

St John the Divine

Eucharist service

7th Sunday after Epiphany

20th February 2022

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

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Hymn: Jesus, where'er your people meet William Cowper (1731-1800) alt. - tune: Wareham © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290

- 1. Jesus, where'er your people meet there they behold your mercy seat, where'er they seek you, you are found and every place is hallowed ground.
- 2. For you, within no walls confined, are present in the humble mind; such ever bring you where they come, and, going, take you to their home.
- 3. Dear Shepherd of your chosen few, your former mercies here renew; here to our waiting hearts proclaim the sweetness of your saving name.
- Here may we prove the power of prayer to strengthen faith and sweeten care; to teach our faint desires to rise, and bring all heaven before our eyes.
- 5. Lord, we are few, but you are near, your arm can save, your ear can hear;
 O rend the heavens, come quickly down, and make a thousand hearts your own.

Sentence

Love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. You will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. *Luke* 6.35

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. 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.

God of compassion, keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son, who prayed even for his enemies. In our words and deeds help us to be like him, through whom we pray, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Genesis 45.3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years: and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there-since there are five more years of famine to come-so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty."

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

Psalm 37.1-11, 40-41

- Do not vie with the wicked: or envy those that do wrong;
- ² For they will soon wither like the grass: and fade away like the green leaf.
- ³ Trust in the Lord and do good: and you shall dwell in the land and feed in safe pastures.
- ⁴ Let the Lord be your delight: and he will grant you your heart's desire.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the Lord: trust him, and he will act.
- ⁶ He will make your righteousness shine as clear as the light: and your innocence as the noonday.
- ⁷ Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him: do not be vexed when someone prospers, when they put their evil purposes to work.
- 8 Let go of anger and abandon wrath: let not envy move you to do evil.
- ⁹ For the wicked shall be cut down: but those who wait for the Lord shall possess the land.
- ¹⁰ In a little while the ungodly shall be no more: you will look for them in their place, but they will not be found.
- ¹¹ But the meek shall possess the land: and enjoy the abundance of peace.
- ⁴⁰ Deliverance for the righteous shall come from the Lord: he is their strength in time of trouble.
- ⁴¹ The Lord will help them and deliver them: he will save them from the ungodly and deliver them, because they come to him for refuge.

A reading from Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth 15.35–50

But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. Not all flesh is alike, but there is one flesh for human beings, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. There are both heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one thing, and that of the earthly is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; indeed, star differs from star in glory.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living being'; the last Adam became a lifegiving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, sisters and brothers, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

> Hymn: <u>Help us accept each other</u> Frederick Herman Kaan (b.1929) - tune: Morning Light © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290

- Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
 Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are *ourselves* accepted and meant to love and live.
- 2. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
 - Teach us to care for people, for all – not just for some,
 - to love them as we find them or as they may become.
- 3. Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
 - in living situations to do the truth of love;
 - to practise your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness the laughter's healing art.

4. Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on: renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke 6.27–38

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said: 'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. 'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great. and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

NICENE CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge,

we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God,

who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: beyond, everything has become new.

2 Corinthians 5.17

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

Offertory hymn: <u>There's a spirit in the air</u> Brian Arthur Wren (b.1936) - tune: Lauds © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290

- There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere: "Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world."
- Lose your shyness, find your tongue, tell the world what God has done: God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.

- 3. When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed, praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.
- 4. Still the Spirit gives us light, seeing wrong and setting right: God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.
- 5. When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home, praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.
- May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways: God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.
- 7. There's a Spirit in the air, calling people everywhere:
 'Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.'

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. 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. You anointed him as Messiah, the light of the nations, and revealed him as the hope of all who thirst for righteousness and peace. 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. 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

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 gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray.

God of the nations,

we thank you for nourishing us with this holy sacrament. Guide us by your presence,

that we may bring your light to those who dwell in darkness,

and establish your justice in the earth. Amen.

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: <u>Father all-loving and ruling in majesty</u> Patrick Robert Norman Appleford (b.1925) alt. tune: Was Lebet - © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290

- 1. Father all-loving and ruling in majesty, judgement is yours, and condemns all our pride; stir up our rulers and people to penitence, sorrow for sins that for vengeance have cried.
- 2. Blessèd Lord Jesus, born humbly in poverty, sharing a stable with beasts at your birth, stir us to work for your justice and charity, truly to care for the poor upon earth.
- 3. Come, Holy Spirit, create in us holiness, lift up our lives to your standard of right; stir every will to new ventures of faithfulness, flood the whole church with your glorious light.
- 4. Holiest Trinity, perfect in unity, bind in your love every nation and race: may we adore you for time and eternity, Father, Redeemer and Spirit of grace.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

May Christ the Son of God be manifest to you, that your lives may be a light to the world; 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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THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sun 20 th Feb	8am 10am	<u>day after Epiphany</u> Eucharist Eucharist <i>(also live-streamed)</i> <i>AA meeting</i>
Mon 21 st Feb	10.30an	n Al Anon meeting
Tue 22 nd Feb		AA meeting community meal: TDRM
Wed 23 rd Feb	5.30pm	Eucharist community meal: Winter Shelter NA meeting
Thu 24 th Feb		nAA meeting AA meeting
Fri 25 th Feb	-	
Sat 26 th Feb	12pm	AA meeting Women's AA meeting Lai Christian Church
Sun 27 th Feb	8am 10am	<u>uration</u> Eucharist Eucharist <i>(also live-streamed)</i> AA meeting

NOTICES

Fr John on leave for February

Rev'd Wendy Pullin is the locum vicar in charge during this time, and is leading all the scheduled services.

Lent 2022

Ash Wednesday services, with imposition of ashes, will be at 10am and 7.30pm on 2 March.

Plans are being made to enable each parish household to receive a copy of ABM's new Lenten Study for 2022, *Repairing the Breach*, during February.

The Lenten study examines what it means to be people of healing in a broken world. The seven studies in it will take us from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday.

You are invited to participate in either of two weekly study sessions:

- the first will meet online via Zoom at 10am on Saturday mornings
- the second will meet in person at 7.30pm on Wednesday evenings

You are welcome to join either session, and even change between them.

Everyone is encouraged to work through the 1st study (focused on Ash Wednesday readings) during the week of 27 February either by themselves or at the Ash Wednesday services.

Thereafter the rest of the study sessions will take place as follows:

<u>March</u>	<u>Zoom 10am</u>	<u>sermon</u>	<u>meeting 7.30pm</u>
study #2	Sat 5th	Sun 6th	Wed 9th
study #3	Sat 12th	Sun 13th	Wed 16th
study #4	Sat 19th	Sun 20th	Wed 2rd
study #5	Sat 26th	Sun 27th	Wed 30th
<u>April</u>			
study #6	Sat 2nd	Sun 3rd	Wed 6th
study #7	Sat 9th	Sun 10th	Wed 13th

Kindly write your name on the list in the foyer, or email your intention to attend to the office, to assist with arrangements.

