



St John the Divine
Eucharist service
Transfiguration Sunday
19th 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

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Welcome and notices

Hymn: *Heaven is open wide*

Michael Forster (b.1946) - tune: Diademata (TiS228)

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- 1. Heaven is open wide,
and Christ in glory stands,
with all authority endowed
and set at God's right hand.
Above the world of noise
extends his reign of peace,
and all the blood of martyrs calls
our angry ways to cease.**
- 2. Heaven is open wide,
and perfect love we see
in God's eternal self revealed:
the blessed Trinity.
Christ for the Church has prayed,
that we may all be one,
and share the triune grace whereby
creation was begun.**
- 3. Heaven is open wide,
and Christ in glory stands:
the Source and End, the First and Last,
with justice in his hands.
Let all the thirsty come
where life is flowing free,
and Christ, in splendour yet unknown,
our morning star will be.**

Sentence

Suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him!'

Matthew 17.5

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.

O God,

in the transfiguration of your Son

you confirmed the mysteries of the faith

by the witness of Moses and Elijah,

and in the voice from the cloud

you foreshadowed our adoption as your children:

make us, with Christ, heirs of your glory,

and bring us to enjoy its fullness;

through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God,

now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Exodus 24.12–18

The Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction. 'So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.'

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

May your word live in us,

and bear much fruit to your glory.

Psalm 2

- ¹ Why are the nations in tumult:
and why do the peoples cherish a vain dream?
- ² **The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers conspire together:
against the Lord and against his anointed,
saying,**
- ³ 'Let us break their bonds asunder:
let us throw off their chains from us.'
- ⁴ **He that dwells in heaven shall laugh them to
scorn:
the Lord will hold them in derision.**
- ⁵ Then will he speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury:
'I, the Lord, have set up my king on Zion my holy
hill.'
- ⁶ **I will announce the Lord's decree,
that which he has spoken:
'You are my son, this day have I begotten you.**
- ⁷ 'Ask of me,
and I will give you the nations for your inheritance:
the uttermost parts of the earth for your
possession.
- ⁸ **'You may break them with a rod of iron:
and shatter them in pieces like a potter's
vessel.'**
- ⁹ Now therefore be wise, O kings:
be advised, you that are judges of the earth.
- ¹⁰ **Serve the Lord with awe,
and govern yourselves in fear and trembling:
lest he be angry, and you perish in your
course.**
- ¹¹ For his wrath is quickly kindled:
blessed are those that turn to him for refuge.

A reading from Peter's second letter 1.16–21

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased. 'We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but women and men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

Hymn: TiS243 Christ upon the mountain peak
Luke Connaughton (1917-79) alt. - tune: Feniton
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- 1. Christ upon the mountain peak
stands alone in glory blazing;
let us, if we dare to speak,
with the saints and angels praise him –
Alleluia!**
- 2. Trembling at his feet we saw
Moses and Elijah speaking:
all the Prophets and the Law
shout through them their joyful greeting –
Alleluia!**
- 3. Swift the cloud of glory came,
God proclaiming in its thunder
Jesus as his Son by name!
Nations, cry aloud in wonder –
Alleluia!**
- 4. This is God's beloved Son;
Law and Prophets sing before him,
First and Last, and only One:
let creation now adore him –
Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St
Matthew 17.1–9

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. 'While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him! 'When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid. 'And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised 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

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: [TiS453 We limit not the truth of God](#)

Luke Connaughton (1917-79) alt. - tune: Ellacombe

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- 1. We limit not the truth of God
to our poor reach of mind,
by notions of our day and sect,
crude, partial and confined:
no, let a new and better hope
within our hearts be stirred:
*The Lord has yet more light and truth
to break forth from his word.***
- 2. Our faithful forebears searching went
the first steps of the way;
this was the dawning, yet to grow
into the perfect day.
And grow it shall, our glorious sun
will brighter rays afford:
*The Lord has yet more light and truth
to break forth from his word.***
- 3. O Father, Son, and Spirit, send
us increase from above;
enlarge, expand all living souls
to comprehend your love;
and make us all go on to know,
with nobler powers conferred,
*The Lord has yet more light and truth
to break forth from his word.***

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.

*Please come forward to receive communion or a
blessing.*

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: TiS143 Immortal, invisible, God only wise
Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908) alt. - tune: St Denio
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**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, unhasting, 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.**

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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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."

Please welcome Rev'd Stewart Taplin who is leading the services today.

Ash Wednesday Services – 22nd February

10am - at St John's

7pm - a combined service with St James & St Peter Anglican Church, Kilsyth-Montrose, 686 Mount Dandenong Road, Kilsyth



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 individually.

St John's TDRM Team – Thank You

It was another terrific effort from our team last Tuesday. Thank you to our wonderful cooks who prepared the delicious Shepherd's Pies which were much appreciated and received many compliments from the guests. It was especially nice to welcome 2 new cooks to our happy team this time, helping share the workload while they also shared in the many blessings that come from being part of the wider Dining Room Mission family. A special thank you also to the hardworking kitchen team who always make our turn in the kitchen a pleasure for everyone involved! It was a privilege to see so many people (both guests and volunteers) experiencing the friendship, the sense of belonging, and the connection to community and to God that lies at the heart of the Dining Room's mission.

Our next cooking date is Tuesday 14th March so please put that into your dairies.

Cathy



One of our parishioners, Jenny Wakefield, is performing in the well-known musical *My Fair Lady*, being presented at the Alexander Theatre in Clayton. Five performances will be held over 30 March to 2 April.

If you would like to join a group of parishioners attending the matinee on Saturday April 1st at 2pm, please contact the office or see Cathy **ASAP** as tickets are selling fast.

Transport will be arranged for those who need it.

Working Bee – Thank You to all those who attended the working bee yesterday and helped give the All Saints & All Souls Chapel, the office downstairs and the adjacent outside area a much needed tidy up and clean.



THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

- Sun 19th Feb Transfiguration Sunday
 8am Eucharist
 10am Sung Eucharist
 8pm AA meeting
- Mon 20th Feb 10.30am *Al Anon meeting*
- Tue 21st Feb 1pm AA meeting
 5.30pm *community meal: TDRM*
- Wed 22nd Feb Ash Wednesday
 10am Ash Wednesday service
 7pm Combined Ash Wednesday service at St James & St Peter Anglican Church Kilsyth-Montrose,
 5.30pm *community meal: Winter Shelter*
 7.30pm NA meeting
- Thu 23rd Feb 10.15am Croydon Grove communion
 10.30am AA meeting
 7.30pm AA meeting
- Fri 24th Feb -
- Sat 25th Feb 7am AA meeting
 10.30am *Focus on Faith & Friendship*
 7pm *Lai Christian Church*
- Sun 26th Feb 1st Sunday in Lent
 8am Eucharist
 10am Sung Eucharist
 8pm AA meeting