

St John the Divine Eucharist service

13th Sunday after Pentecost

27th August 2023



Welcome to our worship and community life at St John the Divine. You are encouraged to participate in whatever way best helps you connect with God, to know how much God loves you and cares about you. All are welcome to come forward to make your communion with God,

receiving either the sacrament, or a blessing if you prefer.

You are invited to take this booklet away with you, to be able to refer to the notices in the back - and to reflect further on the Scripture readings.

All stand if able when the bell rings, for Processional entry.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also, with you



Hymn: TIS 626 – Lord of creation, to you be all praise!

**1 Lord of creation, to you be all praise!
Most mighty your working, most wondrous your ways!
Your glory and might are beyond us to tell,
and yet in the heart of the humble you dwell.**

**2 Lord of all power, I give you my will,
in joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.
Your bondage is freedom: your service is song;
and, held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.**

**3 Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind:
rich truth that surpasses our knowledge to find,
what eye has not seen and what ear has not heard
Is taught by your Spirit and shines from your word.**

**4 Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you for all you impart,
your love to inspire me, your counsel to guide,
your presence to shield me, whatever betide.**

**5 Lord of all being, I give you my all;
if ever I leave you I stumble and fall;
but, led in your service your word to obey,
I'll walk in your freedom to the end of the way.**

Sentence: Jesus said to them "Who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16.15-16)

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, fount of all wisdom,
in the humble witness of the apostle Peter
you have shown the foundation of our faith:
give us the light of your Spirit,
that, recognising in Jesus of Nazareth the Son of the living God,
we may be living stones for the building up of your holy Church:
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever **Amen.**

Said together.

**God of mission, Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship, And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers, In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Exodus 1.8-2.10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, 'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.' But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?'

The midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.' So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.'

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

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

Psalm 138

Of David.

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

**I bow down towards your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your
faithfulness;**

for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.

**On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.**

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.

**They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.**

For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

**Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;**
you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers me.

**The LORD will fulfil his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures for ever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

A reading from Romans 12.1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

Gradual Hymn: TIS 563 - Let him to whom we now belong.

**1 Let him to whom we now belong
his sovereign right assert,
and take up every thankful song
and every loving heart.**

**2 He justly claims us for his own,
who bought us with a price:
as Christian live to Christ alone,
to Christ alone we die.**

**3 We come in deep humility
your easy yoke to prove,
and own it perfect liberty
to serve the Lord we love.**

**4 Jesus, your own at last receive,
fulfil our hearts' desire;
and let us to thy glory live
and in thy cause expire.**

**5 Our souls and bodies we resign;
with joy we render thee
our all, no longer ours, but Thine,
to all eternity.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew 16.13-20
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Please be seated for the 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 Lords 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: TIS 261 - Lord, you are the light of life to me;

**1 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 my lead me on, guiding my ways.**

**2 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.**

**3 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.**

**4 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.**

**5 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 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.
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 forever. 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.

All are welcome to come forward to receive communion or a blessing if you prefer.

SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray.
Living God,,
In this holy meal you fill us with new hope.
May the power of your love,
which we have known in word and sacrament,
continue your saving work among us,
give us courage for our pilgrimage,
and bring us to the joys you promise.

Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.

NOTICES

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Please stand for the blessing if you are able.

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, those whom you love and have loved
now and always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
+ In the name of Christ, amen.

Hymn: TIS 472 - Father of mercy, God of consolation,

**1 Father of mercy, God of consolation,
look on your people, gathered here to praise you:
pity our weakness, come in power to aid us,
source of all blessing.**

**2 Son of the Father, Lord of all creation,
come as our Saviour, Jesus, friend of sinners:
grant us forgiveness, lift our downcast Spirit,
heal us and save us.**

**3 Joy-giving Spirit, be our light in darkness,
come to befriend us, help us bear our burdens:
give us true courage, breath your peace around us,
stay with us always.**

**4 God in three persons, Father, Son and Spirit,
come to renew us, fill your church with glory:
grant us your healing, pledge of resurrection,
foretaste of heaven.**



Thank you for joining in our worship today. We offer an after-service 'cuppa' in our meeting room next to the foyer after Sunday services - you are invited to join us.

If you wish to know more about our community life, speak to our welcome team members who hand out the service books, ask for a welcome brochure, or visit our website.

Worship Roster today – 8am Eucharistic assistant Jim Moore, R1 Pat Mackay, R2 Pat Draper, Communion minister Shamindra Costa, Welcomers Eileen Moore & Lyn Lynch.

10am Eucharistic assistant Naomi Nesimnanhan, R1 Judy Carter, R2 Howard Carter, Intercessor Elizabeth Sanderson, Communion minister Barry De Viell, Welcomers Elizabeth Sanderson, Lyn Lynch. Counters Naomi Nesimnanhan & Helen Duncan.

NOTICES

Office Manager

St John the Divine Croydon is seeking a person to be engaged as Office Manager in a part time capacity.

The person would be required to attend the Parish Office each weekday for three hours per day.

Applicants will need to demonstrate experience in general office administration, events and website management.

Please contact Ken Hutton on (m) 0427394532 or at Khutton@stjohndivine.org.au for the position description or further information.

September Worship Rosters: and have been emailed out. For those parishioners not on email hard copies are available in the Narthex. Any queries contact Helen Duncan.

Parish Directory

Address: 5 Toorak Ave, Croydon Vic 3136
Office: 03 9723 5099
Email: office@stjohndivine.org.au
Website: www.stjohndivine.org.au - *also on Facebook*
Acting Vicar: Fr. Sathi (Sam) Anthony

Please email notices to Parish Office by Wednesday 2pm

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

13th Sunday after Pentecost

- Sun 27th August 8:00 am Said Eucharist
10:00 am Sung Eucharist
11:30 am Church Wardens meeting LG meeting room
8:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.
- Mon 28th August 10:30 am AI Anon meeting in fellowship room.
- Tue 29th August 1:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.
5:30 pm Community meal: TDRM
- Wed 30th August 10:00 am Said Eucharist in Chapel
5:30 pm Community meal: Winter Shelter
7:30 pm N.A. meeting in fellowship room.
- Thurs 31st August 10:30 am A.A. meeting in fellowship room
No Aged Care communion this week 5th Thursday.
- Fri 1st September
- Sat 2nd September 7:00 am A.A. meeting in fellowship room.
10:30 am Focus on Faith & Friendship meeting.
6:00 pm Lai Christian Church service.

14th Sunday after Pentecost

- Sun 3rd September 8:00 am Said Eucharist
10:00 am Sung Eucharist
8:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.

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