



St John the Divine

Eucharist service

17th Sunday after Pentecost

2nd October 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: Great is your faithfulness

Thomas Obadiah Chisholm (1866-1960) alt. - tune:

Faithfulness

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- 1. Great is your faithfulness, O God my Father,
in you no shadow of turning we see;
you never fail and your love is unchanging:
as you have been you for ever will be.
*Great is your faithfulness, great is your
faithfulness:
morning by morning new mercies we see;
all we have needed your hand has provided:
great is your faithfulness, Lord God, to me.***
- 2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in unspoken witness
to your great faithfulness, mercy and love.
*Great is your faithfulness, great is your
faithfulness:
morning by morning new mercies we see;
all we have needed your hand has provided:
great is your faithfulness, Lord God, to me.***
- 3. Pardon for sin and a peace that's enduring,
your living presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow**
—
**these are the blessings your love will provide.
*Great is your faithfulness, great is your
faithfulness:
morning by morning new mercies we see;
all we have needed your hand has provided:
great is your faithfulness, Lord God, to me.***

Sentence

'Who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? But I am among you,' says the Lord, 'as one who serves.'

Luke 22.27

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.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us your unworthy servants,

and increase our faith,

that, trusting in your Spirit's power to work in us

and through us,

we may never be ashamed to witness to our Lord

but may obediently serve him all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Lamentations 1.1–6

How lonely sits the city

that once was full of people!

How like a widow she has become,

she that was great among the nations!

She that was a princess among the provinces

has become a vassal.

She weeps bitterly in the night,

with tears on her cheeks;

among all her lovers

she has no one to comfort her;

all her friends have dealt treacherously with her,

they have become her enemies.

Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations,
and finds no resting-place;
her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.

The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate,
her priests groan;
her young girls grieve,
and her lot is bitter.

Her foes have become the masters,
her enemies prosper,
because the Lord has made her suffer
for the multitude of her transgressions;
her children have gone away,
captives before the foe.

From daughter Zion has departed
all her majesty.
Her princes have become like stags
that find no pasture;
they fled without strength
before the pursuer.

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

Lamentations 3.19–26 (instead of a psalm)

- ¹⁹ The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!
- ²⁰ **My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.**
- ²¹ But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:
- ²² **The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;**
- ²³ they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
- ²⁴ **‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul,
‘therefore I will hope in him.’**
- ²⁵ The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
- ²⁶ **It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.**

A reading from the second letter to Timothy 1.1–14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for
the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
To Timothy, my beloved child:
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and
Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear
conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you
constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your
tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I
am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first
in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and
now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you

to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the
laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of
cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of
self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our
Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering
for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved
us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our
works but according to his own purpose and grace. This
grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages
began, but it has now been revealed through the
appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished
death and brought life and immortality to light through
the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and
an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I
do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I
have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard
until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the
standard of sound teaching that you have heard from
me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard
the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the
Holy Spirit living in us.

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

Hymn: Faith will not grow from words alone

Elizabeth J Smith (b. 1956) - tune: O Waly Waly

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- 1. Faith will not grow from words alone,
from proofs provided, scripture known;
our faith must feel its way about,
and live with question-marks and doubt.**
- 2. The pattern Jesus showed, we share:
life comes through death, hope through
despair.
God is made known in brokenness,
and faith feeds on God’s emptiness.**
- 3. The church still tells how Jesus came
through death to glorious life again –
the strangest story! Yet, maybe,
our faith will thrive on mystery.**
- 4. Faith takes the little that we know,
and calls for hope, and tells us: Go!
Love and take courage, come what may;
Christ will be with us on the way.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St
Luke 17. 1–10

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Occasions for stumbling are
bound to come, but woe to anyone by whom they come!
It would be better for you if a millstone were hung
around your neck and you were thrown into the sea than
for you to cause one of these little ones to stumble. Be
on your guard! If another disciple sins, you must rebuke
the offender, and if there is repentance, you must

forgive. And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, "I repent", you must forgive.' The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you. 'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"'

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: [As the deer pants for the water](#)
Martin Nystrom (b.1956) based on Ps 42.1-2 - tune: As The Deer Pants
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- 1. 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.**
- 2. 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,
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.**

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: Shout for joy!

John L Bell (b.1949) - tune: Lansdowne

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- 1. Shout for joy! The Lord has let us feast;
heaven's own fare has fed the last and least;
Christ's own peace is shared again on earth;
God the Spirit fill us with new worth.**
- 2. No more doubting, no more senseless dread:
God's good self has graced our wine and
bread;
all the wonder heaven has kept in store
now is ours to keep for evermore.**
- 3. Celebrate with saints who dine on high,
witnesses that love can never die.
'Hallelujah! – 'thus their voices ring:
nothing less in gratitude we bring.**
- 4. Praise the Maker, praise the Maker's Son,
praise the Spirit – three yet ever one;
praise the God whose food and friends avow
heaven starts here! The kingdom beckons
now!**

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.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sun 2 nd Oct	<u>17th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Eucharist (<i>also live-streamed</i>) 8pm AA meeting
Mon 3 rd Oct	10.30am AI Anon meeting
Tue 4 th Oct	1pm AA meeting 5.30pm community meal: TDRM
Wed 5 th Oct	10am Eucharist 5.30pm community meal: Winter Shelter 7.30pm NA meeting
Thu 6 th Oct	10.30am AA meeting 7.30pm AA meeting
Fri 7 th Oct	-
Sat 8 th Oct	7am AA meeting 10.30am Focus on Faith & Friendship
Sun 9 th Oct	<u>18th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Eucharist (<i>also live-streamed</i>) 8pm AA meeting

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NOTICES

Fr John on leave

Rev'd Wendy Pullen is the locum vicar while Fr John is away until 21st October.

Preparing for November's Annual Meeting

Thanks to those parishioners who attended the first parish workshop on 24th September. Parishioners who have not submitted the questionnaire yet are requested to do so, either on paper or via the emailed form.

The second workshop will be held on Sat 29 October, at 10am, and all parishioners are invited to participate in that.

Parish Workshop: our Mission Pathway

This second parish workshop will help us engage with the overall mission action plan in the light of the

Missional Pathway, as described through the sermon series in July. Over the Sundays before the workshop 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 4th stage: *Embracing The Gospel*. This describes people who are interested in knowing about Jesus. They need to hear the gospel and be invited to establish a relationship with God.

This is where the parish needs to have activities where people can explore the gospel in a meaningful way. This is not simply about hearing the gospel, but also exploring it - to be able to ask questions and engage in dialogue. And there needs to be opportunity for people to make a response to the claims of Jesus - hopefully a conversion of deciding to intentionally follow the way of Jesus in their life.

This is what courses like the Alpha Course, and Christianity Explained, and catechumenate courses are for. The parish's Mission Action Team has discerned that it would benefit the parish if we run such a course for ourselves, as well as for others who might be interested.