



St John the Divine

Sung Eucharist

6th Sunday after Epiphany

12th February 2023

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hymn: TIS477 *Jesus calls us here to meet him*

John Bell (b.1949) & Graham Maule (b.1958) - tune: Gaelic Air

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- 1. Jesus calls us here to meet him**
as, through word and song and prayer,
we affirm God's promised presence
where his people live and care.
Praise the God who keeps his promise;
praise the Son who calls us friends;
praise the Spirit who, among us,
to our hopes and fears attends.
- 2. Jesus calls us to confess him**
Word of Life and Lord of All,
sharer of our flesh and frailness
saving all who fail or fall.
Tell his holy human story;
tell his tales that all may hear;
tell the world that Christ in glory
came to earth to meet us here.
- 3. Jesus calls us to each other:**
vastly different though we are;
race and colour, class and gender
neither limit nor debar.
Join the hand of friend and stranger;
join the hands of age and youth;
join the faithful and the doubter
in their common search for truth.

Sentence

Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Psalm 119.1

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.

Almighty God,
you gave the law to guide our lives:
grant that we may never shrink from your
commandments,
but, as we are taught by your Spirit,
may fulfil your law in perfect love;
through Christ our Lord and Master,
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 Sirach 15.15–20

If you choose, you can keep the commandments,
and to act faithfully is a matter of your own choice.
He has placed before you fire and water;
stretch out your hand for whichever you choose.
Before each person are life and death,
and whichever one chooses will be given.
For great is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is mighty in power and sees everything;
his eyes are on those who fear him,
and he knows every human action.
He has not commanded anyone to be wicked,
and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

May your word live in us,

and bear much fruit to your glory.

Psalm 119.1–8

- ¹ Blessed are those whose way is blameless:
who walk in the law of the Lord.
- ² **Blessed are those who keep his commands:**
and seek him with their whole heart;
- ³ Those who do no wrong:
but walk in the ways of our God.
- ⁴ **For you, Lord, have commanded us:**
to persevere in all your precepts.
- ⁵ If only my ways were unerring:
towards the keeping of your statutes!

6 **Then I should not be ashamed:
when I looked on all your commandments.**

7 I will praise you with sincerity of heart:
as I learn your righteous judgements.

8 **I will keep your statutes:
O forsake me not utterly.**

A reading from Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth
3.1-9

And so, sisters and brothers, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

Hymn: TiS466 Peace with the Father
James Quinn (b.1919) - tune: Song 47

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- 1. Peace with the Father, peace with Christ his Son,
peace with the Spirit, keep us ever one.**
- 2. Love of the Father, love of Christ his Son,
love of the Spirit, make all Christians one.**
- 3. Sin has divided those whom Christ made one;
Father, forgive us through your loving Son.**
- 4. Send forth your Spirit, Father, from above
on us, your children, one with Christ in love.**
- 5. Christians, forgive each other from your heart;
Christ be among us, nevermore to part.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
St Matthew 5.21-37

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said: 'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement."' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your

brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. 'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

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

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, 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.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace there
shall be no end.

cf Isaiah 9.6,7

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

Offertory hymn: TiS632 In great thanksgiving
Melchizedek M Solis (b.1966) - tune: Malate
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- 1. In great thanksgiving,
O Love divine,
who from our sorrow
redeemed us all,
cleansed of regretting,
relieved of fear,
we come rejoicing
for new life here.**
- 2. In celebration
of power bestowed,
we who were sinners
are followers bold,
forgiving enemies
we sing your praise,
with jubilation
love's banner raise.**
- 3. In dedication
we give our lives
to heed your bidding
to seek the lost,
to all the hungry
bring food for feasts,
to fear-bound people
strength for life's tests.**
- 4. In exaltation
of Christ our Lord,
who for the faithful
true life ensured,
we laud him Saviour,
we teach his way
of peace with justice,
hope for today.**

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.

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.

You anointed him as Messiah,

the light of the nations,
and revealed him as the hope

of all who thirst for righteousness and peace.

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.
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.**

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.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray.
God of the nations,
we thank you for nourishing us with this holy sacrament.
Guide us by your presence,
that we may bring your light
to those who dwell in darkness,
and establish your justice in the earth. **Amen.**

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: [TIS219ii Jesus comes with all his grace](#)
Charles Wesley (1707-88) alt. - tune: Orientis Partibus
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- 1. Jesus comes with all his grace,
comes to save a fallen race,
object of our glorious hope,
Jesus comes to lift us up.**
- 2. Let the living stones cry out,
every child of Abraham shout;
praise we all our lowly king,
give him thanks, rejoice and sing.**
- 3. He has our salvation wrought,
he our captive souls has bought,
he has reconciled to God,
he has washed us in his blood.**

4. **We are now his lawful right,
walk as children of the light;
we shall soon obtain the grace,
pure in heart, to see his face.**
5. **We shall gain our calling's prize;
after God we all shall rise,
filled with joy, and love, and peace,
perfected in holiness.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

May Christ the Son of God be manifest to you,
that your lives may be a light to the world;
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 12 th Feb	<u>6th Sunday after Epiphany</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 11.20am Parish Network Team 8pm AA meeting
Mon 13 th Feb	10.30am <i>Al Anon meeting</i>
Tue 14 th Fe	1pm AA meeting 5.30pm <i>community meal: TDRM</i> <i>St John's team to cook</i>
Wed 15 th Feb	10am Eucharist 5.30pm <i>community meal: Winter Shelter</i> 7.30pm NA meeting
Thu 16 th Feb	10.30am AA meeting 11am BUPA aged care communion 7.30pm AA meeting
Fri 17 th Feb	-
Sat 18 th Feb	7am AA meeting 10am Working bee at church 10.30am <i>Focus on Faith & Friendship</i> 7pm <i>Lai Christian Church</i>
Sun 19 th Feb	<u>Transfiguration Sunday</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 8pm AA meeting

NOTICES

Fr John on sick leave

Fr John is on leave for the rest of February: "I am attending to a long-standing medical issue that I can no longer afford to ignore." Do welcome Rev'd Stewart Taplin who is leading the services today.

Sung Eucharist services resumed

We have resumed the Sung Eucharist setting for the Sunday 10am services. For those not familiar with - and can read - the music, this can be found in the red Together in Song hymn books, available in the pews. The setting is #757, composed by Philip Mathias.



Lent course: *Christ's Costly Gift of Reconciliation*

Ash Wednesday is on 22 February. The recommended Lent course for this year has been prepared by CTBI - Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. It is sent as a weekly email on Wednesdays, starting on Ash Wednesday. The course can be subscribed to here: <https://ctbi.org.uk/lent-study-2023/>

Parishioners are encouraged to undertake this either individually or with the Saturday morning group meeting at Joan Sweet's home.

Rosters for February - April

Sign up sheets for the 8am and 10am services still have spaces to be filled. Please consider volunteering for one of the many ways in which you can contribute to the Sunday services.

St John's TDRM team

It is our turn to cook for The Dining Room Mission again this coming Tuesday, 14th Feb. We will be cooking Shepherd's Pie served with green vegetables. Dessert is being provided by a local Aged Care Residence.

If you are able to help with the cooking please speak to me. The main ingredients will be provided & can be collected at the church before or after the 10am Sunday service, or I am happy to drop them in to you. The food needs to be delivered hot to the church by 5pm, or I can arrange to collect it earlier if you prefer.

Volunteers are also needed to help in the kitchen (from 4.30pm), talk to the guests (from 5pm) and serve the food (from 5.15pm).

Cathy

Working bee - Sat 18 Feb

The monthly working bee is scheduled for the 3rd Saturday morning at 10am. If you are able to participate please speak to Helen Duncan who is responsible for co-ordinating this.