

St John the Divine Eucharist service

14th Sunday after Pentecost

3rd September 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.

WELCOME

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

Opening Hymn: TIS 125 – The God of Abram praise.

**1 The God of Abraham praise
who reigns enthroned above,
ancient of everlasting days,
and God of love:
The Lord, the great I AM
by earth and heaven confessed!
We bow and bless the sacred
name
for ever blest.**

**2 The God of Abraham praise,
whose all-sufficient grace
shall guide us all our happy
days
in all our ways.
He calls us each a friend,
he calls himself our God;
and he shall save us to the end
through Jesus' blood.**

**3 He by Himself has sworn,
we on his oath depend:
we shall, on eagles' wings
upborne,
to heaven ascend:
we shall behold his face,
we shall his power adore,
and sing the wonders of his
grace
for evermore.**

**4 The God who reigns on high
the great archangels sing,
and "Holy, holy, holy," cry,
'almighty King!'
who was and is the same
and evermore shall be,
the Lord, our Father, great I AM
eternally.**

**5 Before the Saviour's face
the ransomed nations bow,
all praising his almighty grace,
for ever new.**

**He shows his wounds of love,
they kindle to a flame
and sound through all the
worlds above the slaughtered
Lamb.**

**6 The whole triumphant host
gives thanks to God on high;
'Hail, Father, Son and Spirit
blest!'**

**they ever cry.
Hail, Abraham's God and ours!
with heaven our songs we raise:
all might and majesty are yours,
and endless praise.**

Sentence: If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow him.

(Matthew 16.24-25)

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,
whose Son has shown the way of the cross
to be the way of life:
transform and renew our minds
that we may not be conformed to this world
but may offer ourselves wholly to you as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for 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 3.1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them.

So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.' But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?' He said, 'I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.'

But Moses said to God, 'If I come to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your ancestors has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' He said further, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "I AM has sent me to you."' God also said to Moses, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you":

This is my name for ever,
and this my title for all generations.

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

Psalms 105.1-6, 23-26.

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.**

Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

**Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.**

Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgements he has uttered,

**O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

Then Israel came to Egypt;

Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.

**And the LORD made his people very fruitful,
and made them stronger than their foes,**

whose hearts he then turned to hate his people,
to deal craftily with his servants.

**He sent his servant Moses,
and Aaron whom he had chosen.**

A reading from Romans 12.9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

Gradual Hymn: TIS 648 – Help us to help each other.

(tune Aurelia)

**1 Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us
and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted,
and meant to love and live.**

**2 Teach us, O Lord, your
lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them
or as they may become.**

**3 Let your acceptance change
us,
so that we may be moved
in living situations
to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance
until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness,
and laughter's healing art.**

**4 Lord, for today's encounters
with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance,
for righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing,
new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit;
Lord, free us, make us one!**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew 16.21-28
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

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: Take my life and let it be. (tune savannah)

**Take my life and let it be
all you purpose, Lord, for me;
consecrate my passing days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands-and let them move
at the impulse of your love;
take my feet and let them run
with the news of victory won.**

**Take my voice-and let me sing
always, only, for my king;
take my lips, let them proclaim
all the beauty of your name.**

**Take my wealth-all I possess,
make me rich in faithfulness;
take my mind that I may use
every power as you shall choose.**

**Take my motives and my will,
all your purpose to fulfil;
take my heart-it is your own,
it shall be your royal throne.**

**Take my love-my Lord, I pour
at your feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
yours for all eternity.**

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

Closing Hymn: TIS 595 – O Jesus, I have promised.

**O Jesus, I have promised
to serv you to the end;
Lord, be for ever near me,
my master and my friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wonder from the pathway
if you will be my guide.**

**Still let me feel you near me;
the world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle
and tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw me nearer
and shield my soul from sin.**

**O let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs od self-will;
Lord, speak to reassure me,
to chasten or control;
o speak, and make me listen,
true guardian of my soul.**

**Lord, let me see your footmarks
and in them plant my own;
that I may follow boldly
and your strength alone;
o guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my friend.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

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.



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 Helen Duncan, Reader Pat Mackay, Crucifer Shamindra Costa, Welcomers Eileen & Jim Moore.
10am Eucharistic assistant Helen Duncan, R1 Lois Vine, R2 Jenny Harris, Intercessor Jenny Wakefield, Crucifer Barry De Viell, Communion minister Elizabeth Sanderson, Welcomers Naomi Nesimnanhan & Jenny Harris, Counters Naomi Nesimnanhan & Mark 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: have been emailed out.

For those parishioners not on email hard copies are available in the Narthex.

Any queries contact Helen Duncan.

St John's Kindergarten: are using our fellowship room and kitchen facilities for a family Disco and BBQ on Friday the 8th September between 4:00 and 7:30 pm.

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 0400 248 347
please leave a message when calling.
Email: vicar@stjohndivine.org.au

Please email notices to Parish Office by Wednesday 2:00 pm.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sun 3 rd September	8:00 am Said Eucharist 10:00 am Sung Eucharist <i>8:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.</i>
Mon 4 th September	<i>10:30 am Al Anon meeting in fellowship room.</i>
Tue 5 th September	<i>1:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.</i> 5:30 pm Community meal: TDRM
Wed 6 th September	10:00 am Said Eucharist in Chapel <i>5:30 pm Community meal: Winter Shelter</i> <i>7:30 pm N.A. meeting in fellowship room.</i>
Thurs 7 th September	<i>10:30 am A.A. meeting in fellowship room</i> <i>11:00 am Tarralla Aged Care communion.</i>
Fri 8 th September	4:00-&:30 pm Kindergarten Disco & BBQ In Narthex & Fellowship room.
Sat 9 th September	<i>7:00 am A.A. meeting in fellowship room.</i> 10:30 am Focus on Faith & Friendship meeting. <i>6:00 pm Lai Christian Church service.</i>

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Sun 10 th September	8:00 am Said Eucharist 10:00 am Sung Eucharist <i>8:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.</i>
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