



## St John the Divine

*Eucharist service*

**7th Sunday after Pentecost**

24<sup>th</sup> July 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](http://www.stjohndivine.org.au)*

### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hymn: *You servants of God*

*Charles Wesley (1707-88) alt. - tune: Laudate Dominum  
© The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999,  
CCL No 632290*

- 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. Our God rules on high,  
almighty to save;  
and still he is nigh,  
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,  
and infinite love.**

### Sentence

Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find;  
knock, and the door will be opened for you.

*Luke 11.9*

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.**

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.

Provident Father,

with the prayer your Son taught us always on our lips,  
we ask, we seek, we knock at your door:  
help us so to seek that we may truly find,  
so to ask that we may joyfully receive,  
and so to knock that the door of mercy  
may be opened for us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Hosea 1.2-10

When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, 'Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord.' So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

And the Lord said to him, 'Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.'

She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, 'Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.'

When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said, 'Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God.'

Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor

numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people', it shall be said to them, 'Children of the living God.'

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

Psalm 85

- <sup>1</sup> O Lord, you were gracious to your land:  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- <sup>2</sup> **You forgave the iniquity of your people:  
and covered all their sin.**
- <sup>3</sup> You put aside all your wrath:  
and turned away from your fierce indignation.
- <sup>4</sup> **Return to us again, O God our saviour:  
and let your anger cease from us.**
- <sup>5</sup> Will you be displeased with us for ever:  
will you stretch out your wrath  
from one generation to another?
- <sup>6</sup> **Will you not give us life again:  
that your people may rejoice in you?**
- <sup>7</sup> Show us your mercy, O Lord:  
and grant us your salvation.
- <sup>8</sup> **I will hear what the Lord God will speak:  
for he will speak peace to his people,  
to his faithful ones,  
whose hearts are turned to him.**
- <sup>9</sup> Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:  
and his glory shall dwell in our land.
- <sup>10</sup> **Mercy and truth are met together:  
righteousness and peace  
have kissed each other;**
- <sup>11</sup> Truth shall flourish out of the earth:  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- <sup>12</sup> **The Lord will also give us all that is good:  
and our land shall yield its plenty.**
- <sup>13</sup> For righteousness shall go before him:  
and tread the path before his feet.

A reading from Paul's letter to the church in Colossae  
2.6–15

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord,  
continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in  
him and established in the faith, just as you were taught,  
abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through  
philosophy and empty deceit, according to human  
tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the  
universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the  
whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come  
to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and  
authority. In him also you were circumcised with a  
spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh  
in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with  
him in baptism, you were also raised with him through  
faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.  
And when you were dead in trespasses and the  
uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive

together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses,  
erasing the record that stood against us with its legal  
demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He  
disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public  
example of them, triumphing over them in it.

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

Hymn: Word of God, renew your people  
*Bernadette Farrell (b.1957) - tune: Word Of God*  
© Bernadette Farrell, 1999, CCL No 632290

- 1. Word of God, renew your people,  
make us now your living sign.  
Recreate us for your purpose  
in this place and in this time.**
- 2. Word of hope and Word of healing,  
make us now your living sign.  
Recreate us for your purpose  
in this place and in this time.**
- 3. Word of peace and Word of justice,  
make us now your living sign.  
Recreate us for your purpose  
in this place and in this time.**
- 4. God alone the power we trust in,  
make us now your living sign.  
Recreate us for your purpose  
in this place and in this time.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St Luke 11.1–13  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had  
finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us  
to pray, as John taught his disciples.' He said to them,  
'When you pray, say:  
Father, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
Give us each day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our sins,  
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.  
And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend,  
and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend,  
lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has  
arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." And he  
answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has  
already been locked, and my children are with me in bed;  
I cannot get up and give you anything." I tell you, even  
though he will not get up and give him anything because  
he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will  
get up and give him whatever he needs.  
'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search,  
and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for  
you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who  
searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door  
will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your  
child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish?  
Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you  
then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your

children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Sermon*

Nicene Creed: We believe in God

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926)*

*tune based on Brahms' Symphony no. 1*

© *Timothy Dudley-Smith, CCL No 632290*

- 1. We believe in God the Father,  
God almighty, by whose plan  
earth and heaven sprang to being,  
all created things began.  
We believe in Christ the Saviour,  
Son of God in human frame,  
Virgin born, the child of Mary  
upon whom the Spirit came.**
- 2. Christ who on the cross forsaken,  
like a lamb to slaughter led,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
he descended to the dead.  
We believe in Jesus risen,  
heaven's king to rule and reign,  
to the Father's side ascended  
till as judge he comes again.**
- 3. We believe in God the Spirit;  
in one church, below, above:  
saints of God in one communion,  
one in holiness and love.  
So by faith, our sins forgiven,  
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,  
we shall rise with him in glory  
to the life that knows no end.**

#### 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

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

**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

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

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

Offertory hymn: Here in this place

*Marty Haugen (b.1950) - tune: Gather Us In*

© *The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999,  
CCL No 632290*

- 1. Here in this place new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away,  
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**
- 2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery;  
we are the old, who yearn for your face;  
we have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.**
- 3. Here we will take of the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt of the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**
- 4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven light years away,  
but here in this space, the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in, and hold us for ever;  
gather us in, and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

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.**

It is right to praise you, faithful God,  
always and everywhere,  
for with your only begotten Son  
and life-giving Spirit,  
you are the one true God from  
everlasting to everlasting.

At the dawn of time you wrought from nothing  
a universe of beauty and splendour,  
bringing light from darkness  
and order from chaos.

You formed us, female and male, in your image,  
and endowed us with creative power.

We turned away from you but you did not abandon us.

You called us by name and searched us out,  
making a covenant of mercy,  
giving the law, and teaching justice by the prophets.

And so we praise you,  
joining with your faithful people  
of every time and place,  
singing the eternal song:

**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.**

When the fullness of time was come,  
you sent your Son to be born of Mary.

Bright image of your glory,  
he learnt obedience to you in all things,  
even to death on a cross,  
breaking the power of evil,  
freeing us from sin, and putting death to flight.

You raised him from death,  
exalting him to glory,  
and the new day dawned.

On the night he was betrayed  
your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends,  
his companions on the way.

While at table he took bread,  
blessed, and broke it,  
and giving it to them, said:  
'Take, eat; this is my body.'

He took a cup of wine,  
and, giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said,  
'This is my blood of the covenant,  
which is poured out for many.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,  
we remember his life of obedience to you,  
his suffering and death,  
his resurrection and exaltation,  
and his promise to be with us for ever.

With this bread and this cup  
we celebrate his saving death until he comes.

Accept, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
and send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration  
that all who eat and drink at this table  
may be strengthened by Christ's body and blood  
to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people,  
may we proclaim the everlasting gospel  
of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
through whom, with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever.

**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.

#### SENDING OUT GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray.

Father of all  
we give you thanks and praise  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

**Keep us in this hope that we have grasped;  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name.**

Hymn: Go to the world

*Sylvia G Dunstan (1955-1993) - tune: Engelberg  
© GIA Publications Inc., 1991, CCL No 632290*

- 1. Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross  
where Christ renews life's worth,  
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.  
Alleluia!**

2. **Go to the world! Go into every place.  
Go live the Word of Christ's redeeming grace.  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
Alleluia!**
3. **Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;  
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Alleluia!**
4. **Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
for I am with you till the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry 'Amen!'  
Alleluia!**

#### 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 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

##### Vicarage tenanted

Some parishioners might not be aware that Fr John & Phillippa moved to their own home in The Basin at the end of February.

Interestingly, Area Dean Leroy Coote (Vicar of Croydon Hills & Wonga Park) and Archdeacon Bruce Bickerdike (Vicar of Croydon South) also reside in their own homes in Lilydale.

Our vicarage has been tenanted by a family of 7 from mid May, and will provide a small revenue stream for the parish.

*Notices repeated from last week:*

##### COVID update - masks

The government has not made the wearing of masks indoors mandatory but the strong health advice is to encourage wearing masks in indoor settings. Our Parish Council has endorsed this: **we strongly encourage everyone to wear masks** - if not for yourself, then at least out of consideration for others.

As previously, during services those at the lectern will not need to wear a mask, however the priest will wear one while presiding at the altar.

#### THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> July	<u>7th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Eucharist ( <i>also live-streamed</i> ) 8pm AA meeting
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> July	<i>Vicar's day off</i> 10.30am <i>AI Anon meeting</i>
Tue 26 <sup>th</sup> July	1pm AA meeting 5.30pm <i>community meal: TDRM</i> 7pm <i>Kindergarten Committee meeting (postponed from last week)</i>
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> July	10am Eucharist 5.30pm <i>community meal: Winter Shelter</i> 7.30pm NA meeting
Thu 28 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30am AA meeting 11am <i>Croydon Grove (formerly Mingarra) aged care communion</i> 7.30pm AA meeting
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> July	-
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> July	7am AA meeting 10.30am <i>Focus on Faith &amp; Friendship</i> 7pm <i>Lai Christian Church</i>
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> July	<u>8th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Eucharist ( <i>also live-streamed</i> ) 8pm AA meeting

#### Parish Network

The network team have participated in a workshop and are starting to resume contacting parishioners directly.

The current list of parishioners who are on the team are: Ailsa Wakeley, Beryl Gibson, Cheryl Yon, Jenny Harris, Jenny Heath, Joan Sweet, Lois Vine, Loretta Hill, Lyn Lynch, Patricia Spears, and Stephen Cossey.

The primary aim is to help maintain our connections as a faith community. Sometimes we assume that someone is receiving emails when they aren't, and so having a direct phone call helps to ensure that the parish is alert to how parishioners are faring, and ensuring that parishioners are alert to what is taking place in the parish.

If you receive a phone call, and you'd like to chat a bit, then you are welcome to do so - however, if you'd prefer to keep it short, then that's also okay.

The Network team are exercising an important ministry with this aspect of hospitality, and so do encourage and pray for them.

#### Petition to stop Croydon Centro Planning Application

Kindly note the petition available for you to sign in the foyer, if you wish to object to the planning application for 12 floor apartment blocks to be built in front of the Croydon Centro, overlooking Toorak Ave.

The plans are also shown on the notice board in the foyer.

## July sermon series: Mission Action Plan

We are looking at the big picture of our Mission Action Plan, using the Schematic from *Pathways: Local Mission for All Kinds of Churches*, by Ken Morgan (2017) - see [www.pathways4mission.com](http://www.pathways4mission.com)

This is shown here for reference for the sermons from last Sunday, this Sunday, and next Sunday. The table has been modified to show our parish's current actual activities rather than the example activities that Ken Morgan lists in his book. (Note: do let Fr John know of any particular activities that might have been overlooked.)

The activities for each stage are like stepping stones across a river, helping people move from the side of not knowing God to the side of being disciples of Jesus and fully participating members of our church community.

<b>Stage</b>	<i>Description of people at this stage &amp; what they need</i>	<i>Aim of activity at this stage</i>	<i>Current activities in our parish (the stepping stones)</i>
<b>#1 Potential Contact</b>	People we don't know & who know no one in the church. They need someone to make contact with them.	Let people know we have something to offer. Encourage people to make initial contact with us.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- website &amp; Facebook</li> <li>- St John's Kindergarten</li> <li>- 2 community meals programs (eg TDRM)</li> <li>- 8 community service groups (AA, AI Anon, NA)</li> <li>- occasional concerts</li> </ul>
<b>#2 In Touch</b>	People who know at least one person in the church. They need an attractive group in which to belong.	Encourage people we know to become regular participants in a program or group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- welcome brochures &amp; service booklets</li> </ul>
<b>#3 Belonging</b>	Know several people and are a regular part of a church group. They need an opportunity to find out more about Christian faith and a reason to consider commitment.	Cultivate relationships between believers and people who participate in a program or group. Share spiritual life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ?</li> </ul>
<b>#4 Embracing The Gospel</b>	Interested in knowing about Jesus. They need to hear the gospel and establish a relationship with God.	Create an environment where people can explore the gospel in a meaningful way. Ensure there are opportunities for people to make a response to the claims of Jesus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ?</li> </ul>
<b>#5 Following Jesus</b>	In a process of learning, obeying & growing in faith. They need teaching, encouragement & accountability to support Christian life.	Teach, encourage & share accountability with people as they shape their life to be followers of Jesus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3 weekly Eucharist services</li> <li>- Focus on Faith &amp; Friendship group</li> <li>- annual Lent course</li> </ul>
<b>#6 Serving In Ministry</b>	Have identified gifts, skills & ministry, & are serving others in Jesus' name. They need opportunities & training to develop gifts.	Encourage & equip all people to exercise their gifts & talents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- rostered church service support (eg flowers, music, cleaning, refreshments, readers, &amp; so on)</li> <li>- weekly aged care services</li> <li>- Parish Council</li> <li>- Mission Action Team</li> <li>- Mission Business Plan Working Group</li> <li>- Parish Network Team</li> <li>- St John's TDRM team</li> <li>- Supportive Friends group</li> <li>- Kindergarten Committee</li> <li>- TDRM Committee</li> </ul>
<b>#7 Leading Ministry</b>	Take up a leadership role. They need leadership mentoring.	Train & encourage people to be leaders in the church.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- study group leadership training</li> </ul>