



St John the Divine
Eucharist service
4th Sunday of Easter
30th 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 580 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us**
tune: Mannheim, words from Hymns for Today's Church
(Jubilate)

**Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
through this world's tempestuous sea;
guards us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
now and to eternity:
here possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be.**

**Saviour, by your grace restore us-
all our weaknesses are plain;
you have lived on earth before us,
you have felt our grief and pain;
tempted, taunted, yet undaunted,
from the depths you rose again.**

**Spirit of our God descending,
fill our hearts with holy peace;
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cease:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
ever shall our joys increase.**

Sentence

'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'

John 10.11

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.
God of all power,
you called from death our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep:
send us as shepherds to rescue the lost,
to heal the injured,
and to feed one another with understanding;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds* to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home* and ate their food with glad and generous* hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

Psalm 23

A Psalm of David.

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² **He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;***

³ he restores my soul.*

He leads me in right paths*
for his name's sake.

⁴ **Even though I walk through the darkest valley,*
I fear no evil;**

**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long**

A reading from 1 Peter 2:1-10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

'See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'
To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner',
and
'A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.'
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, - in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.
Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

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

Hymn: TIS 145 The king of love my shepherd is
tune: Dominus Regit Me

**The king of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home rejoicing brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 10.1 - 10

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

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 261 Lord, you are the light of life to
me
tune: Fairmead

**Lord, you are the light of life to me;
when darkness hides my path, you help me see.
Shine on me, O Lord, that now and all my days
your light may lead me on, guiding my ways.**

**Lord, you are the rock on which I stand,
stable and strong in you, held by your hand;
keep me safe, O Lord, in weakness let there be
your loving, firm embrace upholding me.**

**Lord, you are the truth that sets me free;
only in you is found true liberty.
Teach me then, O Lord, in all things to pursue
your good and perfect will, growing like you.**

**Lord, you are the Lamb of God who died,
suffering for love of me, scorned, crucified.
Love me still, O Lord, let others daily see
your selfless, serving love flowing through me.**

**Lord, you are the King who ever reigns;
earth's rulers rise and fall: your throne remains.
Rule my life, O Lord, I yield myself anew
your name to glorify, living for 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.

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 687 God gives us a future
tune: Camberwell

**God gives us a future,
Daring us to go
Into dreams and dangers
On a path unknown.
We will face tomorrow
In the Spirit's power,
We will let God change us,
For new life starts now.**

**We must leave behind us
Sins of yesterday,
For God's new beginning
Is a better way.
Fear and doubt and habit
Must not hold us back:
God gives hope, and insight,
And the strength we lack.**

**Holy Spirit, teach us
How to read the signs,
How to meet the challenge
Of our troubled times.
Love us into action,
Stir us into prayer,
Till we choose God's life, and
Find our future there.**

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St John the Divine Patronal Festival

10am Sunday 7th May

Our Patronal Festival will be celebrated next Sunday 7th May with one combined service 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.

If you would like a lift to church, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Wardens below.

NOTICES

Welcome & thank you to our Locum Vicars

Revd Lawrence Anbalagan is with us again today. Please welcome him and thank him for assisting us for the past few weeks.

Revd Stewart will return next Sunday.

City to City

City to City will be engaging with the parish in the coming months to assist us to grow our ministry and church community.

Further information will be provided closer to dates of engagement.

Building Repairs Update

The Architects have met with Maroondah City Council and are now in the process of submitting final plans to undertake the roof replacement, drainage works and crack repairs including underpinning the foundations as required. The diocese is also required to grant approval for the works to proceed.

More information will be provided as approvals are provided and works commence. Contact Ken for further information.

Kindergarten Open Day May 6

The Kindergarten would appreciate our help making plates of baked goodies for the Open Day next Saturday. Plates and labels are available in the foyer. Please see Anne Campbell for further information.

Mothers' Day Fair

The parish of St James & St Peter Anglican Church Kilsyth-Montrose will also be holding their Mother's Day Fair next Saturday from 9am till 2.00pm.

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 10am service
- 21st May - Bishop Paul Barker visits to preach and celebrate; Meeting to follow

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Sun 30 th April | <u>3rd Sunday in Easter - Rev'd Lawrence Anbalagan</u> 8am Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 8pm AA meeting |
| Mon 1 st May | 10.30am AI Anon meeting |
| Tue 2 nd May | 1pm AA meeting 5.30pm community meal: TDRM |
| Wed 3 rd May | 10am Eucharist 5.30pm community meal: Winter Shelter 7.30pm NA meeting |
| Thu 4 th May | 11.00am Tarralla 10.30am AA meeting 7.30pm AA meeting |
| Fri 5 th May | - |
| Sat 6 th May | 10am – 12pm <u>St John's Kindergarten Open Day</u> 7.00am AA meeting 10.30am Focus on Faith & Friendship 6.00pm Lai Christian Church |
| Sun 7 th May | <u>St John the Divine Patronal Festival - Rev'd Stewart Taplin</u> 10am Combined Service - Sung Eucharist followed by parish lunch 8pm AA meeting |