

Welcome to Worship at St Paul's

- Thank you for blessing us with your presence!
- If you are unable to join us for worship physically, click this [link](https://www.stpaulsboxhill.org.au) or go to our website to join us online. <https://www.stpaulsboxhill.org.au>.

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If you are new to St Paul's, the welcomers and ushers are happy to assist you with any questions you may have. The service order is projected for you to follow. After worship, please join us for morning tea in our Café space.

THIS WEEK:

1st Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm: 46

2nd Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

NEXT WEEK: 1st Sunday in Advent 30th Nov 25

1st Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm: 122

2nd Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Introduction: Today is the last Sunday of the Church Year. We hear the Good Friday story of the criminal on the cross who cries out to Jesus "Jesus remember me as you come into your kingdom". Today is the day that we remember that Jesus is our king who rules over everything. And he invites us to come into his presence to receive a feast as he shares his victory feast over death. He shares with us as a foretaste of the heavenly banquet awaiting us and all, like the thief on the cross, who put our trust in Jesus.

Let us pray:

- For those receiving communion for the first time today: Minnie Collyer, Ashleigh Goedecke, Thomas Goedecke, Oliver Juers, Ngyouru Ojulu and their families.
- With thanksgiving as we celebrate the feast of victory together with all the company of heaven.
- For Leanne, Sam, Jonty, Cate, and Oliver Benson following the passing of Craig early on Friday morning. Craig now lives eternally at the feast of victory table with our Lord.
- That the Spirit will prepare our hearts to hear Jesus say to us one day "Today you will be with me in paradise."
- That we will grow in confidence in sharing our hope of eternal life with others.
- That we may be an inclusive and welcoming community, especially as we are blessed to welcome some new people over morning tea.
- Thanks for our gospel partnership with the people of GKPS Jalan Jenderal Sudirman congregation in Indonesia.
- Thanks for the gift of community; for St Paul's, for our neighbours, and our local partners in the gospel at Chinese Lutheran Church and the Vic-Tas District.

- For the blessing that our Church and St Paul's Centre are and for the opportunities they provide us to welcome and help form community.
- For peace and reconciliation in our communities and across the world.
- With thanks for our St Paul's Ministry Teams: for the Pastoral Assistants - Trina Bergmann, Bernard Dana, Andrea Misso, David Paech, Hannah Pietsch, Garry Tepper, Angela Walkenhorst.
- For students undertaking their exams.
- For all who are struggling with depression and other mental health issues, and for all whose relationships are under strain.
- For those who are sick, facing death, preparing for surgery or periods of recovery; and for all who care for others every day. As you pray, please remember Stephanie Pedersen, Beryl Nagorcka, Cynthia Jenkins, Julie Reiter, Deidre Mattiske, Pastor Nev, Candy Koch and her siblings Barbara and Paul, Peter Westhorp, Pam Modra, Wa Cheung, Phil Haar, Cheryl Wilson, Beth Giddings, Iain Paech, Jack Beaumont, Peter Leslie, Elizabeth Stevenson, Dawn Schilling, Louise Joy, Kevin and Marlene Schilling, Neville and Nancy Thiele, Val and Perc Gebert, Glynn and Bett Beaton.

Thank you: to everyone who has contributed to our community lunches this year.

THIS WEEK:

TODAY Community lunch & Ministry Expo

Join us in celebrating our last community lunch for 2025.

The ministry expo will be held during morning tea and lunch, learn more about our congregational ministries and how you can participate or support them.

Men's Group: Sat 29th Nov. 6pm

Noble men of St Paul's you are welcome to join us to celebrate in a Christmas banquet.

Please note the change of Day.

Church Fete Sat 6th Dec 10am-1pm

HELP NEEDED! Can you help set up and clean up, welcome people, serve on the day or provide morning tea, help with the sausage sizzle or donate plants. Crafters, please feel welcome to run a stall, and musicians are welcome to provide musical entertainment. Sign-up sheets are in the café today. Talk to Garry Tepper to find out more.



Growing FAITH at home

PROPER 28

YEAR C

Stand firm



growministries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



www.growministries.org.au

Sunday between
November 13 and
November 19



CONVERSATIONS

Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

1. What is a hope you have for the future? What is a fear you have about the future?
2. It has been said: "We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future." What does this say to you?
3. What promises does Jesus give to us about the future? (Look up Luke 21:19.)



BIBLE READINGS

*Read the following Bible readings throughout this week.
Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.*

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|----------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| S | Luke 21:5-19 | Suffering for Jesus' sake |
| M | Luke 21:25-36 | Coming of the Son of Man |
| T | Exodus 14:10-31 | Stand firm |
| W | 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13 | Never tire of doing what is good |
| T | Isaiah 65: 17-25 | I will create new heavens |
| F | Jude 17-23 | A call to persevere |
| S | Psalms 141 | God is my refuge |

VERSE OF THE WEEK

stand firm, and you will win life.

LUKE 21:19



CREATIVE RESPONSE

Isaiah 65:17 tells us that God will "create new heavens and a new earth". Verses 24-25 of that chapter describe a new place where "the wolf and the lamb will eat together and the lion will eat straw like the ox".

Share your personal "pictures of heaven" with each other (e.g. "I picture heaven as a place where ..."). As an additional activity, draw or paint these images. Place them up in your home together with the words of Isaiah 65:17a.



ACTION RESPONSE

Encouraging others is important to our daily life. Luke 21, Jesus warns that some Christians will face persecution because they follow him. This is the case today in various parts of the world. Pray this week for:

- Christians in North Korea. In this country following Jesus is considered an act of treason, and Christians face the real threat of imprisonment and even execution.
- Christians in Sudan, Nigeria, Iraq and in various parts of Indonesia, India and Pakistan. Many Christians in these areas live in fear of being physically attacked by followers of other religions.
- Christians in China. House churches in China face the constant threat of raids from government authorities. Many house church leaders have been arrested and imprisoned in modern China.



MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord, thank you for the food you send. Keep us in faith until the end.
Amen.



PRAYER

Lord God, help us not to become tired of doing good. Lead us to find ways to serve you and others.
Amen.



BLESSING

May God make you strong in your faith.
May God give you wise words to speak up for him.