



St John the Divine

Eucharist service

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

24th October 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

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

Sentence

The redeemed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.

Isaiah 51.11

Hymn: Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour
George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925) alt. - tune: St Helen
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- 1. Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
glorious first-born from the dead,
you alone our strong defender,
lifting up your people's head:
alleluia, alleluia,
Jesus, true and living bread.**
- 2. Prince of life, for us now living,
by your body souls are healed;
Prince of peace, your pardon giving,
by your blood our peace is sealed.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Word of God in flesh revealed.**
- 3. Paschal Lamb, your offering, finished
once for all when you were slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
alleluia, alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.**
- 4. Great High Priest of our profession
through the veil you entered in;
by your mighty intercession
grace and mercy there to win:
alleluia, alleluia,
only sacrifice for sin.**
- 5. Life-imparting heavenly manna,
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship you, the Lamb who died,
alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!**

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.

In a dark and disfigured world
we have not held out the light of life:
Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

In a hungry and despairing world
we have failed to share our bread:
Christ, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

In a cold and loveless world
we have kept the love of God to ourselves:
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,

you give light to the blind and comfort to the sorrowing,
and in your Son you have given us

a High Priest who has offered the true sacrifice for us
and yet can sympathise with us in our weakness:

hear the cry of your people

and lead us home to our true country,

where with your Son and the Holy Spirit

you live and reign, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 7.21–28

But this one became a priest with an oath, because of
the one who said to him,

‘The Lord has sworn

and will not change his mind,

“You are a priest for ever” ’ —

accordingly Jesus has also become the guarantee of a
better covenant.

Furthermore, the former priests were many in number,
because they were prevented by death from continuing
in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently,

because he continues for ever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever.

May your word live in us,
and bear much fruit to your glory.

Hymn: Once priest followed priest
John Campbell - tune: The Bard Of Armagh
© Kevin Mayhew Ltd, 2016, CCL No 632290

- 1. Once priest followed priest
bringing numberless off'rings,
seeking that these might
atone for our sin;
they held to the hope
that this animal slaughter
might open the heavens,
and make a way in.**
- 2. But now God's own Son
brings dependable rescue,
curing our failure
and quelling our fear;
by off'ring no off'ring
except his own dying,
this one perfect priest
rescues all, far and near!**
- 3. So, now, we must join
in a great celebration,
joying to share
in what Jesus has done;
live lives effervescing
with kindness and justice
that prove we've been freed
by the grace of God's Son!**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
St Mark 10.46–52

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

They came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him,

'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

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 our God, 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

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
since as members of one body you are called to peace.
cf Colossians 3.15

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

Hymn: We cannot measure how you heal
John Bell (b.1949) & Graham Maule (b.1958)
tune: Ye Banks And Braes

© Wild Goose Resource Group, 1989, CCL No 632290

- 1. We cannot measure how you heal
or answer every sufferer's prayer,
yet we believe your grace responds
where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,
survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life
and cradle children yet unborn.**
- 2. The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long past,
the fear of what the future holds
are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside,
the memories that haunt the mind.**

**3. So some have come who need your help
and some have come to make amends,
as hands which shaped and saved the world
are present in the touch of friends.
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here
to mend the body, mind, and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain,
and make your broken people whole.**

The altar is prepared.

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: *You servants of God*

Charles Wesley (1707-88) - tune: Laudate Dominum
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- 1. You servants of God,
your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad
his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious
of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious,
and rules over all.**
- 2. God rules in the height,
almighty to save;
though hid from our sight,
his presence we have;
the great congregation
his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation
to Jesus our King.**
- 3. "Salvation to God,
who sits on the throne!"
let all cry aloud,
and honour the Son:
the praises of Jesus
the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces
and worship the Lamb.**

- 4. Then let us adore,
and give him his right:
all glory and power,
all wisdom and might,
all honour and blessing,
with angels above,
and thanks never-ceasing
for infinite love.**

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.

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THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sun 24 th Oct	<u>22nd Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10am Eucharist - <i>live-stream only</i>
Mon 25 th Oct	-
Tue 26 th Oct	5.30pm <i>community meal: TDRM</i> 7.30pm Vestry meeting
Wed 27 th Oct	5.30pm <i>community meal: Winter Shelter</i> 7.30pm Mission Action Team meeting
Thu 28 th Oct	-
Fri 29 th Oct	<u>Vicar's day off</u> -
Sat 30 th Oct	-
Sun 31 st Oct	<u>23rd Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10am Eucharist - <i>live-stream only</i>

NOTICES

Covid restrictions update

From Friday, 22 October, revised restrictions have come into force. The following is taken from Diocesan emails:

Resuming in-person services at St John's

- Only up to 20 fully vaccinated people can now meet indoors, in greater Melbourne, and up to 50 people outdoors.
- **We anticipate indoor groups of up to 50 to be possible by 5 November.**
- So, instead of going through the inconvenience of arranging for 20 people to book for this and next Sunday, the decision has been made to gear up for opening fully (up to 50 people per 'fully vaccinated' service) from **Sunday 7 November**. This will need to be confirmed closer to the time.
- This will give us time to establish new rosters with effect from 7 November, and ensure that all the required admin is compliant, as per the various details below.
- Since ALL the vaccination status surveys returned so far have shown that everyone will be fully vaccinated, all our usual schedule of services will be for **fully vaccinated people only**: Sundays 8am & 10am, and Wednesdays 10am.
- If any unvaccinated people wish to attend a service, a said Eucharist with no music will be held every Saturday at 5pm, conducted by Fr John alone, from 6 November.

Checking vaccination status

- QR code access, linked to vaccination status is required.
- COVID check-in marshals must be in attendance and require people to produce vaccination evidence for the fully vaccinated services and ensure that 'all reasonable steps' are taken to ensure that people of unknown vaccination status do not enter a premises for such services.
- Such individuals also have an obligation not to enter.
- If a person is known not to be vaccinated, and they insist on entry, that person ought to be reported to authorities.
- Children under 16 are regarded as vaccinated, and children under 1 year old are counted as part of the attendance limit.
- Anyone with an official medical exemption is regarded as vaccinated. There are strict guidelines on medical exemptions and permanent exemptions are very rare. Authorised GPs must be consulted.

Vaccination records

- Vicars must keep a record of the vaccination status of all volunteers/workers, ie those with key roles in services: lay readers, musicians, technical operators, servers, clergy.
- The record notes only name, vaccination status, type of evidence, and who sighted it and when. Copies of the actual vaccine certificates are NOT kept.
- We do not keep the details of people attending services - only the workers/volunteers.

Service regulations

- The 1 person for every 4sqm of floor space rule applies to all activity on church sites.
- Masks must be worn indoors and outdoors apart from the one person speaking/leading/preaching at the time. There is no restriction on singing, other than wearing masks.
- Holy Communion is bread only or individual cups. The president should avoid droplets or aerosols over the elements and should distribute wearing a mask.
- Refreshments may be served after a service but the 4sqm rule applies to the space where refreshments are served and consumed, and people should be seated for refreshments, so they do not gather closely together. There must be no sharing of food or utensils.
- People from one service must have left the premises before people for another service arrive. There is no minimum cleaning requirement after each service, but cleaning toilets, door handles and other frequently touched surfaces often is recommended.

Newsletter #31 (from 17 October)

The latest newsletter, issue #31, dated for the week of 17 October 2021, has now been emailed, and posted for those who don't have email or who have requested a printed copy.

Kindly advise the office if you wish to be included in the emailing/posting lists.

Revision of Electoral Roll (repeated from last week)

The electoral roll is subtly different from the parish directory or e/mailling list: the directory lists all who want to be part of our parish life and agree to be listed in it, and the e/mailling list is for all who wish to receive parish communications.

The electoral roll is a list of parishioners who are entitled both to be nominated as office bearers, and to vote for them. To be on the electoral roll, you must be 18 or older, baptised, and formally a member of no other church community except St John's.

You also need to habitually attend worship at St John's - at least 12 times in the past 12 months. This condition has been difficult to achieve in a *measurable* way for both 2020 and 2021, although many people - parishioners, newcomers and visitors - have been viewing the weekly live-streamed services either at the time or later. The Diocese encourages parishes to exercise a very generous interpretation of the condition.

Most parishioners who were on the list last year will remain on the list for this year, unless they indicate otherwise, or there is an appropriate reason to remove them.

For anyone who wasn't on the roll last year, and would be entitled to be on it under non-covid circumstances (e.g. would normally have attended weekly services here over at least the last 3 months), let the parish office know promptly, and we will send you an electoral roll application form.

This revision must be completed by 13 November.