



St John the Divine

Eucharist service

9th Sunday after Pentecost

7th August 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.

Welcome and notices

Hymn: From near and far

*Jean Holloway (b.1939) - tune: Kingsfold
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- 1. From near and far, from East and West,
we gather in this place
to celebrate the one true Lord
of ev'ry tongue and race.
With open minds and willing hearts,
we come prepared to share,
rejoicing in the fellowship
of laughter, song and prayer.**
- 2. Entrusted with community
through which the church can speak,
we tell the world of Christ, whose reign
empow'rs the poor and weak.
The church on earth, divided, flawed,
is yet a living sign
of how the broken, touched by grace,
discloses the divine.**
- 3. Prepared to listen and forgive,
together we will grow
in unity that comes of God
from whom all blessings flow.
When we must leave this fellowship
and go forth in his name,
we pray that Christ will send us out
with hearts of love aflame.**

Sentence

Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day
your Lord is coming.

Matthew 24.42, 44

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.

Kindle in our hearts, Father,
the same faith that impelled Abraham
to set out from his home
and to live as a pilgrim in a foreign land.
As we, like him, look for the city
that none but you can design and build,
keep us watchful for your Son's coming,
that we may be found faithful stewards
of all that you have entrusted to us.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah 1.1, 10–20

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw
concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah,
Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the Lord,
you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!
What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
says the Lord;

I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams
and the fat of fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
or of lambs, or of goats.

When you come to appear before me,
who asked this from your hand?

Trample my courts no more;
bringing offerings is futile;
incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation—
I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

Your new moons and your appointed festivals
my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me,
I am weary of bearing them.

When you stretch out your hands,
 I will hide my eyes from you;
 even though you make many prayers,
 I will not listen;
 your hands are full of blood.
 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
 remove the evil of your doings
 from before my eyes;
 cease to do evil,
 learn to do good;
 seek justice,
 rescue the oppressed,
 defend the orphan,
 plead for the widow.
 Come now, let us argue it out,
 says the Lord:
 though your sins are like scarlet,
 they shall be like snow;
 though they are red like crimson,
 they shall become like wool.
 If you are willing and obedient,
 you shall eat the good of the land;
 but if you refuse and rebel,
 you shall be devoured by the sword;
 for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

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

Psalm 50.1–8, 23–24

- 1 The Lord our God, the Mighty One, has spoken:
 and summoned the earth,
 from the rising of the sun to its setting in the west.
- 2 **From Zion, perfect in beauty:
 God has shone out in glory.**
- 3 Our God is coming, he will not keep silent:
 before him is devouring fire,
 and tempest whirls about him.
- 4 **He calls to the heavens above:
 and to the earth, so he may judge his people.**
- 5 ‘Gather to me my faithful ones:
 those who by sacrifice made a covenant with me.’
- 6 **The heavens shall proclaim his righteousness:
 for God himself is judge.**
- 7 ‘Listen my people, and I will speak:
 O Israel, I am God your God,
 and I will give my testimony.
- 8 **‘It is not for your sacrifices that I reprove you:
 for your burnt-offerings are always before me.**
- 23 ‘O consider this, you who forget God:
 lest I tear you in pieces,
 and there be no one to save you.
- 24 **‘He honours me
 who brings sacrifice of thanksgiving:
 and to him who keeps to my way
 I will show the salvation of God.’**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 11.1–3, 8–16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

Hymn: Give thanks for those whose faith is firm

Martin E Leckebusch (b.1962) - tune: Repton
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1. **Give thanks for those whose faith is firm
 when all around seems bleak:
 on God’s good promise they rely,
 so while they live and when they die
 how forcefully they speak —
 the strong who once were weak!**
2. **Give thanks for those whose hope is clear,
 beyond mere mortal sight:
 who seek the city God has planned,
 the true, eternal promised land,
 and steer towards that light,
 a beacon ever bright.**
3. **Give thanks for those whose love is pure,
 a sparkling, precious stone:
 they show by what they say and do
 an inward beauty, warm and true,
 for God’s concerns they own —
 his love through them is known.**
4. **Give thanks for saints of ages past
 and saints alive today:
 though often by this world despised,
 their hearts by God are richly prized —
 give thanks that we may say
 we share their pilgrim way.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke 12.32-40

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

'But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

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: Lord, be my vision, supreme in my heart

*Gaelic c.8th cent. tr. Mary E Byrne (1880-1931), versified
Eleanor H Hull (1860-1935) alt. - tune: Slane
© Jubilate Hymns, CCL No 632290*

- 1. Lord, be my vision, supreme in my heart,
bid every rival give way and depart:
you my best thought in the day or the night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.**
- 2. Lord, be my wisdom and be my true word,
I ever with you and you with me, Lord:
you my great father and I your true child,
once far away, but by love reconciled.**
- 3. Lord, be my breastplate, my sword for the fight:
be my strong armour, for you are my might;
you are my shelter, and you my high tower
raise me to heaven, O Power of my power.**
- 4. I need no riches, nor earth's empty praise:
you my inheritance through all my days;
all of your treasure to me you impart.
high King of heaven, the first in my heart**

**5. High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, bright heaven's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

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: The God of Abraham praise

*based on the Jewish Yigdal c13th cent., Thomas Olivers
(1725-99) alt., tune: Leoni - © Jubilate Hymns, CCL No 632290*

- 1. The God of Abraham praise
who reigns enthroned above;
the ancient of eternal days
and God of love!
The Lord, the great I AM,
by earth and heaven confessed
we bow before his holy name
for ever blessed.**
- 2. To him we lift our voice
at whose supreme command
from death we rise to gain the joys
at his right hand:
we all on earth forsake
its wisdom, fame, and power;
the God of Israel we shall make
our shield and tower.**
- 3. He by his name has sworn
on this we shall depend,
and as on eagles' wings upborne
to heaven ascend:
there we shall see his face,
his power we shall adore,
and sing the wonders of his grace
for evermore.**
- 4. Triumphant hosts on high
give thanks eternally
and 'Holy, holy, holy' cry,
'great Trinity!'
Hail Abraham's God and ours!
one mighty hymn we raise,
all power and majesty be yours
and endless praise!**

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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THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sun 7 th Aug	<u>9th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Eucharist (<i>also live-streamed</i>) 8pm AA meeting
Mon 8 th Aug	<i>Vicar's day off</i> 10.30am AI Anon meeting
Tue 9 th Aug	1pm AA meeting 5.30pm community meal: TDRM (<i>St John's turn to cook</i>)
Wed 10 th Aug	10am Eucharist 5.30pm community meal: <i>Winter Shelter</i> 7.30pm NA meeting 7.30pm MAT meeting
Thu 11 th Aug	10.30am AA meeting 11am Park Lane communion 7.30pm AA meeting
Fri 12 th Aug	-
Sat 13 th Aug	7am AA meeting 10.30am Focus on Faith & Friendship 7pm <i>Lai Christian Church</i>
Sun 14 th Aug	<u>Mary, Mother of our Lord</u> 8am Eucharist 9am Parish Breakfast 10am Eucharist (<i>also live-streamed</i>) 8pm AA meeting

NOTICES

St John's TDRM team - 9th August

We are on again this coming Tuesday 9th August. This time we will be serving roast chicken and gravy with roast vegetables.

Volunteers are needed to prepare roast vegetables beforehand and bring them to the church HOT by 4.45pm on Tuesday. The vegetables will be provided and will be available to collect before or after TODAY's 10am service. Delivery can be arranged if required.

The remainder of the meal will be prepared at the church, so volunteers are also needed to help with this.

If you can assist by cooking the roast vegetables beforehand or helping with the preparation and serving of the meal at the church on Tuesday from 4.30pm onwards, please let Cathy know.

Parish Breakfast - 14th August

A breakfast being held to celebrate the Marian festival will be held between the two services on Sunday the 14th August, at 9am. The cost is \$5.00 per person to cover costs of the breakfast. A list will be available for people to sign up this Sunday. Money can be given to Lyn at the 8am service and Helen at the 10am service.

Future events

Sunday 4 September - **visit by Bishop Paul**

- Parish Eucharist at 10am only, followed by light lunch

Saturday 10 September - **Kindergarten Trivia Night**

- Our kindergarten's main fundraiser & social event. We hope to have one or two teams of parishioners participating.

Saturday 8 October - **Blessing of Pets event**

- We're exploring with our kindergarten how to arrange this to work for the kinder families as well.

Marj Powell

Marj has been a member of our Wednesday congregation for the last few years, and assisted behind the scenes - overhauling and indexing the parish files, and also minuting many of the vicar/wardens meetings especially during 2021. Marj is relocating to Queensland, and goes with our blessings, and our gratitude for her gentle encouragement and her strong faith.

REMINDER - YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR A
MASK IN CHURCH