



**St John the Divine**  
*Eucharist service*  
**9th Sunday after Pentecost**  
25<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**WELCOME!**

*Welcome to our worship and community life at St John the Divine, and 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

'I am the living bread that came down from heaven,' says the Lord. 'Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

*John 6.51*

Hymn: *O God beyond all praising*

*Michael Perry (1942-96) - tune: Thaxted*

© Mrs B Perry/Jubilate Hymns, CCL No 632290

- 1. O God beyond all praising,**  
we worship you today  
and sing the love amazing  
that songs cannot repay;  
for we can only wonder  
at every gift you send,  
at blessings without number  
and mercies without end:  
we lift our hearts before you  
and wait upon your word,  
we honour and adore you,  
our great and mighty Lord.
- 2. Then hear, O gracious Saviour,**  
accept the love we bring,  
that we who know your favour  
may serve you as our king;  
and whether our tomorrows  
be filled with good or ill,  
we'll triumph through our sorrows  
and rise to bless you still:  
to marvel at your beauty  
and glory in your ways,  
and make a joyful duty  
our sacrifice of praise.

**PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

My sisters and brothers,  
as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ  
in word and sacrament,  
let us call to mind and confess our sins.

*Silence is kept.*

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are everlasting.

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy**

Remember not the sins of my youth  
or my transgressions,  
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,  
according to your steadfast love.

Christ, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

O keep my soul and deliver me;  
let me not be put to shame,  
for I have put my trust in you.

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.

Gracious God,

you have placed within the hearts of all your children  
a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth:

grant that, believing in the one whom you have sent,  
we may know him to be the true bread of heaven

and the food of eternal life,

Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be glory and  
honour for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St John 6.1-21

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also  
called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following  
him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for  
the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there  
with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the  
Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large  
crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where  
are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said  
this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going

to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.' When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Hymn: Come, Holy Spirit, Lord of grace

*Charles Coffin (1676-1749) tr. John Chandler (1806-76) alt.*

*tune: Tallis' Ordinal © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290*

1. **Come, Holy Spirit, Lord of grace,  
eternal fount of love,  
inflame, we pray, our inmost hearts  
with fire from heaven above.**
2. **As you in bonds of love unite  
the Father and the Son,  
so fill us all with mutual love  
and knit our hearts in one.**
3. **With all the saints - in heaven, on earth -  
our hymns to you we raise:  
to God the Father, God the Son  
and God the Spirit, praise!**

A reading from the letter to the church in Ephesus, chapter 3.

God's Secret Plan Unveiled at Last\*

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy

apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power.

Wisdom for the Rulers

Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. I pray therefore that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory.

God's Love, God's Power – In Us

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

May your word live in us,

**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

(\* The section titles are those given by Bishop Tom Wright in 'Paul for Everyone: The prison letters - Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon')

*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: *Christ is the heavenly food*

*Timothy Rees (1874-1939) - tune: Soll's Sein*

© *The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999,*  
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**1. Christ is the heavenly food that gives  
to every famished soul  
new life and strength, new joy and hope,  
and faith to make them whole.**

**We all are made for God alone,  
without him we are dead;  
no food suffices for the soul  
but Christ, the living bread.**

**2. Christ is the unity that binds  
in one the near and far;  
for we who share his life divine,  
his living body are:  
on earth, and in the realms beyond,  
one fellowship are we;  
and at his table we are knit  
in mystic unity.**

Wise and gracious God,  
you spread a table before us;  
nourish your people with the word of life  
and the bread of heaven.

**Amen.**

#### 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 thanks and praise, glory and honour,  
be yours at all times, in every place,  
holy and loving Father, true and living God.

We praise you that through your eternal Word  
you brought the universe into being  
and made us in your own image.

You have given us this earth to care for and delight in,  
and with its bounty you preserve our life.

We thank you that you bound yourself to the human race  
with the promises of a gracious covenant  
and called us to serve you in love and peace.

Above all, we give you thanks for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ:  
born as one of us, he lived our common life  
and offered his life to you  
in perfect obedience and trust.

By his death he delivered us from sin,  
brought us new life,  
and reconciled us to you and to one another.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
with apostles, and prophets,  
with holy women and men of every age,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name:

**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.**

Holy God, we thank you

for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine,  
and we pray that we who eat and drink them  
in obedience to our Saviour Christ,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
may be partakers of his body and blood,  
and be made one with him and with each other  
in peace and love.

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.

As we eat and drink this holy sacrament,  
renew us by your Spirit  
that we may be united in the body of your Son  
and serve you as a royal priesthood  
in the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Receive our praises, Father,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom and in whom,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you 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.**

#### SENDING OUT GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray.  
Gracious God,  
we thank you that in this sacrament  
you assure us of your goodness and love.  
Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving  
and help us to grow in love and obedience  
that we may serve you in the world  
and finally be brought to that table  
where all your saints feast with you for ever.

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: Lord of the Church

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) - tune: Londonderry Air*  
© Hope Publishing Co, 1999, CCL No 632290

- 1. Lord of the Church, we pray for our renewing:**  
Christ over all, our undivided aim.  
Fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduing,  
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!  
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,  
the will that lacks the courage to be free,  
the weary labours, all but unavailing,  
to bring us nearer what a church should be.
- 2. Lord of the Church, we seek a Father's blessing,**  
a true repentance and a faith restored,  
a swift obedience and a new possessing,  
filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!  
We turn to Christ from all our restless striving,  
unnumbered voices with a single prayer:  
the living water for our souls' reviving,  
in Christ to live, and love and serve and care.
- 3. Lord of the Church, we long for our uniting,**  
true to one calling, by one vision stirred;  
one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,  
one in the truth of Jesus and his word.  
So lead us on; till toil and trouble ended,  
one church triumphant one new song shall sing,  
to praise his glory, risen and ascended,  
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

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 remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

#### Permissions

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## NOTICES

### THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

- Sun 25<sup>th</sup> July 9th Sunday after Pentecost  
10am Eucharist - *live-stream only*
- Mon 26<sup>th</sup> July -
- Tue 27<sup>th</sup> July 5.30pm *community meal: TDRM*  
7pm *Kindergarten Com. via Zoom*  
7.30pm *Vestry via Zoom*
- Note: if the current lockdown extends, the events marked \* below will not take place**
- Wed 28<sup>th</sup> July 10am \*Eucharist  
5.30pm *community meal: Winter Shelter*  
7.30pm \*NA meeting  
7.30pm MAT meeting
- Thu 29<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am \*AA meeting  
10am \*Taralla aged care visit  
7.30pm \*AA meeting
- Fri 30<sup>th</sup> July Vicar's day off  
2pm Barbara Mills memorial service  
7.30pm \*AI Anon meeting
- Sat 31<sup>st</sup> July 7am \*AA meeting  
11am \*Focus on Faith & Friendship group  
7pm \*Lai Christian Church service
- Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 10th Sunday after Pentecost  
8am \*Eucharist  
10am Eucharist  
8pm \*AA meeting

### Sermon Series: Ephesians

*As we are engaging with the entire text, rather than just select passages, we are omitting the usual Old Testament and Psalm readings during this time.*

*It is traditional that the Gospel reading is never omitted, and so this will remain, even though it won't be addressed in the sermons.*

- |                         |                                       |                          |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 11 <sup>th</sup> July   | Eph 1                                 | God chooses us           |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> July   | Eph 2                                 | One in Christ            |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> July   | Eph 3                                 | The grace of the Gospel  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> August  | Eph 4.1-24                            | Unity in the body        |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> August  | Eph 4.25-5.20                         | Rules for the new life   |
| -----                   |                                       |                          |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> August | Mary, Mother of our Lord (see notice) |                          |
| -----                   |                                       |                          |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> August | Eph 5.21-6.9                          | Be subject to each other |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> August | Eph 6.10-24                           | The armour of God        |

### Barbara Mills' memorial service

*A decision will be made regarding Elizabeth's mother's service, once we have clarity about the Covid regulations that will apply on Friday.*

*Currently only 10 mourners are allowed to attend, which is not enough to allow for all of Barbara's immediate family. However, 30th July is also the first anniversary of her passing, from the coronavirus.*

*We pray for the family in this frustrating situation.*

### 15 August: Feast of Mary, Mother of our Lord

*We are combining some activities on this Sunday. There will be one Parish Service at 10am. This will be followed by a Statutory Parish Meeting as detailed below. We will then hopefully enjoy a parish luncheon together - details to be advised.*

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*The Parish Governance Act (2013) (PGA) provides the regulations for each parish to be governed. Schedule 1 of the PGA provides the Parish Rules for Meetings and Officers.*

*The default option for rule 10 currently applies to St John's parish council, namely:*

10. Parish council
- 10.1 The parish council consists of—
  - (a) the vicar;
  - (b) three churchwardens; and
  - (c) 2 other persons, one-third nominated by the vicar and two-thirds elected by the parishioners.

*Our parish council has decided to put the following permitted alternative to a Statutory Parish Meeting for a decision through debate and a vote:*

- G.2 Alternative to rule 10.1 (b) and (c)
  - (b) three churchwardens; and
  - (c) 6 other persons, one-third nominated by the vicar and two-thirds elected by the parishioners.

*Note that no parish council can formally change its own numbers. Since the parish council is the legislated representative body of the whole parish, it is the whole parish (or quorum thereof) that must decide.*

*The motion to be voted on is:*

*"That the parish adopts the G.2 alternative in Schedule 1 of the Parish Governance Act, changing the number of 'other persons' on the parish council from nine to six."*

### Maintenance updates

*The hot water service for the Fellowship Room kitchen has been replaced, as the old one was leaking and irreparable.*

*The vestry/sacristy door has been re-secured temporarily with a new lock. For practical reasons this has a different key to the previous lock, and so those who need access to the vestry/sacristy need to arrange to sign the key register and receive the new key.*