

St John the Divine

Eucharist service

Third Sunday in Lent

20<sup>th</sup> March 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: <u>Guide me, O thou great Redeemer</u> William Williams (1717-91) tr. Peter Williams & William Williams alt. - tune: Cwm Rhondda - © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290

- Guide me, O thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand: bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.
- Open now the crystal fountain whence the living waters flow: let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through: strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
- When I tread the verge of Jordan bid my anxious fears subside; death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side: songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee, I will ever give to thee.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures for ever.

### Sentence

'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts,' says the Lord.

Isaiah 55.9

#### 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. Hear the commandments which God gave his people Israel.

- 1. I am the Lord your God; you shall have no other gods but me.
- 2. You shall not make an idol of anything and worship it.
- 3. You shall not make wrong use of the name of the Lord your God.
- 4. Remember the Lord's day and keep it holy.
- 5. Honour your father and mother.
- 6. You shall not commit murder.
- 7. You shall not commit adultery.
- 8. You shall not steal.
- 9. You shall not give false evidence.
- 10. You shall not covet the possessions of others. Lord, have mercy on us: and write your law in our hearts by your Holy Spirit.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

# Let us pray.

O God, the fountain of life,

to a humanity parched with thirst

you offer the living water that springs from the Rock, our Saviour Jesus Christ:

stir up within your people the gift of your Spirit, that we may profess our faith with freshness and announce with joy the wonder of your love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

# THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah 55.1–9

Ho, everyone who thirsts,

come to the waters;

and you that have no money,

come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

- See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
- and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.
- Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake their way,

and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

## Psalm 63.1-9

- <sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God: eagerly will I seek you.
- <sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for you, my flesh longs for you: as a dry and thirsty land where no water is.
- <sup>3</sup> So it was when I beheld you in the sanctuary: and saw your power and your glory.
- <sup>4</sup> For your unchanging goodness is better than life: therefore my lips shall praise you.
- <sup>5</sup> And so I will bless you as long as I live: and in your name will I lift my hands on high.
- <sup>6</sup> My longing shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness: my mouth shall praise you with exultant lips.
- <sup>7</sup> When I remember you upon my bed: when I meditate upon you in the night watches,
- 8 How you have been my helper: then I sing for joy in the shadow of your wings,
- <sup>9</sup> Then my soul clings to you: and your right hand upholds me.

A reading from Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth 10.1–13

I do not want you to be unaware, sisters and brothers, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Hymn: <u>As the deer pants for the water</u> Martin Nystrom (b.1956) based on Ps 42.1-2 - tune: As The Deer Pants - © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290

- 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.
- 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,
  - 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're 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.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke 13.31–35

# Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.""

This is the Gospel of the Lord, praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Response:

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us 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 forever. Amen.

# **RECONCILIATION WITH GOD**

Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your heavenly Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. *Mark 11.25* 

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Pause to bring to mind times where we have separated ourselves

from God, from others, from creation, and from our inner selves.

Let us now ask for mercy, 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.** 

# RECONCILIATION WITH EACH OTHER

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

We meet in his name and share his peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

Offertory hymn: <u>I heard the voice of Jesus say</u> Horatius Bonar (1808-89) alt. - tune: Kingsfold © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290

- 1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Come unto me and rest;
  - lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast.'
  - I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad; I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.
- 2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Behold, I freely give the living water; thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live.' I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
  - my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
- 3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'I am this dark world's light; look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.' I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.

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 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. He was tempted in every way as we are, yet he did not sin. 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. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to walk in the way of his love. 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.** 

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.

#### We do not presume

to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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.

## SENDING OUT GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray. God of mercy, may we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

### 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>Glorious things of thee are spoken</u> John Newton (1725-1807) alt. - tune: Austria - © The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999, CCL No 632290

- 1. Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God: he whose word cannot be broken formed you for his own abode.
  - On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake your sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded,
  - you may smile at all your foes.

- See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love, well supply your sons and daughters and all fear of want remove: who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage grace, which like the Lord the giver never fails from age to age?
- Blest inhabitants of Zion, washed in their Redeemer's blood: Jesus, whom their souls rely on, makes them kings and priests to God. For his love his people raises over self to reign as kings, and as priests, his solemn praises each for a thank-offering brings.
- 4. Saviour, since of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am, let the world deride or pity, I will glory in your name: fading are the worldlings' pleasures, all their boasted pomp and show; solid joys and lasting treasures none but Zion's children know.

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, 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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# NOTICES

# Parish Lunch & Safe Ministry Training Session – Sunday 27th March

The Safe Ministry courses offer basic training in the concepts of safe ministry and ALL church workers, including volunteers, are required to undertake the Level 1 training. This is a key element for keeping our churches safe.

The due date for the completion of Level 1 is <u>March 31</u>, so we will be holding a group session following the <u>10am</u> service <u>on Sunday 27th March</u> where we can complete it together over a shared lunch.

Т	THIS WEE	EK IN THE PARISH
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	8am 10am 11.45am	-
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar		lay off Al Anon meeting
Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	•	AA meeting community meal: TDRM
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	5.30pm 7.30pm	Eucharist <i>community meal: Winter Shelter</i> Lent course (study #4) <i>NA meeting</i>
Thu 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10.15am	n AA meeting n Croydon Grove (Mingarra) aged care communion AA meeting
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	-	
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10am	AA meeting Lent course Zoom (study #5) Women's AA meeting Lai Christian Church
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	8am 10am	Eucharist Eucharist & baptism (also live-streamed)
training -		n <b>Parish lunch &amp; Safe Ministry</b> urch workers (parish volunteers <i>AA meeting</i>

Please note, if you are a volunteer and are not able to attend this session, then you will need to complete it by yourself. The training must be done online. Please contact the parish office to obtain the link and Cathy can assist you.

EVERYONE is invited to attend the lunch and training session. It will be a wonderful opportunity to consider how we as a parish can work together to ensure that all people are included and cared for, with special regard to age, gender, culture, and ability.

Please add your name to the register to indicate your attendance.

If you have any questions please ask one of the following people:

Churchwardens: Helen Duncan, Ken Hutton, Craig Russell

Child Safe Officer: Roger Heath

# Resolving the church building situation

Be assured that we are making progress with engineers and contractors in resolving the immediate concerns around using our worship space.

In the mean time, give thanks for the blessing of the Fellowship Room in which we can worship.

## Lent 2022

If you haven't yet received a copy of this year's Lent Course, *Repairing the Breach*, please contact the Parish Office so that we can get one to you.

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

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

- either meeting online via Zoom at 10am on Saturday mornings
- or meeting in person at 7.30pm on Wednesday evenings - *currently in our Kindergarten building*

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

The study sessions are as follows:

<u>March</u>	<u>Zoom 10am</u>	<u>sermon</u>	meeting 7.30pm
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

The words of Isaiah that Jesus quotes as his manifesto at the beginning of his ministry (*Luke 4.18-19*), are used in this Lent course as the point of engagement with the readings for each Sunday:

- 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, (Ash Wednesday) because he has anointed me (Lent 1)
  - to bring good news to the poor. (Lent 2)
- He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives (Lent 3)
  - and recovery of sight to the blind, (Lent 4)
  - to let the oppressed go free, (Lent 5)

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' (Palm/Passion Sunday)

