



St John the Divine

Eucharist service

2nd Sunday of Easter

16th April 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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Welcome and notices

Hymn: TiS 379 He is risen, he is risen
tune: Unser Herrscher (Neander)

- 1. He is risen, he is risen!**
Tell it with a joyful voice:
he has burst his three days' prison,
let the whole wide earth rejoice.
Death is conquered, we are free,
Christ has won the victory.
- 2. Come, with high and holy gladness,**
sing our Lord's triumphant song:
not one touch of twilight sadness
dims his resurrection morn;
brightly dawns the radiant east,
brighter far our Easter feast.
- 3. He is risen, he is risen!**
He has opened heaven's gate:
we are free from sin's dark prison,
risen to a holier state;
soon a brighter Easter beam
on our longing eyes shall stream.

Sentence

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a
living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from
the dead.

1 Peter 1.3

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 and eternal God,

the strength of those who believe

and the hope of those who doubt:

may we, who have not seen, have faith

and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing;

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

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

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Acts 2.14a, 22 – 32

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

"I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,

or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;

you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

'Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne.

Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

"He was not abandoned to Hades,

nor did his flesh experience corruption."

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

May your word live in us,

and bear much fruit to your glory.

Psalm 16

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- ² **I say to the Lord, 'You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.'**
- ³ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.
- ⁴ **Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;
their drink-offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.**
- ⁵ The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
- ⁶ **The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.**
- ⁷ I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
- ⁸ **I keep the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**
- ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
- ¹⁰ **For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.**
- ¹¹ You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

A reading from Peter 1:1-12

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who have been chosen and destined by God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood:

May grace and peace be yours in abundance.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice,* even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen* him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours made careful search and inquiry, inquiring about the person or time that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated, when it testified in advance to the sufferings destined for Christ and the subsequent glory. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in regard to the things

that have now been announced to you through those who brought you good news by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look!

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

Hymn: TIS 407 Breathe on me breath of God
tune: Trentham by Robert Jackson, 1888

- 1 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.**
- 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours,
to do and to endure.**
- 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
and all my life refine
until this earthly part of me
glows with your fire divine**
- 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
for all eternity.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John 20:19-31

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin*), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are

written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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 our Passover Lamb has been offered for us,
therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a
sincere and a true heart.

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

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and
said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

And also with you. Alleluia.

Offertory hymn: TIS 136 There's a wideness in God's

mercy
tune: Cross of Jesus

- 1. There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea,
and forgiveness in his justice
sealed for us on Calvary.**
- 2. There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.**
- 3. For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.**
- 4. But we make his love too narrow
by false limits of our own,
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal he will not own.**
- 5. If our love were but more simple
we should take him at his word;
and our lives would be illumined
by the goodness of our Lord.**

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.

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.

And now we give you thanks
that you raised him to life triumphant,
and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death,
the reign of sin is ended,
a new day has dawned,
a broken world is restored
and we are made whole once more.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.*

SENDING OUT GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray.
Eternal God, giver of life,
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.
May we who celebrate this holy feast
walk in his risen light
and bring new life to all creation.

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.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Almighty God,
who redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ,
who raised us to newness of life
through the waters of baptism,
and has brought us out of slavery
into everlasting freedom,
give you joy and peace in faith

and bring you to your eternal inheritance;
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 the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn: TIS 372 Jesus lives! our terror now
tune: St Albinus

1. **Jesus lives! your terrors now
can, O death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
now the grave cannot enthrall us.
Hallelujah!**
2. **Jesus lives! for us he died;
then may we, for Jesus living,
pure in heart, in him abide,
glory to our Saviour giving.
Hallelujah!**
3. **Jesus lives! our hearts know well
naught from us his love shall sever:
fame, or hurt, or powers of hell
tear us from his keeping never.
Hallelujah!**
4. **Jesus lives! henceforth is death
not for us a gloomy portal
when we take our final breath,
but the gate to life immortal.
Hallelujah!**
5. **Jesus lives! to him the throne
over all the world is given;
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven.
Hallelujah!**

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NOTICES

Dear People of St John's,

*Congratulations on your faithful and festive time over the
great days of Easter.*

*You worshipped with great passion across the great Holy
Days and shared in gentle hospitality to one-another and
others who came to explore their faith journey with us.*

*Thank you to all who prepared the worship, our church,
shared in leading worship and offered refreshments. It
was an excellent team effort. May we move forward as
people of the Resurrection.*

Enjoy your time with Fr Laurence

With my prayers and best wishes

Stewart + + +

Welcome to our Locum Vicars

Revd Lawrence Anbalagan will be with us today, and the
next two Sundays and Wednesdays in April. Please
welcome him as he kindly assists us.

Revd Stewart will return in May.

Nametags

Please remember to wear your nametags, it is of great
assistance to our locums as well as newcomers. If you
do not have one or need a replacement, please fill in
your details on the form in the foyer.

St John's TDRM Team – Thank You & Special Request

A big thank you to everyone who helped with cooking
and serving the meal at the Dining Room last Tuesday.
St John's provided another generous and tasty meal for
the guests, and it was another amazing team effort and
happy collaboration with the other TDRM volunteers.
Well done everyone!

Special request: the rostered TDRM team is unable to
do the cooking this coming week so they have swapped
with our next turn on May 9th. The St John's team has 2
casseroles left over from last Tuesday so we will be
providing 2 more slow cooked casseroles for this week.
Although we are only responsible for the main meal this
time, assistance in the kitchen would be most welcome.
See Cathy if you can help.

Parish Kindergarten representative needed

The St John's Kindergarten is seeking a parish
representative. Please talk to one of the Wardens if you
are interested in this significant ministry.

Parish roles and tasks

A list of the many tasks which go to make the church run
will be displayed on the notice board and parishioners
are encouraged to look for something that suits their
interest and skills.

There are **vacancies on the Parish Council**...please speak to one of the members of the Council if you are interested.

The Patronal Festival will be celebrated on 7th May with one service only at 10am. Everyone is welcome and a shared feast is scheduled after the service. Please indicate what you can bring on the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

LOOKING AHEAD

- 6th May St John's Kindergarten Open Day
- 7th May St John's Patronal Festival & Commissioning of Parish Council
- 14th May Parish Network Ministry meeting after the 10am service
- 21st May Bishop Paul Barker visits to preach and celebrate. Meeting to follow

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH	
Sun 16 th April	<u>2nd Sunday in Easter - Rev'd Lawrence Anbalagan</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 8pm AA meeting
Mon 17 th April	10.30am AI Anon meeting
Tue 18 th April	1pm AA meeting 5.30pm community meal: TDRM St John's Team to provide main meal
Wed 19 th April	10am Eucharist 5.30pm community meal: Winter Shelter 7.30pm NA meeting
Thu 20 th April	10.45am BUPA 10.30am AA meeting 7.30pm AA meeting
Fri 21 st April	-
Sat 22 nd April	7.00am AA meeting 10.30am Focus on Faith & Friendship 6.00pm Lai Christian Church
Sun 23 rd April	<u>3rd Sunday in Easter - Rev'd Lawrence Anbalagan</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Eucharist 8pm AA meeting