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my
followers, let them deny themselves and take up their
cross and follow me. For those who want to save their
life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake
will find it. 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?

'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. 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.'

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

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God
in one body by the cross.

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

Hymn: 'Take up your cross,' the Saviour said
by Charles William Everest (1814-77) alt. - tune: Breslau
© 1999, The Australian Hymn Book Co. Pty Ltd.,
CCL No 632290

- 1. 'Take up your cross,' the Saviour said,
'if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart
and humbly follow after me.'**
- 2. Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.**
- 3. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
and let your foolish price be still:
your Lord refused not e'en to die
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.**
- 4. Take up your cross, then, in his strength
and calmly every danger brave;
it guides you to a better home
and leads to victory o'er the grave.**
- 5. Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

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 became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.

He offered the one true sacrifice for sin,
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

The tree of defeat became the tree of victory;
where life was lost, there life has been restored.

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.

Most merciful God, you have restored us to life
by the triumphant death of Jesus, your Son.
Continue his healing work within us
that all who participate in this communion
may give themselves wholly to your service.

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: When pain and terror strike by chance
by Brian Arthur Wren (b.1936) - tune: Kingsfold
© 1993, Hope Publishing Co., CCL No 632290

1. **When pain and terror strike by chance,
with causes unexplained,
when God seems absent or asleep,
and evil unrestrained,
we crave an all-controlling force
ready to rule and warn,
but find, far-shadowed by a cross,
a child in weakness born.**
2. **We marvel at God's nakedness
and sense the play of chance
in Herod's anger, Peter's growth,
and Pilate's troubled glance.
Our Saviour's tempted, tested way
never was cut and dried,
but costly, risking life and love,
betrayed and crucified.**
3. **How deep the Wisdom of our God,
how weak, but truly wise,
to risk, to sacrifice, to die,
and from the grave arise,
to shed the shroud of death and fate,
freeing our hearts for good.
We breathe the ample air of hope
and take our chance with God.**
4. **Since Wisdom took its chance on earth,
to show God's living way,
we'll trust that fear and force will fail,
and Wisdom win the day.
Then come, dear Christ, and hold us fast
when faith and hope are torn,
and bring us, in your loving arms,
to resurrection morn.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself,
that you may find in him crucified
a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sin forgiven;
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.

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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.

*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*