



Wk 5

Sunday 3 October 2021

TODAY'S SERVICE:

- Welcome
- Song
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:
[Psalm 5](#)
- Sermon
- Song
- PrayerCommuni
on
- Song
- Conclusion

If you are a visitor to
our online service
please don't feel
obliged to contribute
financially.

Most St Stephen's
collection is received
electronically.
BSB: 062 272
Account Number:
00490436

*This Bulletin contains a number of hyperlinks
throughout. Feel free to use them to link to forms,
multimedia and Bible passages.*

Welcome to St Stephen's. Great to have you join us
for our online services this week. If you are new or
someone has recommended you join in we would
love to hear from you. You can contact us through the
[electronic connect card](#).

Today we look at Psalm 5, one of (at least) 150 songs
found in the bible. Each psalm helps us understand
something about God and his character. It also
prompts us to respond to God. This week we
consider how knowing that God is our perfect king
changes how we come to him, how we pray to him.
We're so glad you could join us.



St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Prayers for those not sharing in Lord's Supper

Participation in the Lord's Supper is for those who have professed faith in Jesus - it's a powerful and important symbol of the Christian message. As such we want to encourage those who are still exploring the Christian faith to feel free to remain in their seats when others move to the front to receive the Lord's Supper. During that time you may want to reflect on the sermon or Bible reading. You may also want to pray one of these prayers below.

Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me who you are. Give me an understanding of you that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayers adapted from Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York.

Lord's Prayer

This is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray (Matthew 6:5-14).

Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name

Your kingdom come

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever

Amen

Connect Group Study

1. Icebreaker: What things stop you from praying like you imagine you should?

2. David's 'prayer life' is shaped by his knowledge of God. Read Psalm 5 and as you do mark what it says about God. Note also, how David prays. How is David's prayer different from your own?

3. Moving more slowly through the psalm: (re-read each section if you like)
 1. Vv.1-6 How might God's character as revealed in vv.4-6 shape your prayers?
 2. Vv.7-9 How might what we see in these verses about God, also shape our prayers?
 3. Vv 10-12
 1. V10. Have you ever prayed like this? Should we/ shouldn't we?
 2. V11-12 What does this 'refuge, protection, favour/shield' look like for us today? What does Jesus promise and what should we expect from God? How do you experience it?

4. Traditionally Psalm 4 has been seen as a prayer for the evening. Psalm 5 is for the morning. How might this Psalm shape your morning prayers?
1. See both spontaneity and discipline in vv1-3
 2. Reflect on what David asks for, namely, to be heard in his many requests (that align with God's will) (vv1-6), to be led 'not into temptation' vv.8-9, for justice (vv.10-12).

Prayer Points

Read the Bible with us!

How does each passage help you understand who God is?

Ask yourself these questions:

1. What does this say about God?
2. How does this change how I respond to him?

Monday - [Psalm 5](#)

Tuesday - [Romans 8:28-39](#)

Wednesday - [Colossians 4:2](#)

Thursday - [Psalm 23:1-3](#)

Friday - [Galatians 1:1-9](#)

Notices

Message from Her Excellency the Governor of NSW



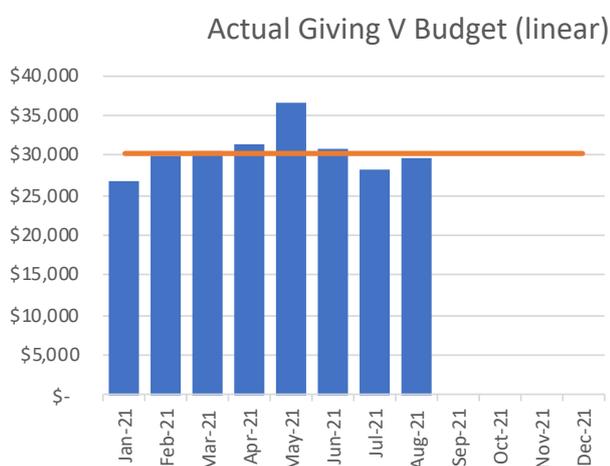
Her Excellency has recorded the following message to Anglican Parishes throughout NSW. Click on the image to watch the video. We hope you find it encouraging.

Lockdown Update - Judy Jarvis (9:45am service)

I am surprised by how quickly the weeks fly by even in lockdown, though I do miss lunching with friends, connect group meetings and being able to just jump on the bus to go shopping. I am keeping busy with phone calls, crosswords, knitting and gardening and I am looking forward to a hair cut, though I may have to book a shearer! I give thanks to God for my bubble buddy who keeps me supplied with shopping and visits several times a week and I pray for our staff at St Stephens as they stream the services and keep in touch with everyone.



Finances update for September



Our monthly offertories have been impacted by members who give in person being unable to give. We have also lost rental income for the past term. We are thankful for the ongoing generosity of our church family.

On 7 November we will hold our annual Gift Day. More details coming soon!

Message from John Dickson



St Stephen's Willoughby along with renowned historian and academic John Dickson invite you to join us for a special evening. If you've ever wanted to know how we know what we know about Jesus, join us for a night with John Dickson from the comfort of your couch on Zoom. Tuesday 19th October 7pm, don't forget to bring a friend. [Book you seat!](#) Click on the image to watch Joh's message

Friday Funday and Youth Alpha

Last Friday H.P.S met over zoom. It was a chance to connect with each other and an opportunity for youth to invite their friends to hear about Jesus. We had 19 kids come including 4 new people. We had a great time playing games, baking, and making clay creations. Our junior leaders also helped us think about how Jesus makes the world better. Praise God for the way he is growing our young people!



H.P.S is running youth alpha next term. Alpha is a chance for people to explore the big questions of life in a relaxed and welcoming environment. We would love for you to join us! **When** - Friday nights starting 15th October, **Time** - 6:30-7:30, **Cost** -Free . We plan on

dropping off food for each participant. You can now [enroll your kid](#) to

Sunday 3rd

Kidszone Online at 9:15 to 9:30.

For Zoom Details: Email - children@st-stephens.com.au

Switch at 9:45am.

For Zoom Details: Email - children@st-stephens.com.au

Monday 4th

Online Prayer Meeting 8:30-8:55am - [Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 878 2345 9321 | Passcode: 836532

— October —

Tuesday 19th

Simply Christianity starts with visit from John Dickson.

Sign up <https://st-stephens.com.au/bring>

attend.

What's Coming Up

Our Staff - Contact us!



Prashanth Colombage

Senior Minister

M: 0432 314 466

E: prash@st-stephens.com.au

Matt Straw

Assistant Minister

E: matt@st-stephens.com.au



Pippie van den Heuvel

Kids & Youth Minister

E: children@st-stephens.com.au

Jill Chilton

Membership Minister

E: jillianchilton@gmail.com



Kushak Sharma

Admin & Communications Director

E: kushak@st-stephens.com.au