



St John the Divine
Eucharist Service
21st Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday 25th October 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

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Matthew 22.37-40

Hymn: This is my will, my one command

by James Quinn (b.1919) - tune: Suantraí

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- 1. 'This is my will, my one command,
that love should dwell among you all.
This is my will, that you should love
as I have shown that I love you.**
- 2. No greater love can be than this:
to choose to die to save one's friends.
You are my friends if you obey
what I command that you should do.**
- 3. I call you now no longer slaves;
no slave knows all his master does.
I call you friends, for all I hear
my Father say you hear from me.**
- 4. You chose not me, but I chose you,
that you should go and bear much fruit.
I chose you out that you in me
should bear much fruit that will abide.**
- 5. All that you ask my Father dear
for my name's sake you shall receive.
This is my will, my one command,
that love should dwell in each, in all.'**

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 taught us

that love is the fulfilment of your law:
stir up within us the fire of your Holy Spirit,
and pour into our hearts your greatest gift of love,
so that we may love you with our whole being,
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The first reading reminds us that the Old Testament in our Bible was the scripture that informed Jesus and other rabbis, and the Pharisees and Sadducees, of what God's word and will was, with regard to people's attitude and behaviour. And the Gospel reading shows us that so often Jesus was not always preaching something new, but rather reminding people to act on knowledge they already had.

First reading - from the Old Testament

A reading from the book Leviticus 19.1-2, 15-18

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. You shall not go around

as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbour: I am the Lord. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.

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 22.34-46

Glorify to you Lord Jesus Christ.

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet' "?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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: *As the deer pants for the water*
by Martin Nystrom (b.1956) - tune: *As the deer pants*
© Restoration Music Ltd, CCL No 632290

- 1. As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**
- 2. I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.
You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**
- 3. You're my friend and you are my brother,
even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.
You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship 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 inspire us
to respond to the love that you give us
by loving you in return
and by sharing that love with others.
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: Christ's is the world

by John Bell (b.1949) & Graham Maule (b.1958)

tune: Dream Angus

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- 1. Christ's is the world in which we move;
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love;
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,
and Christ is the one who meets us here.
To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends,
a touching place.**

2. **Feel for the people we most avoid
strange or bereaved or never employed.
Feel for the women and feel for the men
who fear that their living is all in vain.
To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends,
a touching place.**
3. **Feel for the parents who've lost their child,
feel for the women whom men have defiled,
feel for the baby for whom there's no breast,
and feel for the weary who find no rest.
To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends,
a touching place.**
4. **Feel for the lives by life confused,
riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,
which longs to be pure but fears to begin.
To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends,
a touching place.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among 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, except for some very specific, officially permitted reasons, such as the live-streamed Sunday service.*

If anyone needs to come on site for any reason, then you have to be given written permission by Fr John beforehand.

*The Parish's **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for 2pm Sunday 29th November. **Nominations** are called for the electable positions of churchwarden, parish councillor, and incumbency committee member, to be emailed or posted to Fr John by 1st November.*

*Applications to be put on the **Electoral Roll** need to also be received by 1st November.*

*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*

The latest issue has the details about how to nominate, and how to apply for being included in the electoral roll.

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*