

# THE Psalms



St Stephen's  
WILLOUGHBY

Wk 4

Sunday 8 October 2023

*Our 9:45am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels. If you don't wish to feature on our stream, please occupy the pews towards the back.*

## TODAY'S 9:45AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading: Psalm 13 (p. 541)
- Sermon
- Prayers
- Announcements
- Song
- Conclusion

Welcome to Church today! You've made a great decision to be here. We hope you enjoy your time with us. Our student ministers are speaking today. Each study at Moore Theological College in preparation for a life of serving the church. Why don't you let them know how you found the morning. You can use the QR code to contact us.



From the 1st century AD Christians set aside the 1st day of their week (for us a Sunday) to meet, to hear the message of Jesus and to encourage one another. What we do each week is not new, its ancient. It is embedded in the identity of God's people. Why? God's whole plan and purpose is around creating a people who know him, are loved by him, and live for him. He was so committed to this, he sent his one and only Son to live, die and rise again – making a relationship with him possible.

Most St Stephen's collection is received electronically.

BSB: 062 272

Account Number:  
00490436

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

### Next Steps

**Are you new?** We would love to meet you. Hear a brief intro on the life of our church at our next [Newish Morning Tea](#) on Sunday 29 October. It runs for ½ an hour straight after the service.

**Been regularly coming?** If you are a regular member of our church, we encourage you to attend our next [Belonging Course](#) on Sunday 5 November. Belonging is the gateway to our GaP Groups, serving and deeper connection with the community.

# Prayers for the Service

These prayers are used during the service. Prayer is a privilege we are given because Christ died for us. His death & resurrection means we can confidently approach God seeking forgiveness (Hebrews 10:22). If you believe that Christ died to deal with your failings then you should be confident to pray with us. If you are still exploring who Christ is then feel free to listen in.

## A Prayer of Confession

Our Father in heaven,  
You are big and we are small.  
Thank you that you are the King over everything.  
We are sorry for not loving or listening to you.  
We are sorry that we choose our way instead of yours.  
Please help us live as friends with you  
through Jesus Christ.  
Help us to listen and love you by your Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103:12

## The 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 in heaven  
Give us today our daily bread  
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.

# Sermon Notes

## Psalm 13

Preacher: Sam Carless

- The dark depths of despair

- The light to our eyes

- Remembering God's unfailing love

# Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

1. What has struck you from the Psalms series over the past weeks?

## Read Psalm 12

1. What are the people lamenting over?
2. Why is the world so bad?
3. How is the word of God different?
4. What is it that God says he will do? Who does he do this for?
5. Has the world changed by the end of the psalm?

2. Why do we lie at times? What are the things that drive us to lie?

3. Is hypocrisy something that you struggle with? Where do you see this arise? What situations prompt you to behave that way?

## Read John 1:14

4. What is poignant about the way John describes Jesus in this passage? Why do you think he uses this language?

5. What is the challenge and hope for liars in the life and ministry of Jesus?

6. If you know you are loved deeply by Jesus and his love is offered to you for free, how can this help deal with the things that drive us to lie at times?

## Prayer Time

A. Spend time confessing the ways lying creeps into your life. Ask God for his forgiveness and grace.

B. Ask God to give you a richer sense of his mercy and unconditional love so you can better avoid the temptation to lie.



### GaP Group Reflection

Watch the video provided to your GaP Group leader and consider the following questions:

- i. Watch the video of Gordon on the Conversations about Life event. Did you go to the last one. What struck you about it?
- ii. Who would you like to invite? Ask the group to pray for you and them.

## Read the Bible with us!

1. Read the following Psalms we explored over this mini series.
2. Who is God according to the Psalm - what are his characteristics?
3. What do we need to repent of?

Monday - [Psalm 10](#)

Tuesday - [Psalm 11](#)

Wednesday - [Psalm 12](#)

Thursday - [Psalm 13](#)

Friday - [Psalm 14](#)

CONVERSATIONS ABOUT  
**THE GOOD life**  
AT WILLOUGHBY HOTEL

We rarely talk and think about the things that really matter in life. Come to the pub for a drink and feed, and hear a panel of people from different professions and walks of life talk about our dreams for purpose, meaning and fulfilment in life —*the good life*.

**Tuesday 24 October 7-9pm**

**OUR PANEL FOR THE NIGHT**



**DR. JUSTINE TOH**

Senior Research Fellow at the  
Centre for Public Christianity



**PRASHANTH COLOMBAGE**

Senior Minister at St  
Stephen's Willoughby



Scan the QR code or visit [st-stephens.com.au/spring](http://st-stephens.com.au/spring) to register.

# Notices

## Crafternoon

Join in on Crafternoon this Tuesday 10th October 1-3pm in Hainsworth Hall!

As a church we want young people to develop biblically shaped active faith. One of the ways this happens is by kids doing craft that reinforces the Bible lesson. We would love your help in preparing these craft activities. Having the craft prepared is helpful as it frees up the kid's leaders to spend more time preparing the biblical content of the lesson. We would really appreciate your help! You don't need any particular craft skills. If you can cut, glue or stick we can put you to good use!



## Kids & Youth Programs on Break

During the school holidays our kids and youth programs take a break. Kids and Youth will stay in during the entire church service for the holidays. This is a great reminder to us all that young people are not just the church of the future but are members of the church today. It's a chance for young people to learn from seeing older Christians worshipping and an opportunity for adults to learn from the child like faith of our young people. Our usual programs resume on the following dates:



### Playtime

Who: 0-5-year-olds

When: Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30 am

Starts back 10th October

### Friday Kids

Who: Kindy - Year 4

When: Fridays, 3:30-5 pm

Starts back 20th October

### Sunday Kids & Youth

Who: Kindy - Year 12

When: Sundays, 9:45am service

Starts back 15th October

### Half Past Six Youth Group

Who: Years 5-12

When: Fridays, 6:30-8:30pm

Starts back 20th October

## What's Coming Up

9 October	Wardens' Meeting
9 October	Parish Council
14 October	Weekly Prayer Meeting: Saturdays 8:30am in Chapel Hall
24 October	Conversations about the Good Life at Willoughby Hotel
29 October	Newish Morning Tea

For more on what's happening this spring at St Stephen's, visit [st-stephens.com.au/spring](http://st-stephens.com.au/spring)

## Our Staff - Contact Us!



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