



## St John the Divine

*Eucharist service*

**16th Sunday after Pentecost**

25<sup>th</sup> September 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: *Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

*Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908) alt. - tune: St Denio*

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CCL No 632290

- 1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.**
- 2. Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, but ruling in might;  
Your justice like mountains high soaring above,  
Your clouds which are fountains  
of goodness and love.**
- 3. You give life to all, Lord, to both great and small,  
In all life now living, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree,  
Then wither: but ever unchanged you will be.**
- 4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;  
Of all your rich graces this grace, Lord, impart –  
Take the veil from our faces,  
the veil from our heart.**
- 5. All praises we would render: reveal to our sight  
What hides you is only the splendour of light;  
And so let your glory, Almighty, impart,  
Through Christ in the story,  
your Christ to the heart.**

### Sentence

Confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

*James 5.16*

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleans 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.

O God,

from whom light rises in darkness

for those who seek you:

grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties,  
the grace to ask what you would have us do,

that in your light we may see light,

and in your narrow path may not stumble;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

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 Jeremiah 32.1–3a, 6–15

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me:

Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in

the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

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

Psalm 91.1–6, 14–16

- <sup>1</sup> Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High:  
who abide under the shadow of the Almighty,
- <sup>2</sup> **They will say to the Lord**  
**‘You are my refuge and my stronghold:**  
**my God in whom I trust.’**
- <sup>3</sup> For he will deliver you from the snare of the hunter:  
and from the destroying curse.
- <sup>4</sup> **He will cover you with his wings,**  
**and you will be safe under his feathers:**  
**his faithfulness will be your shield and defence.**
- <sup>5</sup> You shall not be afraid of any terror by night:  
or of the arrow that flies by day,
- <sup>6</sup> **Of the pestilence that walks about in darkness:**  
**or the plague that destroys at noonday.**
- <sup>14</sup> ‘You have set your love upon me,’ says the Lord,  
‘and therefore I will deliver you:  
I will lift you out of danger,  
because you have known my name.
- <sup>15</sup> **‘When you call upon me I will answer you:**  
**I will be with you in trouble,**  
**I will rescue you and bring you to honour.**
- <sup>16</sup> ‘With long life I will satisfy you:  
and fill you with my salvation.’

A reading from the first letter to Timothy 6.6–19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will

bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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

Hymn: Give thanks with a grateful heart  
*Henry Smith (b.1952) - tune: Give Thanks*  
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*Sing twice:*

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,**  
**give thanks to the Holy One,**  
**give thanks because he’s given**  
**Jesus Christ his Son.**

*repeat*

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong”,**  
**let the poor say, “I am rich**  
**because of what the Lord has done for us.”**

*repeat*

*At end:*

**Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St Luke 16.19–31

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus said: ‘There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.” But Abraham said, “Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.” He said, “Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house— for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.” Abraham replied, “They have Moses and the

prophets; they should listen to them.” He said, “No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.” He said to him, “If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.” ’

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

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: When I needed a neighbour

*Sydney Carter (1915-2004) - tune: Neighbour*

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- 1. When I needed a neighbour,  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?**
- 2. I was hungry and thirsty,  
were you there, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there? ...**
- 3. I was cold, I was naked, ...**
- 4. When I needed a shelter, ...**
- 5. When I needed a healer, ...**
- 6. When they put me in prison, ...**
- 7. Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there,  
wherever you travel, I'll be there.  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter;  
I'll be there.**

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: Heaven shall not wait

John L Bell (b.1949) & Graham Maule (b.1958)

tune: *Heaven Shall Not Wait* - © WGRG, 1987, CCL No 632290

1. **Heav'n shall not wait  
for the poor to lose their patience,  
the scorned to smile,  
the despised to find a friend:  
Jesus is Lord;  
he has championed the unwanted;  
in him injustice  
confronts its timely end.**
2. **Heav'n shall not wait  
for the rich to share their fortunes,  
the proud to fall,  
the élite to tend the least:  
Jesus is Lord;  
he has shown the master's privilege —  
to kneel and wash  
servants' feet before they feast.**
3. **Heav'n shall not wait  
for the dawn of great ideas,  
thoughts of compassion  
divorced from cries of pain:  
Jesus is Lord;  
he has married word and action;  
his cross and company  
make his purpose plain.**
4. **Heav'n shall not wait  
for our legalised obedience,  
defined by statute,  
to strict conventions bound:  
Jesus is Lord;  
he has hallmarked true allegiance —  
goodness appears  
where his grace is sought and found.**
5. **Heav'n shall not wait  
for triumphant hallelujahs,  
when earth has passed  
and we reach another shore:  
Jesus is Lord  
in our present imperfection;  
his pow'r and love  
are for now and then for evermore.**

#### 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 25 <sup>th</sup> Sep	<u>16th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Eucharist ( <i>also live-streamed</i> ) 8pm AA meeting
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Sep	<i>Vicar's day off</i> 10.30am AI Anon meeting
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup> Sep	1pm AA meeting 5.30pm community meal: TDRM
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Sep	10am Eucharist 5.30pm community meal: Winter Shelter 7.30pm NA meeting
Thu 29 <sup>th</sup> Sep	10.30am AA meeting 7.30pm AA meeting
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep	-
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	7am AA meeting 10.30am Focus on Faith & Friendship
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	<u>17th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Eucharist ( <i>also live-streamed</i> ) 8pm AA meeting

#### NOTICES

##### Kindergarten knitting request

Would anyone from the church like to come into the Kindergarten and do a knitting class with the children? On a Thursday afternoon or a Friday - details to be arranged. (Kindly indicate if you are able to.)

*Bec, Kindergarten Director*

##### Preparing for November's Annual Meeting

On Saturday 24th September we held our first of two Saturday morning workshops to which the whole parish has been invited to participate, and the outcomes from that will be shared in due course.

The second workshop will be held on Saturday 29th October, at 10am.

##### Parish Workshop: our Mission Pathway

Our *Mission Action Plan* and the *Missional Pathway* - as described in the July sermon series - is another intentional tool to help us deliberately plan how we might continue Christ's mission, and further grow God's Kingdom at and from St John's. So this second parish workshop will help us engage with the overall mission action plan in the light of this pathway.

Currently each Sunday there is a reminder of each of the seven stages of the Missional Pathway we are encouraged to engage with, to help outsiders, faith explorers, newcomers, and also long-term parishioners grow in their faith and their sense of belonging within the church community.

Today we remind ourselves of the 3rd stage of belonging, conveniently labeled as those people who are at the stage of *Belonging* to a church group.

These are people who know several active parishioners and are a regular part of any church group - but are not participating in church services or in faith-focused activities. They need opportunities to find out more about Christian faith and a reason to consider commitment.

Although this stage of our Missional Pathway does not yet have a determined goal, it is important that we understand the kind of strategy that we might initiate. In the case of connecting with our Kindergarten community, the strategy would be to identify and establish appropriate group activities for parents, with or without their children.

Some examples are Mainly Music, and its off-shoot Mainly Play. These are weekly programmes run by a team of parishioners - who don't need to be musicians, because the music that is played is recorded music. Our neighbouring parishes at Croydon South and Ringwood have successfully run these programs, to good effect.

### **Archbishop of Canterbury visit - invitation**

We've been advised that each parish will be provided with 3 tickets for parishioners to attend Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, at 6.30pm on Sunday 9th October. Kindly ask if you are interested in attending.

### **Fr John on leave**

I will be away on leave over the next 3 Sundays, from Wednesday 29th September, returning before 22nd October. Rev'd Wendy Pullin has kindly offered to lead the Sunday and Wednesday services during this time.